

Psychology 261, Spring 2012 Physiological Psychology

Time: Tues/Thurs 10:00-11:20 am

Instructor: Deltcho Valtchanov

E-mail: dvaltcha@uwaterloo.ca

UW D2L: <http://learn.uwaterloo.ca>

Place: DC 1350

Office: PAS 2261

Office hrs: By appointment.

Required Text:

Carlson, N.R. (2010). Physiology of Behaviour, 10th Edition, Pearson

Note: This is a customized text made available in e-book or print. It does not include all chapters of the Carlson text but instead has only those chapters we will cover. This was intended to lower the price of the text and the e-book version was intended as an environmental measure.

Teaching Assistants:

<u>Name</u>	<u>e-mail</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Office Hours</u>
Karly Neath	kneath@uwaterloo.ca	PAS 2248	By appointment
Bryan Cort	brcort@uwaterloo.ca	PAS 2261	By appointment

Course Description:

The goal of this course is to introduce you to the scientific study of the brain and how it is involved in cognition and behavior. Throughout the course we will discuss a variety of methods used for studying the relation between the brain, cognition and behavior. Topics that will be covered include neural function, neuroanatomy, psychopharmacology, the senses (e.g., vision), memory, emotion and sleep. The studies discussed will include both classic work, as well as current cutting-edge research.

I would like to highlight that it is important that you attend lectures and study the textbook. Although there will be some overlap between lectures and text, there will be material that does not overlap. You are responsible for all of the material covered in class and in the assigned readings.

Evaluation:

Four (4) Tests	(25% each)	100%
Participation in Experiments	Bonus Marks	4%

Tests: The purpose of the four tests is to assess your understanding of the material in the course. **The tests will not be cumulative.** Each test will be 70 minutes in length and will be based on the material presented in the **textbook and in lectures**. Each test will contain multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank and short answer questions, and will be written in the regular classroom during class time.

Weighting of the term tests: The final term test will be worth 25%. The first three tests will be given differential weighting, with the highest grade worth 30%, the middle worth 25%, and the lowest worth 20%.

Make-up Tests: If a test is missed, it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor and TAs to schedule a make-up test. Students are encouraged to contact the instructor and TAs immediately before or after a missed test. **The make-up test must be written within 10 days of the actual test date and may contain different questions and be in a different format (e.g., all short answer questions).** If the make-up test is not written within 10 days, documentation explaining the extended absence will be required before a new make-up test can be scheduled.

Participation in Experiments: Student participants may earn up to 4 **bonus** percentage points towards their final mark in Psychology 261 by participating in Cognitive Psychology and Cognitive Neuroscience studies conducted by students and faculty in the Department of Psychology. **See attached guidelines for participation in psychology research for more details.**

Lecture Topics:

Topic

Introduction/ History
Structure and Function of Cells of the Nervous System
Structure of the Nervous System
Psychopharmacology and Drug Abuse
Methods and Strategies of Research
Vision
Audition, the Body Senses and the Chemical Senses
Control of Movement
Sleep and Biological Rhythms
Learning and Memory
Neurological Disorders
Emotion

Text Module

Chapter 1
Chapter 2
Chapter 3
Chapters 4 and 18
Chapter 5
Chapter 6
Chapter 7
Chapter 8
Chapter 9
Chapter 10
Chapter 11
Digital version only

IMPORTANT DATES

Term Test 1: Thursday, May 17th (Chapters 1-3)

Term Test 2: Thursday, June 14th (Chapters 4-6)

Term Test 3: Thursday, July 5th (Chapters 7-9)

Term Test 4: Tuesday, July 24th (Chapters 10-11 + Emotion)

Last day to drop, receive a WD:

Monday July 9

Lectures end:

July 25

*** Please note that the details of this schedule might change depending on class interest and possible class interruption due to unexpected events. I will announce any changes in class AND on UW D2L so make sure you are regularly attending class and checking UW D2L.**

E-Mail Communication:

If you would like to contact either the course instructor or the teaching assistants, please use the e-mail addresses provided on the syllabus. Although we will be checking UW ACE email correspondence from time-to-time, the best way to contact the instructor and the teaching assistants is to use the e-mails above. Students are responsible for all e-mail that is sent to their official UW e-mail address. Check your e-mail regularly for important and time sensitive messages.

UW D2L:

I will be using UW D2L to **post lecture notes, grades, and the course syllabus. Course announcements, and answers to frequently asked questions will also be posted on UW D2L.** Make sure you check your UW D2L account regularly to stay on top of the material in the course and any announcements.

Policy Regarding Illness:

Students who are requesting accommodation for course requirements (*assignments, midterm tests, final exams, etc.*) due to illness should do the following:

- seek medical treatment as soon as possible and obtain a completed UW Verification of Illness Form:
- http://www.healthservices.uwaterloo.ca/Health_Services/verification.html
- submit that form to the instructor within 48 hours.
- (preferably) inform the instructor by the due date for the course requirement that you will be unable to meet the deadline and that documentation will be forthcoming.

In the case of a missed final exam, the instructor and student will negotiate an extension for the final exam which will typically be written as soon as possible, but no later than the next offering of the course.

In the case of a missed assignment deadline or midterm test, the instructor will either:

- waive the course component and re-weight remaining term work as he/she deems fit according to circumstances and the goals of the course, or
- provide an extension.

In the case of bereavement, the instructor will provide similar accommodations to those for illness. Appropriate documentation to support the request will be required.

