

PSYCH 312 Online - Spring 2012 - Syllabus - Course Schedule

Course Schedule

IMPORTANT: ALL TIMES EASTERN - Please see the [University Policies](#) section of your Syllabus for details.

Week	Module	Readings	Activities and Assignments	Due Date	Weight (%)
Week 1	Module 01: Introduction and Definition of Learning Disability	Chapters 1, 2, 4 in Lerner & Johns. Chapter 2 in Edmonds & Edmonds.			
Week 2	Module 02: Tests and Assessment	Chapters 2, 3 in Lerner & Johns. Chapter 3 in Edmonds & Edmonds.			
Week 3	Module 03: Assessments of Intelligence (Wechsler Scales)	Chapter 2 in Lerner & Johns. Chapter 5 in Edmonds & Edmonds.			
Week 4	Module 04: Using the WISC-III to Assess; Michael and Mary	Chapter 8 in Lerner & Johns. Chapter 5 in Edmonds & Edmonds.	Assignment 1	Wednesday, May 23, 2012 at 11:55 PM	16.6%
Week 5	Module 05: Learning and Memory	Chapter 5 in Lerner & Johns.			

Week 6	Module 06: Attention Deficit Disorders	Chapters 6, 7, 10 in Lerner & Johns. Chapter 6 in Edmunds & Edmunds.			
Week 7	Module 07: Language	Chapter 11 in Lerner & Johns. Chapter 5 in Edmunds & Edmunds.			
Week 8	Module 08: Word Reading and Spelling	Chapters 12, 13 in Lerner & Johns.	Assignment 2	Wednesday, June 20, 2012 at 11:55 PM	16.6%
Week 9	Module 09: Reading Comprehension	Chapters 12, 13 in Lerner & Johns. Chapter 5 in Edmunds & Edmunds.			
Week 10	Module 10: Arithmetic	Chapter 14 in Lerner & Johns. Chapter 5 in Edmunds & Edmunds.			
Week 11	None	None			
Week 12	None	None	Assignment 3	Wednesday, July 18, 2012 at 11:55 PM	16.6%
Final Exam					50%

Final Examination Arrangement and Schedule

All students taking online courses that have a final exam must [provide examination arrangement information](#) by **Friday, May 18, 2012**.

Examination schedule details will be available on [Quest](#) approximately four weeks prior to the exam date. For instructions on how to find exam information, go to the [Quest Help](#) page.

Official Grades and Course Access

Official Grades and Academic Standings are available through [Quest](#).

Your access to this course will continue for the duration of the current term. You will not have access to this course once the next term begins.

PSYCH 312 Online - Spring 2012 - Syllabus - Communication

Communication

Email/Discussions/Phone

Administrative questions should be directed to the **Centre for Extended Learning** office at extendedlearning@uwaterloo.ca.

Technical problems with Waterloo LEARN should be directed to **Technical Support** at extendedlearning.help@uwaterloo.ca.

Questions relating to **academic issues** (e.g., course content, deadlines, etc.) should be posted on the "Ask Your TA" discussion topic. This allows other students to benefit from your question as well. Discussion topics can be accessed by clicking the **Discussions** link on the course navigation bar above. Questions of a **personal nature** can be directed to your instructor, Dr. MacKinnon, at emackinn@uwaterloo.ca.

A "General Discussion" topic has also been made available to allow students to communicate with peers in the course. Your instructor will not monitor or participate in the discussions. Your TAs check the "Ask Your TA" discussion topic frequently and will make every effort to reply to your questions within 24 hours, Monday to Friday.

The TAs for PSYCH 312 listed below. You will most likely hear from your TA throughout the term. While Dr. MacKinnon is your primary contact, the TA may often respond to your queries.

Angela Nyhout: aknyhout@uwaterloo.ca

Shaylene Nancekivell: s2nancek@uwaterloo.ca

Nazanin Mohammadi Sepahvand: n27moham@uwaterloo.ca

News

Your instructor uses the News section of the Course Home page frequently to make announcements during the term to communicate new or changing information regarding due dates, instructor absence, etc. Please check your announcements at least twice a week.

To ensure you are viewing the complete list of news items, you may need to click **Show All**.

PSYCH 312 Online - Spring 2012 - Syllabus - Course Description and Objectives

Course Description and Objectives

Description

A critical examination of the concept of learning disabilities and of current issues in the assessment and remediation of learning problems.

Prerequisites: PSYCH 207, 211, 212/212R, 213/213R

Antirequisite: PSYCH 160

Objectives

The course addresses the issues of what is a learning disability and of how it is assessed. Along the way, the question of what is meant by learning is raised, as well as the role played by memory and attention in the development of learning problems. Specific difficulties in academic skills are then discussed along with issues in remediation.

This online course was developed in the Winter term of 2012 by Dr. MacKinnon, with instructional design and multimedia development support provided by the Centre for Extended Learning. Further media production was provided by Instructional Technologies and Multimedia Services.

