

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE  
PSYCHOLOGY 260  
BASIC PSYCHOLOGICAL PROCESSES  
Winter, 1991

INSTRUCTOR : DR. KENDEL TANG  
OFFICE NUMBER : D301 OFFICE PHONE NUMBER: 539-2867

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Basic Psychological Processes (PY 260) is a general introductory course in psychology. It is designed to familiarize students with the terminology, concepts, principles, research approaches, and ethics of the science of behavior and mental processes. Specifically, this course will examine the relationship between brain processes and behavior, the impact of genetics on behavior, the nature and operational complexities of sensation, perception, consciousness, learning, memory, cognition, emotion, and motivation. It will also include topics on human development and sexuality.

This course will analyze the results of empirical studies that attempt to explain, predict, or control behavior with the ultimate goal of understanding human beings and enhancing human functioning. Emphasis will also be placed on learning how psychologists and other professionals approach the study of basic psychological processes. Students will be encouraged to look for the relevance of psychology to daily life and its importance in future occupational endeavours.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- The course is intended to help students achieve the following objectives:
1. Acquire an adequate understanding of the relationship between various brain processes and behavior.
  2. Describe the major influences of inherited and acquired factors on behavior.
  3. Analyze the psychological processes of sensation, perception, consciousness, learning, memory, cognition, emotion, and motivation in terms of their internal and external components.
  4. Understand human development and sexuality.
  5. Develop an appreciation for the basic psychological processes and demonstrate some relevant applications of sound psychological principles to daily life.
  6. Assume greater responsibility for one's own learning through active involvement in class activities and course assignments.

TEXTS:

1. Psychology Today: An Introduction (6th Edition), 1986, Random House (Publisher).
2. Study Guide for Psychology Today (6th Edition), 1986, Random House (publisher).
3. Psychology 90/91 (Annual Edition). The Dushkin Publishing Group, Inc.

**GRADING SYSTEM:**

SCALE	TRANSLATION	APPROXIMATE % EQUIVALENT
9		90 - 100
8	<u>Excellent</u>	80 - 89
7		72 - 79
6	<u>Good</u>	65 - 71
5		57 - 64
4	<u>Pass</u>	50 - 56
3	<u>Failure</u>	45 - 49
2	<u>Failure</u>	36 - 44
1		0 - 25

NOTE: A minimum overall G.P.A. of 7.0 and a 7.0 G.P.A. or better on all psychology courses is required for admission to the Honors in Psychology program at the University of Alberta. (see University of Alberta calendar).

Marks in the course will be weighted as follows:

Midterm	20%
One article report (written)	5%
Final Exam	35%
Average of Chapter Tests	30%
Instructor's Evaluation (based mainly on test results, class participation, log entries, and questions)	10%
	100%

It should be noted that students will be held accountable for lectures delivered in addition to any announcements that will be made in class. If any student is unable to attend a particular class, it will be his/her responsibility to find out what was missed.

If it becomes apparent to a student that he/she will be unable to write an exam/quiz at a scheduled time, the student should notify the instructor immediately. In the event that the student cannot reach the instructor, she/he should leave a message for the instructor with the college switchboard operator (539-2911). If the student is unable to write the final exam at the scheduled time, he/she should notify the instructor in advance and submit an application to the Registrar's office for permission to write a deferred exam (see the College calendar re: deferred exams).

Please keep this course information sheet for future reference.

**STUDENT RECORD OF MARKS**

Test 1 _____	Test 2 _____
Test 3 _____	Test 4 _____
Midterm Exam _____	Final Exam _____

## TIMETABLE

PY 260  
Winter, 1991

DATES	CHAPTERS AND ARTICLES	TESTS, EXAMS, REPORT, & LOG BOOK
Jan. 3	Ch. 1 (Understanding Psychology)	
Jan. 10	Ch. 9 (Memory) & Art. 14.	
Jan. 17	Ch. 3 (The Brain and Behavior) & Art. 3,4,& 7.	
Jan. 24	Ch. 2 (Methodology)	Jan. 24: Test on Ch. 1, 3 & 9 including assigned articles.
Jan. 31	Ch. 8 (Learning) & Art. 12 & 13.	
Feb. 7	Ch. 4 (Biological Perspectives on Behavior) & Art. 6.	
Feb. 14	Ch. 5 (Sensation & the Senses) & Art. 8.	Feb. 14: Test on Ch. 2, 4 & 8, including assigned articles.
Feb. 21	Ch. 6 (Perception) Ch. 7 (Varieties of Consciousness) & Art. 1,9,10,& 11.	Feb. 21: Midterm Exam
Feb. 28	(WINTER BREAK)	
Mar. 7	Ch.10 (Cognition)	
Mar. 14	Ch.11 (Emotion) & Art. 21,22,& 23.	Mar. 14: Test on Ch. 7 & 10, including assigned articles
Mar. 21	Ch. 12 (Motivation) & Art. 20.	
Mar. 28	Ch. 14 (Early Development) & Art. 24. Ch. 15 (Cognitive Development) & Art. 13.	Mar. 28: Test on Ch. 11, 12, & 14, inclu- ding assigned articles.
Apr. 4	Ch. 16 (Acquiring and Using Language)	Apr. 4: Written article report is due.
Apr. 11	Ch 13 (Human Sexuality)	Apr. 11: Log book is due.
Apr. 18		Apr. 18: Final Exam (It will include all assigned chapters.)

**Note: This timetable is tentative. Any future changes in it will be announced in class.**