

PSYCHOLOGY 201: COURSE CALENDAR

DATE	LECTURE # & TOPIC	READINGS
Aug 25	What is Psychology: Goals and Historical Trends	1-27
Aug 27	Scientific Methods in Psychology I: Nature of Science and Conducting Research	29-39
Sep 1	Scientific Methods in Psychology II: Research Methods in Psychology	40-55
Sep 3	Biological Psychology: Nervous System and Behavior	65-89
Sep 8 <i>EXAM 1: Lecture and text material since the start of the term</i>		
Sep 10	Learning I: Classical Conditioning	201-217
Sep 15	Learning II: Operant Conditioning	218-231
Sep 17	Memory I: Types of Memory	244-258
Sep 22	Memory II: Long Term Memory Storage and Retrieval	259-266
Sep 24	Memory III: Amnesia	267-283
Sep 29 <i>EXAM 2: Lecture and text material since exam 1</i>		
Oct 6	Intelligence I: Intelligence and IQ Testing	334-343
Oct 8	Intelligence II: Evaluating IQ Tests	344-359
Oct 13	Motivation I: General Principles	398-403
Oct 15	Motivation II: Sexual Motivation	414-425
Oct 20	Emotion: Nature of Emotions	436-454
Oct 22 <i>EXAM 3: Lecture and text material since exam 2</i>		
Oct 27	Social Psychology I: Social Perception and Cognition	488-498
Oct 29	Social Psychology II: Attitudes and Persuasion	499-508
Nov 3	Social Psychology III: Influence and the Power of the Social Situation	518-527
Nov 5	Personality I: Traits	545-553
Nov 10	Personality II: Assessment	554-565
Nov 12 <i>EXAM 4: Lecture and text material since exam 3</i>		
Nov 17	Abnormal Psychology I: Overview	567-575
Nov 19	Abnormal Psychology II: Psychotherapy	576-589
Nov 23-27	No Classes: Fall Recess	
Dec 1	Psychological Disorders II: Mood Disorders	621-631
Dec 3	Psychological Disorders III: Schizophrenia	632-641
Dec 7 <i>EXAM 5: Lecture and text material since Exam 4 @ 4 p.m.</i>		

NOTA BENE: The schedule and policies in this course are subject to change in the case of extenuating circumstances.

EXTRA CREDIT THROUGH PSYCHOLOGY RESEARCH

Psychology is a science concerned with how and why humans and animals behave the way they do. Many of the discoveries you will read about this semester came from research in the laboratory with psychology students like yourself and published in scientific journals. Students enrolled in this course may earn up to ten (10) research points through any combination of library research (see below), research participation, colloquia and in-class activities. I will treat these as extra credit points each of which is equivalent to an exam point and used towards enhancing your final grade.

- **Library research.** The university library contains numerous scientific journals published by the American Psychological Association or the American Psychological Society (see list of approved journals below; articles from the internet are NOT allowed). After reading an article from one these journals, you are asked to reference the article and respond to four questions (see page 4 for template). One extra credit point will be given for each article completed. If you are uncertain about what constitutes **plagiarism**, please ask as this is a violation of academic integrity with serious consequences. Please turn this work in as soon as it is completed in order to receive your extra credit points.

American Psychologist
Developmental Psychobiology
Psychological Science
Journal of Personality and Social Psychology
Psychological Bulletin
Experimental and Clinical Psychopharmacology
Journal of Counseling Psychology
Journal of Applied Psychology

Behavioral Neuroscience
Journal of Abnormal Psychology
Journal of Experimental Psychology
Psychological Assessment
Psychological Review
Psychology and Aging
Journal of Comparative Psychology
Journal of Abnormal Child Psychology

- **Research participation.** An online Psychology Study Participant Manager (PSPM), located at www.psych.uni.edu/pspm/olemiss, contains announcements describing research projects that are currently going on in the department. Each announcement specifies the investigator associated with the project and a short description of the project. Sometimes the investigator specifies who is eligible to participate in the project, so you should carefully read the requirements before agreeing to participate.

