# PSYC-1000-002 Introduction to Psychology

The University of Winnipeg Instructor: Dr. Michael Lee

Fall/Winter 2023/24 Email: m.lee@uwinnipeg.ca

(do not use Nexus email)

Mon/Wed/Fri Time: 09:30 – 10:20am Room: 4M31 Office Hours: by appointment

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## **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

- To become aware of the major psychological approaches to the study of behaviour.
- ➤ To become aware of the major aspects of behaviour investigated by psychologists.
- ➤ To become familiar with the contributions of major figures in the field.
- ➤ To become familiar with major research findings and theories of the field.
- ➤ To become conversant in the unique language of psychology.
- > To learn the methodology of psychology and its limitations.
- ➤ To become an informed consumer of psychological information.
- > To gain self understanding and a greater understanding of others.
- ➤ To recognize ways to apply psychological findings to everyday life.
- To learn to appreciate the necessity of a multi-level explanation of behaviour.
- ➤ To become fascinated by the study of behaviour and mental processes!

#### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is intended to introduce the student to the major areas of psychology, and is a requisite for all other courses in psychology. No prior knowledge of psychology is assumed, and so the course can serve as either a first course for psych majors/minors or as a taste of the field for non-majors. Major subfields of study within psychology that will be examined will include history, developmental, neuroscience, sensation, perception, learning, cognition, memory, personality, abnormal psychology, clinical, and social psychology. As you will learn, there is probably more to psychology than you ever realized! We will explore from a variety of domains how psychologists theorize about and conduct research in answering questions about human nature, particularly, individual and group behaviour and mental processes. From this one course, many of you who decide to continue in psychology will probably get a good idea of what areas of psychology interest you the most. Given the vast amount of material to be covered in this course, our goal is breadth, not depth! But we should delve into all of the areas sufficiently enough for you to undertake a good foundational understanding of all the basic areas that define psychology as a whole.

Generally speaking, psychologists are scientists who are trying to understand human behaviour ... why do humans act the way we do? As this course will show you, there are many different ways one can approach and try to answer this question. For example, some psychologists address this issue at the level of the brain. Such physiological psychologists ask questions like how is information passed along in the brain? Do certain parts of the brain control certain behaviours?

What would happen if certain parts of the brain were damaged? Other psychologists, termed social psychologists, are more interested in the effect that other humans have on our behaviour. They study such things as conformance to authority, the variables that cause prejudicial behaviour, etc. Still other psychologists, termed cognitive psychologists, study the mental processes that underlie certain behaviours. How does information get into memory? How does attention work?

This course is a survey course meant to give you this "big picture" of the various approaches that have been used, and the major findings that have come, so far, from each approach. It is essentially a "best of" psychology course. By the end of the course you should have a good idea of what kinds of psychology you like, what kinds you don't like, and whether you want to pursue psychology in more detail.

#### METHOD OF TEACHING:

Lectures will constitute 90% of the teaching format. Films, in-class demonstrations, and other audio-visual materials will comprise the remaining 10%. Class participation and discussion are encouraged where and when appropriate. Lectures will be used (a) to clarify, illustrate or apply information brought out in the textbook; (b) to delve more intensively into topics covered by the textbook; and (c) to examine material not discussed in the textbook. Students are encouraged to attend all classes, as some material covered in class is not included in the text. Similarly, students should become very familiar with the assigned textbook chapters, as some material covered in the text is not included in lectures.

## **REQUIRED TEXT:**

Revel An Introduction to Psychological Science, Fourth Canadian Edition, Krause et al.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

•	There will be six unit exams (3 per term)	6 x 15%
•	Assignments (1 per term)	2 x 2.5%
•	Research Requirement (Both terms)	5%
		=100

#### 1. Unit Exams

Although much of the text and lectures will coincide there will be several occasions when information in the text is not covered in class and information covered in class will not be in the text.

Unless otherwise specified, exam questions will be based on all material covered in class, and all material presented in the textbook. You should base your reading of the textbook throughout the year around the course schedule listed below.

The first two exams in each term will be written during our classtime. The third exam in each term will be written in the final exam period in December and April respectively, after classes have finished. All exams are non-cumulative and will consist of multiple-choice questions. Exams are closed-book!

Exams missed without an acceptable excuse will be assigned a mark of zero. Make-up exams will only be permitted for absences due to medical conditions/illness, compassionate needs (death), or religious holidays. It is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor prior to the date of an exam to arrange a timely make-up. In the case of an emergency, the student will contact the TA as soon as possible. Students may be asked to provide documentation to support their request. The format of alternate exams is at the discretion of the Instructor (a short or long answer exam may be used in place of the missed exam).

