



DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

COURSE OUTLINE — FALL 2020

PY1040 (C2): BASIC PSYCHOLOGICAL PROCESSES - 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 weeks

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Connie Korpan **PHONE:** Office (780) 539-2032
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OFFICE HOURS: By appointment via Zoom

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: This first introductory course in psychology gives students an understanding of themselves and other people through the study of basic concepts, principles, theories, and methods used in the scientific study of behaviour. The course covers research methods in psychology, the biological basis, neurophysiology, sensation, perception, learning, states of consciousness, memory and cognition. This course is a prerequisite for most other psychology courses and is normally followed by PY1050.

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: None

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS: OER (Open Education Resource) Textbook Chapters. Chapters of the open-sources textbook are posted on the myClass site <https://myclass.gprc.ab.ca/d2l/home/> of this course (PY1040 C2) on the GPRC website

DELIVERY MODE(S): Remote lectures delivered at scheduled class times via Zoom. There are no face-to face nor onsite requirements. The Zoom link is posted on the “Announcements” section of the myclass PY1040 course homepage. Course materials are to be accessed via myClass. Technological support is available through helpdesk@gprc.ab.ca.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: In this course, student will be taught

- the major theories, perspectives and concepts in the fields of psychology
- the various research methods and the ethical issues in the use of humans and other animals in research
- the theory of evolution and its principles
- the relationship between biological structures and processes and their psychological manifestations
- the states of consciousness and how they are affected by various factors
- how the environment determines behaviour through the principles of learning
- the interaction of nature and nurture in determining behavior
- the aspects of memory and their reciprocal relationship with behaviour and other mental processes
- the cognitive processes involved in language comprehension and production, as well as problem solving and reasoning

LEARNING OUTCOMES: As a result of taking this course, students will be able to

- demonstrate fundamental knowledge and comprehension of major concepts, theoretical perspectives and empirical findings in the areas of evolutionary psychology, brain and behavior, sensation and perception, consciousness, learning, memory, and cognition
- discuss how principles discussed in these areas enable the understanding of psychological phenomena
- incorporate sociocultural factors in their explanations of psychological phenomena
- demonstrate basic level understanding of various research methods used in scientific investigations of psychological phenomena
- apply their knowledge of basic research methodology to critically evaluate psychological research

TRANSFERABILITY: UA, UC, UL, AU, GMU, BU, CUE, KUC, LC

***Warning:** Although we strive to make the transferability information in this document up-to-date and accurate, **the student has the final responsibility for ensuring the transferability of this course to Alberta Colleges and Universities.** Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at Alberta Transfer Guide at <http://transferalberta.alberta.ca/transfer-alberta-search/#/audienceTypeStep>

** Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions.

Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability.

EVALUATIONS:

1. 4 Quizzes—total = 20%
2. Midterm Exam = 30 %; Final Exam = 30%
3. Attendance/Participation = 10 %
4. Chapter—course total = 10%

PLEASE NOTE: In order to preserve an evaluation system that is fair to ALL students, requests for additional/substitute work will NOT be granted to students wishing to compensate for poor grades on assignments, quizzes, midterm exam or final exam.

- 1. Quizzes:** There will be four multiple choice quizzes. Each quiz is worth 5%, for a course total of 20%. These quizzes will be written online via myClass during class time on the dates posted on page 4 of this outline. You are expected to be connected to Zoom during these quizzes. **Please refer to page 6 of this course outline for information on missed quizzes.**
- 2. Midterm and Final Exams:** For this term, the midterm and final exams will include multiple-choice questions based on material covered in both the textbook and the lecture. The final exam **will NOT be cumulative**; it will cover material from the class immediately after the midterm to the end of term. The midterm and final exams are each worth 30%. Again, these exams will be written online via myClass during class time on the dates posted on page 4 of this outline and you are expected to be connected to Zoom during these quizzes. **Please refer to pages 6 of this outline for information on missing the midterm exam or final exam.**

3. Participation/Attendance: Participation-Student input during lectures is enthusiastically welcomed and strongly encouraged. There are a variety of ways that students can participate, such as asking relevant questions and/or making insightful comments during the lectures. Additionally, various discussion questions will be posted on **myClass**. Students are expected to contribute to these discussions by posting new threads and replying to other students' threads. Details regarding these online discussion are provided on the **myClass** site.

