



DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

COURSE OUTLINE—FALL 2014

PY1040 (D2) BASIC PSYCHOLOGICAL PROCESSES - 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours

INSTRUCTOR: Connie Korpan **PHONE:** Office (780) 539-2032
OFFICE: C312 **E-MAIL:** ckorpan@gprc.ab.ca
OFFICE HOURS: Mondays 1:00-2:00 and Fridays 11:30– 1:00

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: None

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

Pearson Custom Library (2014) PY1040 Basic Psychological Processes Custom Edition, GPRC or

Gerrig, R.J., Zimbardo, P.G., Desmarais, S., & Ivanco, T. (2012). *Psychology and life* (2nd Canadian Edition)

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

This first introductory course in psychology gives students an understanding of themselves and other people through the study of basic concepts, principles, theories, and methods used in the scientific study of behaviour. The course covers research methods in psychology, the biological basis, neurophysiology, sensation, perception, learning, states of consciousness, memory and cognition. This course is a prerequisite for most other psychology courses and is normally followed by PY1050.

CREDIT/CONTACT HOURS: 3 credits / 3 hours per week

DELIVERY MODE(S): This course includes lectures, class discussions and take-home exercises.

OBJECTIVES

As a result of taking this course, students will gain the abilities to define, explain, demonstrate, evaluate and articulate:

- the major theories, perspectives and concepts in the fields of psychology
- the various research methods and the ethical issues in the use of humans and other animals in research
- the theory of evolution and its principles

- the relationship between biological structures and processes and their psychological manifestations
- the states of consciousness and how they are affected by various factors
- how the environment determines behaviour through the principles of learning
- the interaction of nature and nurture in determining behavior
- the aspects of memory and their reciprocal relationship with behaviour and other mental processes
- the cognitive processes involved in language comprehension and production, as well as problem solving and reasoning

TRANSFERABILITY:

Students receiving grades of D or D+ will receive GPRC credit. These grades may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions, however. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact their receiving institution to ensure transferability. In Alberta, this course transfers as follows.

- Athabasca University: PSYC 289 (3)
- Canadian University College: PSYC 1xx (3)
- Concordia University College of Alberta: PSY 104 (3)
- Grant MacEwan University: PSYC 104 (3)
- King's University College, The: PSYC 250 (3)
- Lethbridge College PSY1160 (3)
- University of Alberta: PSYCO 104 (3) OR AUPSY 101 (3)
- University of Calgary: PSYC 200
- University of Lethbridge: PSYC 1000 (3)

GRADING CRITERIA

| Alpha Grade | 4-Pt Equivalent | Percentage Guidelines | Designation |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| A+ | 4.0 | 97 - 100 | Excellent |
| A | 4.0 | 94-96 | |
| A- | 3.7 | 90-93 | First Class Standing |
| B+ | 3.3 | 85-89 | |
| B | 3.0 | 80-84 | Good |
| B- | 2.7 | 75-79 | |
| C+ | 2.3 | 70-74 | Satisfactory |
| C | 2.0 | 65-69 | |
| C- | 1.7 | 60 - 64 | |
| D+ | 1.3 | 55 - 59 | Poor |
| D | 1.0 | 50 - 54 | Minimal Pass at GPRC |
| F | 0.0 | 0 - 49 | Fail –no credit received |
| WF | 0.0 | | Fail—withdrawal after deadline |

EVALUATIONS:

1. 4 Quizzes—total = 20%
2. Midterm Exam = 30 %; Final Exam = 35%
3. Attendance/Participation = 5 %
4. Chapter & Class Assignments—total = 10%
 1. **Quizzes.** There will be four quizzes; each will be in a multiple choice format. Each quiz is worth 5%, for a total of 20%. Please refer to page 5 of this course outline for more information on missed quizzes.
 2. **Midterm and Final Exam.** The midterm and final exams will include multiple-choice and short answer questions. The multiple choice questions are taken “primarily” from the test-bank and the short answer questions will be taken primarily from the lecture material. The final exam **will not be cumulative**; it will cover material from after the midterm to the end of term. The midterm is worth 30% and final exam are worth 35% each.

Please refer to pages 5 and 6 of this outline for more information on missing the midterm or final exam.

3. **Participation/Attendance.** Student input during lectures is enthusiastically welcomed and strongly encouraged. There are a variety of ways that you can contribute to the lectures, such as asking relevant questions, making insightful comments during the lectures, contributing to discussion during group work. Attendance will be taken every class. Attendance may be taken more than once during a class period. **Please note that in my courses, students who miss more than 10% of classes without an acceptable excuse may be debarred from writing the final exam.**
4. **Chapter Assignments.** There will be 9 multiple choice chapter assignments, each comprised of questions taken from the test bank Your marks across all the assignments will be averaged. The average mark of all the assignments is worth 10% of your overall grade. These assignments will be posted on Moodle and you will answer the questions on Moodle. Deadlines for each assignment will be announced in class and indicated on Moodle.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

Paying Attention in Class

Texting???? Not allowed in my class---NO EXCEPTIONS.

