

GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY, PSC 1, Section 1

Spring Quarter 2015

MTWTh 2:10 – 3:00 pm, 176 Everson Hall

Instructors

This is a course that is team-taught by four advanced psychology graduate students, in the following order. Each instructor will teach for two weeks (i.e., one “module” each), followed immediately by an examination covering that instructor’s lecture and assigned readings. Please note that the instructors will only be holding office hours during the section they are lecturing. Your TA will hold the same office hours all quarter.

Module	Instructor	Email	Office Hours
1	Jonni Johnson, M.A.	jonjohnson@ucdavis.edu	(3/31/15 – 4/14/15) W 9:00 – 11:00 am and by appointment 102F Young Hall
2	Brian Hurley, M.A.	bkhurley@ucdavis.edu	(4/15/15 – 4/29/15) M/W 3:30 – 4:30 pm and by appointment 102F Young Hall
3	Helen Ku, M.A.	hcku@ucdavis.edu	(4/30/15-5/14/15) T/W 3:30-4:30 pm and by appointment 149 Young Hall
4	Shirley Chan, M.A.	syschan@ucdavis.edu	(5/18/15 – 6/2/15) T/W 3:30-4:30 pm and by appointment 157 Young Hall

	Teaching Assistant	Email	Office Hours
	Ashlei Hurst	adbaker@ucdavis.edu	T 9:30-1130 am and by appointment 2420 Hart Hall

Required Text

Hockenbury, D. H. & Hockenbury, S. E. (2014). *Discovering Psychology* (6th Edition). New York: Worth Publishers.

This book can be purchased at the bookstore or ordered online, including as an e-book. There will be a copy of the text on 2-hour reserve at Shields Library.

Course Description

Psychology is the scientific investigation of mental processes and behavior. Psychology studies influences on mental processes and behavior that range from the molecular level to the cultural level, because these all influence both the possibilities and constraints on how people think, feel, and act. This course is designed to provide you with an overview of the discipline of psychology with a focus on studying the biological basis of behavior, sensation & perception, motivation, personality, memory & cognition, development, social psychology, abnormal psychology, and treatment of psychological disorders.

Course Objectives

The goal of this course is to introduce you to the fundamentals of psychology. Topics in this course will cover a wide spectrum of research questions and methods, will acquaint you with perspectives and ideas from past and contemporary psychologists, and will also draw attention to the human applications of psychological knowledge. As such, the course is designed to (a) provide an overview of the scientific discipline of psychology for all students, regardless of their major, and (b) prepare beginning psychology majors for further lower and upper division courses in the department.

Administrative Details

YOU ARE EXPECTED TO KNOW THE CONTENTS OF THIS SYLLABUS.

The deadline for **withdrawals** for this course is **April 10, 2015**. This date is set by the university, and both students and instructors must follow this.

Course Web Site: You can access the course web site for PSC1 Section 1 via SmartSite (<http://smartsite.ucdavis.edu>). This syllabus and all lecture notes, including presentation slides, will be posted on the course web site in the "Resources" section.

Class Communication:

Individual email: Please use individual emails for specific questions about lectures, or textbook questions, as well as concerns of a personal nature regarding the course. Please direct your questions to the instructor for the current module or the TA and put "**PSC 1**" in the subject line for all class-related emails. We will respond to your email as quickly as possible, but don't expect an immediate response, especially in the evening and on the weekends.

Class email list: The list contains only e-mails with **@ucdavis.edu**. Check your email at this address frequently to avoid missing important information. If you do not use your UC Davis email address frequently, have mail from this address forwarded to your usual address.

Course Announcements: The instructors will occasionally make announcements during class time. In most cases, important announcements will be posted in the "Announcements" section of our SmartSite course page, but this is not guaranteed. You are responsible for all announcements whether or not you are present in class.

Exams

There will be four midterm exams (one for each instructor) and an OPTIONAL final exam. Each exam will consist of 33 multiple-choice questions each worth 3 points, and will be worth 25% of your final grade.