Attendance-Attendance will be taken every class. Attendance may be taken more than once during a class period. **Please note that in my courses, students who miss more than 10% of classes without an acceptable excuse may be debarred from writing the final exam.**

4. Chapter Assignments. There will be 8 multiple choice chapter assignments, each comprised of questions taken from the test bank of the textbook. Your marks across all the assignments will be averaged; the average mark of all the assignments is worth 10% of your overall grade. These assignments will be posted on **myClass** and you will answer the questions on **myClass**. Deadlines for each assignment is included on this course outline (page 4).

5. GRADING CRITERION

Alpha Grade	4-Pt Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Designation
A+	4.0	97 - 100	Excellent
A	4.0	94-96	
A-	3.7	90-93	First Class Standing
B+	3.3	85-89	
B	3.0	80-84	Good
B-	2.7	75-79	
C+	2.3	70-74	Satisfactory
C	2.0	65-69	
C-	1.7	60 - 64	
D+	1.3	55 - 59	Poor
D	1.0	50 - 54	Minimal Pass at GPRC
F	0.0	0 - 49	Fail –no credit received
WF	0.0		Fail—withdrawal after deadline

Please note that the grading criterion outlined in the calendar is a guideline and may vary from class to class.

TENTATIVE LECTURE SCHEDULE

	TOPIC	REQUIRED READINGS	*myClass Chapter Assignment Deadline 11:59 P.M.
SEPT 4	True False Questions	-	
SEPT 11/14/18	Introduction to Psychology	Chapter 1	SEPT 10
SEPT 18/21/25	Research Methods in Psychology	Chapter 2	SEPT 17
SEPT 28	QUIZ 1 (CHPTS 1 & 2)		
SEPT 28/OCT 2/5/9	Biopsychology	Chapter 3	SEPT 28
OCT 19/23/26	States of Consciousness	Chapter 4	OCT 18
OCT 26	QUIZ 2 (CHPTS 3 & 4)		
OCT 30	MIDTERM (CHPTS 1 TO 4)		
NOV 2/6/9	Sensation and Perception	Chapter 5	NOV 1
NOV 9/13/16	Learning	Chapter 6	NOV 8
NOV 20	QUIZ 3 (CHPTS 5 & 6)		
NOV 20/23/27	Thinking & Intelligence	Chapter 7	NOV 20
NOV 27/30/4	Memory	Chapter 8	NOV 26
DEC 7	QUIZ 4 (CHPTS 7 & 8)		
**BETWEEN DEC 11-19	FINAL EXAM (CHPTS 5 TO 8)		

Activities such as holidays or employment during this period are not excusable reasons for missing a final exam. Students who miss a final exam for these may receive a “0” on the final exam. Also note that a final exam will not be scheduled early for students who plan their holidays or other activities during the final exam period.

* The deadlines listed above are the dates when the myClass assignments will be closed (at 11:59 p.m.—i.e., one minute before midnight) and the answer keys posted. The assignments will NOT be reopened after the deadlines have passed.)

**The date of the final exam will be set by Student Services. Activities such as holidays or employment during this period are not considered excusable reasons for missing a final exam. Students who chose to miss a final exam for employment, holiday, or similar reasons may receive a “0” on the final exam. Also note that a final exam will not be scheduled early for students who plan their holidays or other activities during the final exam period.

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

- Sept 10 Last day to add courses or drop courses for full refund (in most programs) & last day to pay Fall semester fees (except for students on an approved payment plan). Last day to opt out of Student Health/Dental Plan
- Oct 12-16 Fall Break—No Classes
- Oct 27 Last day to withdraw from classes (most programs) with a “W”
- Nov 11 Remembrance Day—No Classes
- Nov 30 Deadline to apply for Winter courses
- Dec 9 Last day of classes for Fall semester
- Dec 11 - 19 Final exam period



STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. **TALK TO ME IF YOU HAVE CONCERNS OR YOU ARE EXPERIENCING DIFFICULTIES THAT MAY HAVE NEGATIVE IMPACT ON YOUR ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE.** These concerns may include personal challenges or class-related issues (e.g., difficulty with material, disruptions from other students). Please know that I will keep your concerns confidential.

EXAM ACCOMODATIONS: Exam accommodations are used by any number of students whose learning disabilities affect processing and comprehending printed material, learning, and/or concentration (either due to the condition itself, or the effects of the medication which is used to treat the condition). Accommodations can also be sought by students with conditions that include, but are not limited to, mental health conditions, chronic illness, neurological disorders, visual disabilities and motor disabilities.

If you require exam accommodations due to a disability or condition, you must contact *Accessibility Supports and Disability Services (in Student Services)*. More information is available at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/services/accessibility/>. Please note that when you contact an advisor, you will be asked to provide them with documentation supporting your request for an accommodation. After the advisors inform me of your need for accommodation, I will extend the allotted exam writing times by an appropriate amount.