PSYCH 312 Online - Spring 2012 - Syllabus - About the Course Author

About the Course Author

| Dr. Ernie MacKinnon

(Last updated April 20, 2012)

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Associate Professor Emeritus

Applied Psychology

B.A. (Queen's University), Ph.D. (Johns Hopkins University)



RESEARCH INTERESTS

Generally, I am interested in individual differences in basic academic skills (e.g., reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic, problem solving in mathematics, science, etc.) and their implications for models of skill and for training programmes to facilitate skill development.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Dr. G. E. (Ernie) MacKinnon received his B.A. degree from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario and his Ph.D. degree from the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland. He came to the University of Waterloo in 1963, and is now Associate Professor Emeritus at Waterloo. In addition, he is a Registered Psychologist (retired status) in the Province of Ontario. He has taught undergraduate courses in Learning Disabilities, Reading, Speech and Language, Perception, Research in Developmental Psychology, General Experimental Psychology and Introductory Psychology. At the graduate level he has taught courses in Psychological Assessment, Perception and Cognition, and Cognitive Neuropsychology, and supervised graduate students who are learning to carry out psycho-educational assessments on children who encounter difficulties in school. He co-edited with T. Gary Waller a serial publication *Reading Research: Advances in Theory and Practice* and with D.L. Forest - Pressley and T. Gary Waller, the two volume set entitled *Metacognition, Cognition and Human Performance*. His research interests include word recognition, reading comprehension and spelling in developmental and acquired dyslexia; individual differences in perception, language, and psychomotor skills; use of prior knowledge in reading, writing, and mathematics problem solving; decision making during writing; and cognitive strategy training in both children and adults. When away from the university, he spends his time listening to chamber music and jazz, reading science fiction, traveling to the mountains and beaches in Mexico, working in his garden, and doing T'ai Chi.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

MacKinnon, G.E. (2009). Book Review: Charles Hulme and Margaret Snowling (2009). *Developmental Disorders of Language, Learning and Cognition*. Oxford, UK: Wiley-Blackwell. In *British Journal of Psychology*, 100, No. 4, November 2009, pp 800-802.

McDougall, P. Borowsky, R. MacKinnon, G.E., & Hymel, S. (2005). Process dissociation of sight vocabulary and phonetic decoding in reading: a new perspective on surface and phonological dyslexia. *Brain and Language*, 92, 185-203.

Buchanan, L., Hildebrandt, N., & MacKinnon, G.E. (1999). Deep dyslexia re-examined. In R.M. Klein & P.A. McMullen (Eds.), *Converging Methods for Understanding Reading and Dyslexia*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

MacKinnon, G.E. (1999). Theories of reading. In *The Concise Encyclopedia of Educational Linguistics*. Oxford: Elsevier Science.

Pryde, K., Roy, E.A., Bryden, P.J., Kalbfleisch, L., & MacKinnon, G.E. (1998). The planning and control of goal-directed movement in a case of hemiparesis. *Brain and Cognition*, 37(1), 122-124.

Grimshaw, G.M., Adelstein, A., Bryden, M.P., & MacKinnon, G.E. (1998). First-language acquisition in adolescence: Evidence for a critical period for verbal language development. *Brain and Language*, 63, 237-255.

d'Ailly, H., Simpson, J., & MacKinnon, G.E., (1997). Where should "you" go in a math compare problem? *Journal of Educational Psychology*, 89(3), 562-567.

Young, A., Bowers, P., & MacKinnon, G.E. (1996). Effects of prosodic modeling and repeated reading on poor reader's fluency and comprehension. *Applied Psycholinguistics*, 17(1), 59-84.

Pauley, C., & MacKinnon, G.E. (1992). Topical structure and perceived quality of school-aged children's expository compositions. *Reflections on Canadian Literacy*, 10, 112-118.

PSYCH 312 Online - Spring 2012 - Syllabus - Materials and Resources

Materials and Resources

Textbook(s):

Required:

1. Lerner, J. W., & Johns, B. (2012). *Learning disabilities and related mild disabilities: Teaching strategies and new directions*. (12th ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Cengage Learning.
2. Edmunds, A., & Edmunds, G. (2008). *Special education in Canada*. Canadian Edition. Custom Publication for Psychology 312, University of Waterloo. McGraw-Hill.

Recommended:

1. Optional yet recommended readings for each module that are listed on the module pages
2. [Glossary 1](#) – from the lecture presentations - a glossary of terms and topics to help you prepare for the Final Exam
3. [Glossary 2](#) – from the textbook by Learner - helpful terms and topics

For textbook ordering information, please contact the [Waterloo Bookstore](#).

For your convenience, you can compile a list of required and optional course materials through [BookLook](#) using your Quest userID and password. If you are having difficulties ordering online and wish to call the Waterloo Bookstore, their phone number is +1 519 888 4673 or toll-free at +1 866 330 7933. Please be aware that textbook orders **CANNOT** be taken over the phone.

Resources

- [University of Waterloo Library](#) (Services for Students Taking Online Courses)

PSYCH 312 Online - Spring 2012 - Syllabus - Activities and Assignments - Grade Breakdown

Grade Breakdown

The following table represents the grade breakdown of this course.

Activities and Assignments	Weight (%)
Assignments	50%
Final Exam	50%

Course Grades

To help you keep track of the points you are earning towards the final grade as the course proceeds, please click on the **Grades** link on the course navigation bar above.