Students who are experiencing extenuating circumstances should also inform their academic advisors regarding their personal difficulties.

The Official Version of the Course Outline:

If there is a discrepancy between the hard copy outline (*i.e., if students were provided with a hard copy at the first class*) and the outline posted on D2L, the outline on D2L will be deemed the official version. Outlines on D2L may change as instructors develop a course, but they become final as of the first class meeting for the term.

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 accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the OPD at the beginning of each academic term.

Concerns About the Course or Instructor (Informal Stage):

We in the Psychology Department take great pride in the high quality of our program and our instructors. Though infrequent, we know that students occasionally find themselves in situations of conflict with their instructors over course policies or grade assessments. If such a conflict arises, the Associate Chair for Undergraduate Affairs (Dr. Colin Ellard) is available for consultation and to mediate a resolution between the student and instructor. Dr. Ellard's contact information is as follows:

Email: cellard@uwaterloo.ca Ph: 519-888- 4567 ext 36852

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. See Policy 70 and 71 below for further details.

Academic Integrity, Academic Offenses, Grievance, and Appeals:

To protect course integrity, as well as to provide appropriate guidance to students, course outlines in the Faculty of Arts must include the following note on avoidance of academic offenses:

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. [Check <http://www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/> for more informaton.]

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offenses, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offense, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offenses (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about 'rules' for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under **Policy 71 - Student Discipline**. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to **Policy 71 - Student Discipline**, <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm> For typical penalties check **Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties** <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/guidelines/penaltyguidelines.htm>

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**, <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm> When in doubt please be certain to contact the department's administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

Appeals: A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under **Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances** (other than regarding a petition) or **Policy 71 - Student Discipline** if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read **Policy 72 - Student Appeals**, <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm> Academic Integrity website (Arts): http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html Academic Integrity Office (UW):

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Research Experience Marks Information and Guidelines

Experiential learning is considered an integral part of the undergraduate program in Psychology. Research participation is one example of this, article review is another. A number of undergraduate courses have been expanded to include opportunities for Psychology students to earn grades while gaining research experience.

Since experiential learning is highly valued in the Department of Psychology, students may earn a **"bonus" grade of up to 4%** in this course through research experience. Course work will make up 100% of the final mark and a "bonus" of up to 4% may be earned and will be added to the final grade if/as needed to bring your final grade up to 100%.

The two options for earning research experience grades (participation in research and article review) are described below. Students may complete any combination of these options to earn research experience grades.

Option 1: Participation in Psychology Research

Research participation is coordinated by the Research Experiences Group (REG). Psychology students may volunteer as research participants in lab and/or online (web-based) studies conducted by students and faculty in the Department of Psychology. Participation enables students to learn first-hand about psychology research and related concepts. Many students report that participation in research is both an educational and interesting experience. Please be assured that all Psychology studies have undergone prior ethics review and clearance through the Office of Research Ethics.

Educational focus of participation in research

To maximize the educational benefits of participating in research, students will receive feedback information following their participation in each study detailing the following elements:

- Purpose or objectives of the study
- Dependent and independent variables
- Expected results
- References for at least two related research articles
- Provisions to ensure confidentiality of data
- Contact information of the researcher should the student have further questions about the study
- Contact information for the Director of the Office of Research Ethics should the student wish to learn more about the general ethical issues surrounding research with human participants, or specific questions or concerns about the study in which s/he participated.

Participation is worth 0.5 participation credits (grade percentage points) for each half-hour of participation. Researchers will record student's participation and will advise the course instructor of the total credits earned by each student at the end of the term.

Study scheduling, participation and grade assignment is managed using the [SONA](#) online system. All students enrolled in this course have been set up with a SONA account. It is VERY IMPORTANT that you get an early start on your studies. For detailed instructions on [when and how access your SONA account](#) and for a list of [important dates and deadlines](#) please, as soon as possible, click on:

<http://www.arts.uwaterloo.ca/~regadmin/regparticipant/sonainfo/#SonaSignUp>

*** Please do not ask the Course Instructor or REG Coordinator for information unless you have first thoroughly read the information provided on this website. ***

More information about the REG program is available at:
<http://www.arts.uwaterloo.ca/~regadmin/regparticipant/>

Option 2: Article Review as an alternative to participation in research

Students are not required to participate in research, and not all students wish to do so. As an alternative, students may opt to gain research experience by writing short reviews (1½ to 2 pages) of research articles relevant to the course. The course instructor will specify a suitable source of articles for this course (i.e., scientific journals, newspapers, magazines, other printed media). *You must contact your TA to get approval for the article you have chosen before writing the review.* Each review article counts as one percentage point. To receive credit, you must follow specific guidelines. The article review must:

- **Be submitted before the last lecture. Late submissions will NOT be accepted under ANY circumstances.**
 - Be typed
 - Fully identify the title, author(s), source and date of the article. A copy of the article must be attached.
 - Identify the psychological concepts in the article and indicate the pages in the textbook that are applicable. Critically evaluate the application or treatment of those concepts in the article. If inappropriate or incorrect, identify the error and its implications for the validity of the article. You may find, for example, misleading headings, faulty research procedures, alternative explanations that are ignored, failures to distinguish factual findings from opinions, faulty statements of cause-effect relations, errors in reasoning, etc. Provide examples whenever possible.
 - Clearly evaluate the application or treatment of those concepts in the article.
 - Keep a copy of your review in the unlikely event we misplace the original.
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