- 2. Assignments will consist of 2 short reflection papers (approx. 1-2 pages) to be submitted on Nexus in Word or PDF format. These will involve your thoughts about a particular topic that came up during the term (from the textbook and/or lecture) that was of particular interest to you and a discussion about a particular study, person, or theory. These can be submitted at any time although the deadline for completion will be 2 weeks after the last class of each term.
- 3. Research Requirement: All students are expected to meet the Introductory Psychology research requirement. This is described in further detail in a separate handout and will be discussed further during the first class.

#### **GRADING SCHEME:**

A+ 92-100 (or at instructor's discretion)

A 86-91

A- 81-85

B+ 76-80

B 70-75

C+ 66-69

C 60-65

D 50-59

F 0-49

Note: A final percentage grade that has a fractional component will be rounded up if it is .5 or more, and downward if it is .499... or less. For example, a final score of 79.5% would be rounded up to 80%, but a score of 79.3% would be rounded down to 79%.

Also, note that as for all University of Winnipeg courses, these cutoffs are tentative and may be changed in either direction by a) the professor, b) the departmental review committee, or c) the senate, when circumstances warrant.

I do not permit retaking tests that you have already written. There are no opportunities for additional work to increase your mark at the end of the course. I will not respond to emails for either of these requests!

#### **CLASS SCHEDULE & IMPORTANT DATES:**

## Fall Term 2023

Unit One Lectures: Covering:

Sept 06 – Oct 04 Chapter One Introducing Psychological Science

Chapter Two Reading and Evaluating Psychological Research

Chapter Three Biological Psychology

October 06: Unit One Exam (Ch's 1-3 and associated lectures)

October 08 – 14: Midterm Reading Week (No Classes)

Unit Two Lectures: Covering:

Oct 16 – Nov 01 Chapter Four Sensation and Perception

Chapter Five Consciousness

November 03: Unit Two Exam (Ch's 4-5 and associated lectures)

Unit Three Lectures: Covering:

Nov 06 – Dec 04 Chapter Six Learning

Chapter Seven Memory

Chapter Eight Thought and Language

TBA\* Unit Three Exam (Ch's 6-8 and associated lectures)

<sup>\*</sup>This test will be held during the Fall term evaluation period in December. Students must remain available to take this exam anytime between Dec 07 and 20.

## **CLASS SCHEDULE & IMPORTANT DATES** (continued):

## Winter Term 2024

Unit Four Lectures: Covering:

Jan 08 – Jan 26 Chapter Nine Intelligence

Chapter Ten Human Development

January 29: Unit Four Exam (Ch's 9-10 and associated lectures)

Unit Five Lectures: Covering:

Jan 31 – Mar 04 Chapter Eleven Motivation

Chapter Twelve Personality

Chapter Thirteen Social Psychology

February 18 – 24: Midterm Reading Week (No Classes)

March 06: Unit Five Exam (Ch's 11-13 and associated lectures)

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Unit Six Lectures: Covering:

Mar 08 – Apr 05 Chapter Fourteen Health and Stress

(or April 08) Chapter Fifteen Psychological Disorders

Chapter Sixteen Therapies

TBA\* Unit Six Exam (Ch's 14-16 and associated lectures)

The voluntary withdrawal date, without academic penalty, is February 16, 2024.

The dates the University is closed for holidays:

- · September 4 (Labour Day)
- · September 30 (Truth and Reconciliation Day)
- · October 9 (Thanksgiving Day)
- · November 11 (Remembrance Day)
- · December 23 through January 4, 2024
- · February 19 (Louis Riel Day)
- · March 29 (Good Friday); makeup date is Monday, April 8.
- · Fall mid-term reading week is October 8-14
- · Winter mid-term reading week is February 18-24

<sup>\*</sup>This test will be held during the Winter term evaluation period in April. Students must remain available to take this exam anytime between April 11and 24.

## Course Policies:

## Questions via e-mail

The professor encourages students to ask questions—in person—before, during, or after class, or during office hours. Email is only an acceptable means of communication for discussion of course policy, scheduling make-up exams, and other administrative topics. The professor will not discuss course content over email.