Keep your cellphones in your bag. Facebooking????----Do that on your own time, not in this class. If you have problems meeting these expectations, I will be happy to assist you.

Bottom line—you are expected to pay attention in class, whether it be attending to me while I am lecturing/answering student questions, or to another student who is speaking to the class.

Lecture Attendance/Absences

First of all—**come on time and stay in class**; deal with eating/drinking/bathroom needs before or after class. Classes are only 80 minutes long, so this expectation should be easy to manage. Arriving late and leaving during class is EXTREMELY DISTRACTING.

Students are held accountable for all lecture materials and readings. It is your responsibility to keep up with class work. Therefore, you are expected to attend all lectures. Attendance will be taken every class.

If you are absent from a class, all missed material is to be obtained by approaching a fellow student, not the instructor. It would be very unfair for students who miss lectures to be advantaged by getting the instructor's notes. Typically, the quality of note-taking by students is quite variable. Therefore, if you miss a lecture and need to rely on another

student as a source for the missed lecture material, it is advised that you **pick your sources very carefully.**

If you are missing a class for excusable reasons (e.g., illness, appointment) and wish to avoid having your attendance/participation grade docked, please email me at ckorpan@gprc.ab.ca. Write **"Absence from PY1040 Class"** in the subject box and provide your explanation in the email. Please be aware that I may ask for documentation.

Other Responsibilities

You are also expected to prepare for each lecture by reading the assigned chapters and handouts. Students who prepare for lectures learn and perform much better than students who do not prepare.

Although the instructor feels that all the material in the text book is important and interesting, **limited class time prevents discussion of all the material covered in the text.** You are responsible for learning textbook material (assigned chapters only) that is not discussed in class. Please feel free to approach me outside of class if you wish to get clarification on this material.

Missed Quizzes/Exams

Dates for the quizzes and midterm are included on page 7 of this course outline. **Quizzes that are missed for any reason will not be rescheduled.** If a student misses a quiz due to **verified** illness, dentistry, accident, emergency, or GPRC obligations (e.g., you are away due to the requirements of another course) the **weight of the quiz will be transferred to the final exam.** If a student misses a quiz for reasons that do not include verified illness, dentistry, accident, or emergency, then a "0" (zero) will be assigned to that quiz. Holidays, employment, etc. are not considered to be excusable reasons to miss any exam in this course. Missing any quiz without explanation from the student will result in a "0" on that quiz.

According to GPRC policy, deferring a missed **Midterm Exam** is at the discretion of the instructor. In my courses, students who miss a midterm because of illness, dentistry, accident, or emergency (verified) may write the midterm at a later date (set by me—I will chose a date that is mutually convenient). When students miss the midterm for reasons that do not include verified illness, dentistry, accident, or emergency, a "0" is assigned to that the midterm. Students who miss the midterm without explanation will receive a "0" on the midterm.

Absences from a registrar-scheduled **Final Exam** fall under GPRC Examination Policy. It is the responsibility of the student to be informed about these policies prior to the final examination period.

If the final exam is missed due to illness, you will be required to submit an application to the Registrar's office for permission to write a deferred exam and must do so within 48 hours of the scheduled exam time. You may defer the final exam for up to 20 days of the end of the examination period. **You will be required to provide documentation for your illness.**

Student Conduct



It is expected that all students will display respectful attitude and behaviours in the classroom. This includes coming to class on time and leaving without disruption to others. Also expected is attention to the instructor and fellow students during discussions of topics relevant to the course. Disrespect will not be tolerated. Examples of disrespectful behaviour include talking while the instructor or fellow students are discussing course material, making rude, destructive comments, reading the newspaper, putting your feet up on the desk, putting your head down on the desk for a nap, and so on. Also, unless you are awaiting a call about something of a very very very very serious nature, **TURN OFF YOUR CELLPHONE.** Phones that ring during lectures cause a lot of distraction. Furthermore, people answering these calls during class cause even more distraction. Loving to listen to music is wonderful, but **LISTEN TO YOUR MUSIC OUTSIDE OF CLASS.** Instructors and other students can often hear the music which creates a distraction. Furthermore, such behaviour is disrespectful to instructors. As stated earlier, **TEXTING, FACEBOOKING, PLAYING COMPUTER GAMES, CHECKING EMAILS, DOING ASSIGNMENTS FOR THIS COURSE AND OTHER COURSES, ETC. DURING CLASSTIME ARE NOT ALLOWED.** These types of expectations are based on common sense—you cannot learn the course material while engaging in these activities. Furthermore, research indicates that those around you are negatively affected by such activities. Finally, such activities are blatantly disrespectful. **Students unable to meet these expectations will be required to leave the class in the interest of preserving the learning opportunities of other students.**