2. **ZOOM EXPECTATIONS**

- A camera and microphone are mandatory; the camera must be kept on during the lectures, but the microphone should be on mute except when you wish to speak up (i.e., ask questions or make comments relevant to the lecture/class discussions).
- Your name must be displayed with your image. If you prefer to use a nickname or initials, let me know in advance.
- The chat feature in Zoom is to be limited to questions to the instructor or supportive comments to students-it is NOT a place to have a general text chat.
- Although lectures will be recorded, each recording will be made available ONLY to students who remotely attend the lecture at the scheduled class time (and wish to review the lecture) and to students who have an excused absence for a particular lecture.
- Students are expected to exhibit respectful behavior to the instructor, guest speakers and other students. We will discuss topics in class that may cause disagreement. It is expected that all participants will deal with such disagreements WITHOUT resorting to behaviors/comments that are dismissive, demeaning or threatening to others. Swearing and use of slurs against individuals or groups (racial, religious, gender, etc.) are unacceptable. Students unable to meet these expectations will be required to leave the class in the interest of preserving the learning opportunities of other students. Please refer to the GPRC calendar for more information regarding student conduct.

3. **ATTEND CLASS (ZOOM LECTURES) AT THE SCHEDULED CLASS TIMES:**

This term, all lectures will be delivered remotely at the scheduled class times via Zoom; students are expected to attend lectures at the scheduled class times via Zoom. Attendance will be taken every class and may be taken more than once each class.

Missed Lecture Material: Although notes are available on **myClass**, they are not complete; attendance is required to get full lecture information. If you miss a class, you are to obtain missed material by approaching a classmate, *not* the instructor. It would be *unfair* for students who miss lectures to be advantaged by getting the instructor's notes.

Missed Quizzes/Exams: Dates for the quizzes and midterm are included on page 4 of this course outline. Missed quizzes will generally *not be rescheduled*. If you miss a quiz due to verified illness, dentistry, accident, emergency, or GPRC obligations (e.g., you are away due to the requirements of another course) the weight of the quiz will be transferred; missed Quiz 1 or 2 will be transferred to the midterm exam, missed Quiz 3 or 4 will be transferred to the final exam. Quizzes missed for reasons that do not include verified illness, dentistry, accident, or emergency, will be assigned a "0" (zero). Holidays, employment, etc. are NOT considered to be excusable reasons to miss any exam in this course. Furthermore, quizzes missed without explanation from the student will assigned a "0".

According to GPRC policy, deferring a missed Midterm Exam is at the discretion of the instructor. In my courses, students who miss a midterm because of illness, dentistry, accident, or emergency (verified) may write the midterm at a later date (set by me—I will choose a date that is mutually convenient for me and the student). When students miss the midterm for reasons that do not include verified illness, dentistry, accident, or emergency, a "0" is assigned to that the midterm. Students who miss the midterm without explanation will receive a "0" on the midterm. Absences from a registrar-scheduled Final Exam fall under GPRC Examination Policy. It is the responsibility of the student to be informed about these policies prior to the final examination period.

If you miss the final exam due to illness, you will be required to submit an application to the Registrar's office for permission to write a deferred exam and must do so within 48 hours of the scheduled exam time. You may defer the final exam for up to 20 days of the end of the examination period. You will be required to provide documentation for your illness.

4. **LEARN & RECORD ASSIGNMENT DEADLINES AND EXAMINATION DATES/TIMES**

These dates/times are announced in class and/or are included on course materials (e.g., chapter assignments deadlines are page 4 of this course outline). For the sake of fairness for ALL students, assignment deadlines will NOT be extended for those who miss an assignment. If you know that you will be away when an assignment is due, it is expected that you hand in that assignment earlier than the announced/posted date. FYI—myClass chapter assignments can started/completed before the announced/posted deadlines.

5. **OUT-OF-CLASS WORK**

Students are expected to prepare for each lecture by reading the assigned chapters and handouts. Although the instructor feels that all the material in the textbook is important and interesting, limited class time prevents discussion of all the material covered in the assigned chapters. You are responsible for learning the material covered in the assigned chapters, including material that is not discussed in class. Please feel free to approach me outside of class if you wish to get clarification on this material.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the section on Plagiarism and Cheating in the College policy titled Student Misconduct: Academic and Non-Academic.

Instructors reserve the right to use electronic plagiarism detection services on written assignments. **Instructors also reserve the right to ban the use of any form of electronics (cell phones, Blackberries, iPods, tablets, scanning pens, electronic dictionaries, etc.) during class and during exams.**

**Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/>