Exams call for students to be responsible for **all** of the material in the assigned readings and lectures. You will sometimes be tested on material from the textbook that is not presented in class. You will sometimes be tested on material from lecture that is not presented in the textbook.

The midterm exams are noncumulative. Each midterm exam will only cover the material included by the respective instructor. **The optional final exam is cumulative.** You may take the final if you want to, but it is NOT mandatory. If you take the final, the lowest of the 5 scores will be dropped. If you are happy with your four midterm scores, you do not need to take the final exam. All of the exams, except the final, will be administered during the normal class meeting time.

Make-up exams: THERE ARE NO MAKE-UP EXAMS IN THIS CLASS. If you are unable to come on the day of the exam, you will receive a **ZERO** for that exam. You can drop your lowest score (the zero) and take the final exam to make up for the exam you missed.

Exam schedule:

Exam 1:	Tuesday, April 14
Exam 2:	Wednesday, April 29
Exam 3:	Thursday, May 14
Exam 4:	Tuesday, June 2
Optional Final:	Wednesday, June 10 from 3:30pm to 5:30pm

All exams are administered in the regular lecture hall.

Alternative Accommodations: If you need specialized assistance or alternative accommodations for this course, please have the Student Disability Center (752-3184, <http://sdc.ucdavis.edu/>) email one of us, as well as contact our TA as soon as possible to discuss our meeting your needs.

Attendance and Participation

Attendance and participation in class are expected, but not mandatory. Research has found that the fewer classes you attend, the lower your grade for the course will be on average.

Grading

Your grade will be based on the percentage of points you score correctly on the four exams (your best four scores, if you take the final). Questions regarding grades will only be addressed in person. In other words, the instructors will not answer questions about grading over e-mail. The grading scale is as follows:

97-100 %	= A+
93-96.99 %	= A
90-92.99 %	= A-
87-89.99 %	= B+
83-86.99 %	= B
80-82.99 %	= B-
77-79.99 %	= C+
73-76.99 %	= C
70-72.99 %	= C-
67-69.99 %	= D+
63-66.99 %	= D
60-62.99 %	= D-
Less than 60 %	= F

Extra Credit: No extra credit will be offered. **We will not increase your course grade**, not even .01%, so please do not ask us to. You will receive the grade you have earned through your exam scores, so make sure you are putting in the time and effort throughout the quarter to get the course grade you want.

Research Participation Requirement

In order to gain experience with how psychological research is conducted, you are required to participate in psychological research at UC Davis. You need to earn 6 credits by participating in about 6 hours of research. Typically, this means participating in 6 research studies. Some studies can be completed online while other studies require an appointment and for the students to participate in person. Only 35% of your research credits can come from online studies.

To participate in research, please visit <http://ucdavis.sona-systems.com> and login using your User ID (the last 6 digits of your student ID) and your password will be your last name (all lowercase), followed by the last 4 digits of your student ID. The Sona system (<http://ucdavis.sona-systems.com>) will track the number of research hours you complete and generate a report to the subject pool coordinator.

If you prefer not to participate in psychological research, or if you are under 18 years of age, the alternative is to write a 1000 – 1500 word paper based on research conducted by UC Davis faculty. Each paper is worth 2 credits. You must submit your paper via Sona Papers SmartSite. Please review the resources under the Research Participation Requirement folder on our course website for detailed instructions. See <http://psychology.ucdavis.edu/Labs/Experimentrix/PWT/index.cfm?Section=6> for additional information on the paper option. If you have any additional questions, please contact Sue Hobbs, the Subject Pool Coordinator, at spcoordinator@ucdavis.edu.

You must complete your research participation requirement by 5 pm PST on the last day of instruction (June 4, 2014). Failure to complete the requirement will lead to a grade of “I” (Incomplete) for the course. If the incomplete is not made up within three registered quarters, it will automatically change to an F. Once you have completed the research participation requirement, the grade of “I” will be replaced by the letter grade you earned for the course.