## Academic concession

Students may apply for concessions by emailing the Teaching Assistant. The teaching assistant (TA) may grant concessions to students who have conflicting responsibilities (e.g., religious holidays, competitive sports) or unforeseen events (e.g., physical or emotional illness of the self or a close friend or family member). If these circumstances befall you, please notify the TA by email as soon as possible. If the TA grants a concession, the test/assignment will either be rescheduled or excused. If the student provides acceptable documentation from an appropriate authority within 7 days of the due date, the TA will approve the concession. Otherwise, approval is at the TA's discretion. If a student fails to complete an assignment on time and does not receive a concession, the student will receive a 0 for that assignment.

## Exams

Students may not use books, calculators, electronic devices (including smart phones) or any other aids during exams, except their UW student card, pens, pencils, and erasers. Drinking containers are also permitted. Students need to bring pens, pencils and erasers to examinations. The professor will not provide any to students. Students must have their UW student card available during exams for identification purposes.

## Academic misconduct

All of the University regulations concerning academic misconduct (e.g., plagiarism, cheating, failing to submit an examination on time) apply in this course. See the Course Calendar for full details. updated 17 Dec 2015 4

## **University Policies:**

Students with documented disabilities, temporary or chronic medical conditions, requiring academic accommodations for tests/exams (e.g., private space) or during lectures/laboratories (e.g., access to volunteer notetakers) are encouraged to contact Accessibility Services (AS) at 786-9771 or email accessibilityservices@uwinnipeg.ca to discuss appropriate options. Specific information about AS is available online at <a href="http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/accessibility">http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/accessibility</a>. All information about a student's disability or medical condition remains confidential.

The University asks that you please be respectful of the needs of classmates and instructors/professors by avoiding the use of unnecessary scented products while attending lectures. Exposure to scented products can trigger serious health reactions in persons with asthma, allergies, migraines or chemical sensitivities. Please consider using unscented necessary products and avoiding unnecessary products that are scented (e.g. perfume).

All students, faculty and staff have the right to participate, learn and work in an environment that is free of harassment and discrimination. The UW Respectful Working and Learning Environment Policy may be found online at <a href="https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect">www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect</a>.

Students may choose not to attend classes or write examinations on holy days of their religion, but they must notify their instructors at least two weeks in advance. Instructors will then provide opportunity for students to make-up work and/or examinations without penalty. A list of religious holidays can be found at:

http://uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/important-notes.pdf

Students facing a charge of academic or non-academic misconduct may choose to contact the University of Winnipeg Students' Association (UWSA) where a student advocate will be available to answer any questions about the process, help with building a case, and ensuring students have access to support. For more information or to schedule an appointment, visit our website at <a href="www.theuwsa.ca/academic-advocacy">www.theuwsa.ca/academic-advocacy</a> or call 204-786-9780.

Avoiding Academic Misconduct: uploading essays and other assignments to essay vendor or essay trader sites (file sharing sites that are known providers of essays for use by others who submit them to instructors as their own work) involves "aiding and abetting" plagiarism. Students who do this can be charged with Academic Misconduct.

Avoiding Copyright Violation: Course materials are owned by the instructor who developed them. Examples of such materials are course outlines, assignment descriptions, lecture notes, test questions, and presentation slides. Students who upload these materials to file sharing sites, or in any other way share these materials with others outside the same class without prior permission of the instructor/presenter, are in violation of copyright law and University policy. Students must also obtain instructor/presenter permission before photographing or recording slides, presentations, lectures, and notes on the board.

Academic Integrity and AI Text-generating Tools: Students must follow principles of academic integrity (e.g., honesty, respect, fairness, and responsibility) in their use of material obtained through AI text-generating tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Bing, Notion AI). If an instructor prohibits the use of AI tools in a course, students may face an allegation of academic misconduct if using them to do assignments. If AI tools are permitted, students must cite them. According to the MLA (https://style.mla.org/citing-generative-ai/), writers should:

- cite a generative AI tool whenever you paraphrase, quote, or incorporate into your own work any content (whether text, image, data, or other) that was created by it
- acknowledge all functional uses of the tool (like editing your prose or translating words) in a note, your text, or another suitable location
- take care to vet the secondary sources it cites

If students aren't sure whether or not they can use AI tools, they should ask their professors.

Additional Information about the Psychology Department:

For more information about programs in Psychology, tutoring, visiting speakers, registration information, research opportunities, and employment, visit the Psychology website at http://psychology.uwinnipeg.ca , our Facebook Page (Psychology Department@UWinnipeg), and our Instagram page (psychologyatuwinnipeg)