Please refer to pages 42-44 of the calendar for more information regarding the conduct expected of students

PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Please refer to page 43 of the college calendar for information on plagiarism, cheating and the resultant penalties. You may also refer to the GPRC Policies website to get more information on Plagiarism and Cheating: http://www.gprc.ab.ca/files/forms_documents/Student_Misconduct.pdf

Plagiarism and cheating are taken seriously and will be dealt with severely. Instructors reserve the right to use electronic plagiarism detection services on written assignments. Instructors also reserve the right to ban the use of any form of electronics (cell phones, Blackberries, iPods, tablets, scanning pens, electronic dictionaries, etc.) during class and during exams.

TENTATIVE LECTURE SCHEDULE

| | TOPIC | REQUIRED READINGS |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| SEPT 4 | Course Outline, True False Questions | - |
| SEPT 9/11 | What is psychology? | Chapter 1 |
| SEPT 16/18/23/25 | Research Methods in Psychology/Stats | Chapter 2 & 3 |
| SEPT 30 | QUIZ 1 (CHPTS 1 & 2, 3) | |
| SEPT 30, OCT 2/7 | Evolutionary Psychology | Chapter 4 |
| OCT 7/9/14/16 | The Biological Bases of Behaviour | Chapter 5 |
| OCT 21 | QUIZ 2 (CHPTS 4 & 5) | |
| OCT 23 | MIDTERM (CHPTS 1 TO 5) | |
| OCT 28/30, NOV 4 | Sensation and Perception | Chapter 6 |
| NOV 6/13/18 | Mind, Consciousness, Altered States | Chapter 7 |
| NOV 18 | QUIZ 3 (CHPTS 6 & 7) | |
| NOV 18/20 | Learning and Behavioural Analyses | Chapter 8 |
| NOV 25/27 | Memory | Chapter 9 |
| DEC 2 | Cognitive Processes | Chapter 10 |
| DEC 4 | QUIZ 4 (CHPTS 8, 9, 10) | |
| *BETWEEN DEC 10-19 | FINAL EXAM (CHPTS 6 TO 10) | |

*The date of the final exam will be set by Student Services.

*Activities such as holidays or employment during this period are not considered excusable reasons for missing a final exam. Students who chose to miss a final exam for employment, holiday, or similar reasons may receive a "0" on the final exam. Also note that a final exam will not be scheduled early for students who plan their holidays or other activities during the final exam period.

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Sept 10 | Last day to add courses (UT) |
| Sept 18 | Last day to drop courses with refund |
| Sept 25 | Last day to pay fees without late penalty |
| Oct 13 | Thanksgiving—No Classes |
| Oct 29 | Last day to withdraw classes with a “W”; Last day to pay fees to avoid being withdrawn from classes and assigned a “WF” |
| Nov 10 & 11 | Fall Break/Remembrance Day—No Classes |
| Dec 8 | Last day of Classes |
| Dec 10-19 | Final exam period |

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Student Rights and Responsibilities: Please refer to the following link:

https://www.gprc.ab.ca/files/forms_documents/StudentRightsandResponsibilities.pdf

Friendship Centre: The Friendship Centre at Grande Prairie Regional College provides a space for all students to meet, do homework, retrieve or leave messages, obtain community resources material, or just relax. The on-campus Friendship Centre is available for sharing circles, gatherings, study groups, and tutoring sessions. Everyone is welcome.

Campus Security: You should be aware that GPRC is no safer than the rest of Grande Prairie. Attacks on campus, as well as theft and vandalism have been occurring with increasing frequency. For your safety, Campus Security will provide a 24-hour Safe Walk service anywhere on campus. Call 780-539-2700 or use the blue phones on campus.

Learning Support Centre: The Learning Support Centre is available to all students who wish to improve their academic skills and ability to learn. Students can receive help with their writing (essay structure, grammar, formatting), as well as with math and science problems. Workshops on exam anxiety, study skills, noting taking, and other important skills are also offered here. The Learning Centre is in the Library.

Student Printing Policy: Students wishing to print off course materials should refer to the policy at the following link <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/files/policies/admin/StudentPrintingPolicy.pdf>