If you have any questions about research participation, **you must first** contact the subject pool coordinator. Do not email the instructors or the TA unless you cannot find a solution to a problem by first contacting the subject pool coordinator.

Academic Integrity

Honesty is the most important academic virtue. University policy mandates that the highest level of academic integrity be maintained on this campus. All students will be expected to follow the UC Davis student code of conduct. Familiarize yourself with the code (<http://sja.ucdavis.edu/cac.html>) and ask the instructor if you have any questions. Infringements include cheating on exams in any form, representing the work of others as your own, and plagiarizing/failing to properly acknowledge the intellectual property of others. This policy will be strongly adhered to in this course. It is each student's responsibility to review the document linked below on the SJA website. These are the criteria by which plagiarism is evaluated:
<http://sja.ucdavis.edu/files/plagiarism.pdf>

Academic Courtesy

You have a duty to your fellow students not to interfere with their learning. Students should be respectful towards themselves, one another, the TA, and the instructor. Being respectful to yourself involves doing your own work, keeping up with the reading, preparing for class, focusing on the material being presented, and submitting original work. Being respectful to others includes arriving on time, participating in class activities, **silencing cell phones prior to class**, responding to others politely during discussions, letting others finish their sentences, and appreciating that people have different opinions and should be able to have their voice heard in discussion. Being respectful to the instructors includes keeping them informed about events that may impinge on your ability to perform as expected. Please consult UCD's Principles of Community at <http://principles.ucdavis.edu>.

**Note: Lecture and reading schedule is subject to change*

Module	Date	Topic	Readings	Instructor	
	March 30	Syllabus overview and course introduction		All	
1	March 31	Introduction to Psychology	Ch. 1	Jonni Johnson	
	April 1	Research Methods of Psychology	Ch. 1		
	April 2	Learning 1	Ch. 5		
	April 6	Learning 2	Ch. 5		
	April 7	Memory 1	Ch. 6		
	April 8	Memory 2	Ch. 6		
	April 9	Lifespan Development 1	Ch. 9		
	April 13	Lifespan Development 2	Ch. 9		
	April 14	EXAM 1	Ch. 1, 5, 6, 9		
2	April 15	Neuroscience & Behavior 1	Ch. 2	Brian Hurley	
	April 16	Neuroscience & Behavior 2	Ch. 2		
	April 20	Sensation & Perception 1	Ch. 3		
	April 21	Sensation & Perception 2	Ch. 3		
	April 22	Consciousness 1	Ch. 4		
	April 23	Consciousness 2	Ch. 4		
	April 27	Thinking, Language, & Intelligence 1	Ch. 7		
	April 28	Thinking, Language, & Intelligence 2	Ch. 7		
	April 29	EXAM 2	Ch. 2, 3, 4, 7		
3	April 30	Motivation and Emotion 1	Ch. 8	Helen Ku	
	May 4	Motivation and Emotion 2	Ch. 8		
	May 5	Personality 1	Ch. 10		
	May 6	Personality 2	Ch. 10		
	May 7	Personality 3	Ch. 10		
	May 11	Social Psychology 1	Ch. 11		
	May 12	Social Psychology 2	Ch. 11		
	May 13	Social Psychology 3	Ch. 11		
	May 14	EXAM 3	Ch. 8, 10, 11		
4	May 18	Stress, Health & Coping 1	Ch. 12	Shirley Chan	
	May 19	Stress, Health & Coping 2	Ch. 12		
	May 20	Psychological Disorders 1	Ch. 13		
	May 21	Psychological Disorders 2	Ch. 13		
	May 25	No Class – Memorial Day			
	May 26	Psychological Disorders 3	Ch. 13		
	May 27	Psychological Disorders 4	Ch. 13		
	May 28	Treatment of Psychological Disorders 1	Ch. 14		
	June 1	Treatment of Psychological Disorders 2	Ch. 14		
	June 2	EXAM 4	Ch. 12, 13, 14		
	June 3	UCD Psychology Research Day		All	
	June 4	Review for Final Exam		All	
	June 10	FINAL EXAM (3:30 PM)	Cumulative		