If you want to participate in a study, you will follow the online instructions. It is very important that you keep your appointment. If for any reason you cannot participate at the scheduled hour, you should cancel at least 24 hours before the scheduled time. If there is less than 24 hours before the scheduled time, you must call the investigator to cancel your appointment. If you fail either to keep your scheduled appointment or to call the investigator to cancel, you will be required to obtain an extra hour of research credit. If you do not keep your appointment (for any reason), the system will not allow you to participate in that research project – you will have to get your research credits from other studies.

When you arrive for your appointment, the investigator will explain the nature of the research project. If at this time, or at any other time during the study, you feel that you would like to withdraw from the experiment, you are free to do so, and you will receive credit for participation to that point.

Each time you participate in a study, the investigator will give you a credit online. Both you and your instructor will have access to this information. You may check it occasionally to note your progress. Remember, if you wait until near the end of the semester to participate, there may not be studies available.

- **Psychology colloquia.** At some point throughout the semester, the psychology department may have an invited speaker present on a topic of interest in psychology. These colloquia dates, times, and locations will be announced during class lectures. Use the template on page 4 for completing this type of extra credit. As before, turn this work in as soon as it is completed in order to receive your extra credit points.

LIBRARY RESEARCH SAMPLE

Student Name & UM ID #: Jane Scholar, 78280003

Authors: G.S. Watson, J.T. Roach, and K.J. Sufka

Article Title: Benzodiazepine receptor function in the chick social-separation stress procedure

Journal Name: Experimental and Clinical Psychopharmacology

Journal volume, page numbers, and year: Vol. 14, pp. 1-12, 1999

Research Summary:

a) What kind of research design was used (e.g., case study, correlation, true experiment, etc)?

These researchers employed a true experiment in their study.

b) What were the variables investigated (e.g., independent and dependent) in this study?

The independent variable was a drug manipulation that included drugs that either mimicked (agonist) or blocked (antagonist) the BZ receptor. A second independent variable was testing animals either in isolation (stress manipulation) or with two companions (control group). The dependent variable was the number of distress vocalizations emitted by the chicks for a 3-min test period.

c) What did the authors discover about their variables with their research project?

The researchers show that social separation causes chicks to vocalize. Also, classic anti-anxiety drugs that mimicked the BZ receptor reduce distress vocalizations. Finally, the researchers show that if you block the BZ receptor it prevents the anti-anxiety drug from working.

d) Your reactions:

This was a very interesting study. The authors want to argue that this paradigm is a cost-effective way to screen novel drugs for anti-anxiety effects. I think animal research like this is important for helping improve the lives of both animals and humans. Personally, I think the government should spend more money on neuroscience research.

PSYCHOLOGY COLLOQUIUM SAMPLE

Student Name: Joe College ID#: 027-04-9760

Guest Speaker: Dr. Thomas Polger, University of Cincinnati

Colloquium Title: Mind-Body Problem; The Natural Method in the Study of Consciousness

Date, time and location: Jan 26, 2009, 4:00 p.m., 209 Peabody Building

Summary must include:

a) Summary of presentation:

Dr. Polger discussed a very interesting issue in psychology known as the mind-body problem. The debate centers on whether the mind (or consciousness) is a result of brain processes or comes about through some non-physical entity that does not obey the laws of physics. In his talk, Dr. Polger argues that the consciousness can be reduced to physical processes in the brain. He uses two sensory systems, vision and audition, as exemplars to understand this problem. He first discussed physical properties of light and how that is encoded by the retina and ultimately handled by the cortex to yield states of awareness. He follows this by treating sound in the same manner. His demonstration of dark adaptation was the best. It seems the nervous system is nicely designed to handle the physical world and to make some sense of it.

b) Your reactions:

Dr. Polger's talk leaves me a bit unsettled about the nature of consciousness. I came into the talk believing in dualism, that is that the mind and body are two separate entities. However, Dr. Polger has presented very convincing evidence that processing of the physical world via the brain seems to account for everything there is to know about consciousness. His objections to Chalmers' arguments were sound. However, I still think there is something mysterious about consciousness that neuroscience cannot explain.