The chart below shows the letter equivalents for numeric grades.

Numerical Grade	Letter Grade Equivalent
90-100	A+
84-89	A

79-83	A-
76-78	B+
73-75	B
69-72	B-
66-68	C+
63-65	C
59-62	C-
56-58	D+
53-55	D
50-52	D-

PSYCH 312 Online - Spring 2012 - Syllabus - University Policies

University Policies

Submission Times

Please be aware that the University of Waterloo is located in the **Eastern Time Zone** (GMT or UTC-5 during standard time and UTC-4 during daylight saving time) and, as such, the time that your activities and/or assignments are due is based on this zone. If you are outside the Eastern Time Zone and require assistance with converting your time, please try the [Ontario, Canada Time Converter](#).

Accommodation Due to Illness

If your instructor has provided specific procedures for you to follow if you miss assignment due dates, term tests, or a final examination, adhere to those instructions. Otherwise:

MISSED ASSIGNMENTS/TESTS/QUIZZES

Contact the instructor as soon as you realize there will be a problem, and preferably within 48 hours, but no more than 72 hours, have a medical practitioner complete a [Verification of Illness Form](#).

Email a scanned copy of the Verification of Illness Form to your instructor, and **mail** a hard copy to:

Centre for Extended Learning
University of Waterloo
200 University Avenue West
Waterloo, Ontario, Canada N2L 3G1

In your email to the instructor, provide your name, student ID number, and exactly what course activity you missed.

If your instructor agrees to re-open a time-limited component, our technical support staff (extendedlearning.help@uwaterloo.ca) will require an email from the instructor granting permission to allow you access.

Further information regarding Management of Requests for Accommodation Due to Illness can be found on the [Student Medical Clinic](#) website.

MISSED FINAL EXAMINATIONS

If you are unable to write a final examination due to illness, seek medical treatment and provide confirmation of illness to the Centre for Extended Learning within 48 hours by emailing a scanned copy of the completed University of Waterloo [Verification of Illness Form](#) to support your request for accommodation. In your email, provide your name, student ID number, and the examination(s) missed. You will be REQUIRED to hand in the original completed form at the time you write the make-up examination, which should be within a week of having missed your exam. The original completed form must be received before you are able to write a re-scheduled exam.

Further information about [Accommodation Due to Illness](#) regulations are available in the Undergraduate Calendar.

| Academic Integrity

In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. **If you have not already completed the online tutorial regarding academic integrity you should do so as soon as possible.** Undergraduate students should see the [Academic Integrity Tutorial](#) and graduate students should see the [Academic Integrity Website for Graduate Students](#).

For further information on academic integrity, please visit the [Office of Academic Integrity](#).

| Discipline

A student is expected to know what constitutes [academic integrity](#) to avoid committing

an academic offence, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course instructor, academic advisor, or the undergraduate Associate Dean. For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to [Policy 71](#), Student Discipline. For typical penalties check [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](#).

| Appeals

A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70, Student Petitions and Grievances, (other than a petition) or Policy 71, Student Discipline, may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes he/she has a ground for an appeal should refer to [Policy 72](#), Student Appeals.

| Grievance

A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read [Policy 70](#), Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4. When in doubt please be certain to contact the department’s administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

| Final Grades

In accordance with [Policy 19](#), the Centre for Extended Learning does not release final examination grades or final course grades to students. Students must go to [Quest](#) to see all final grades. Any grades posted in Waterloo Learn are unofficial.

| Note for Students with Disabilities

The [Office for Persons with Disabilities](#) (OPD), located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodation to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the OPD at the beginning of each academic term and for each course.

| Use of Computing and Network Resources

Please see the [Guidelines on Use of UW Computing and Network Resources](#).

Copyright Information

uWaterloo's Web Pages

All rights, including copyright, images, slides, audio, and video components, of the content of this course are owned by the course author, unless otherwise stated. These Web pages are owned or controlled by the University of Waterloo, Centre for Extended Learning. By accessing the Web pages, you agree that you may only download the content for your own personal, non-commercial use. You are not permitted to copy, broadcast, download, store (in any medium), transmit, show or play in public, adapt or change in any way the content of these Web pages for any other purpose whatsoever without the prior written permission of the course author and the University of Waterloo, Centre for Extended Learning.

Other Sources

Respect the copyright of others and abide by all copyright notices and regulations when using the computing facilities provided for your course of study by the University of Waterloo. No material on the Internet or World Wide Web may be reproduced or distributed in any material form or in any medium, without permission from copyright holders or their assignees. To support your course of study, the University of Waterloo has provided hypertext links to relevant Web sites, resources, and services on the Web. These resources must be used in accordance with any registration requirements or conditions which may be specified. You must be aware that in providing such hypertext links the University of Waterloo has not authorized any acts (including reproduction or distribution) which, if undertaken without permission of copyright owners or their assignees, may be infringement of copyright. Permission for such acts can only be granted by copyright owners or their assignees.

If there are any questions about this notice, please contact the University of Waterloo, Centre for Extended Learning, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, N2L 3G1 or by [email](#).