

*Student Services*

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE

DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

COURSE OUTLINE - FALL 1991

**COURSE:** Psychology 260  
Basic Psychological Processes  
  
PY260 C2 T, R 13:30 - 14:50  
PY260 H2 Thurs 18:30 - 21:20

**INSTRUCTOR:** B. McConnell  
Phone: 539-2739  
Office: C-205  
Office Hours: M; 16:00-17:00; W; 11:00-12:00;  
F; 16:00 - 17:00.

**TEXT:** Bootzin, R.R. et al (1991). Psychology today: An introduction (7th ed.). New York: McGraw-Hill. (Required reading)  
Walraven, M.G. & Fitzgerald, H.E. (Eds.). (1991). Annual editions: Psychology 91/92. Guilford CT: Dushkin. (Recommended reading)

**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:**

Psychology 260 provides an introduction to five specific areas within Psychology: the nature of contemporary psychology; biological bases of behaviour; learning and cognition; emotion and motivation; and development. A major objective of the course is to introduce students to basic concepts, terminology, and relevant research findings in each area. It is also considered important that students begin to develop a critical appreciation of the nature of psychological research (or how researchers go about doing what they do) in order to assume the role of more informed consumers of research. Thus there will be an explicit emphasis in the course on analyzing the quality and implications of selected studies and findings. These objectives will be met through a combination of lecture and discussion formats.

**EVALUATION:**

There will be two quizzes and two exams in the course, which will cover both required text-book readings, and material presented in class. The exact dates of quizzes will be announced in class, but will occur at approximately 1/4 and 3/4 of the way through the course. Each will cover the first and third quarters of course material, respectively. The mid-term and final exams will occur during the exam periods scheduled by the registrar, and will cover all preceding course material. The quizzes and mid-term will be 100% multiple-choice, and the final exam will consist of a combination of multiple-choice and short answer questions. The following weightings will apply.

Quizzes (each)	10%
Mid-term	30%
Final	50%

Final grades will be given on a nine point scale as follows:

<u>GRADE</u>	<u>PERCENTAGE EQUIVALENCE</u>	<u>DESIGNATION</u>
9	90-100	
8	80-89	Excellent
7	72-79	
6	65-71	Good
5	57-64	
4	50-56	Pass
3	45-49	
2	26-44	
1	0-25	Fail

**TIMETABLE:**

Every attempt will be made to introduce each topic within the following weeks.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC AND CHAPTER</u>
week beginning Sept 2	Introduction (1)
Sept 9	Psychological Methods (2)
Sept 16	Brain & Behaviour (3)
Sept 23	Sensation (4)
Sept 30	Perception (5)
Oct 7	Consciousness (6)
Oct 14	Learning (7)
Oct 21	Memory (8)
Oct 28	Cognition (9)
Nov 4	Language (10)
Nov 11	Emotion (12)
Nov 18	Motivation (13)
Nov 25	Infancy & Childhood (15)
Dec 2	Adolescence & Adulthood (16)
Dec 9	

**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:**

Although there is no formal policy on attendance in this class, you are strongly recommended to attend all classes. In the event that classes are missed, you are responsible for finding out what was missed, and for any in-class announcements.

I would also encourage you to see me after class, or during office hours, if you are experiencing difficulties with the course, or if you wish further discussion of the material.