

Faculty of Science
School of Psychology

PSYC1011 Psychology 1B

Semester 2, 2014

Table of Contents	
1. Information about the Course.....	2.....
2. Staff Contact Details.....	2.....
3. Course Timetable.....	4.....
Psychology 1B: Course timetable 2014.....	5.....
4. Aims of the Course.....	6.....
5. Student Learning Outcomes.....	6.....
6. Graduate Attributes.....	6.....
7. Rationale for the Content and Teaching Approach.....	8.....
8. Course Components.....	8.....
9. Course Assessment.....	12.....
10. Research Participation.....	15.....
11. Expected Resources for Students.....	17.....
12. Course Evaluation & Development.....	18.....
13. Plagiarism & Academic Integrity.....	18.....
14. Administrative Matters.....	20.....

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4. Aims of the Course

This course introduces the content and methods of psychology as a basic science with emphasis on the biological bases of behaviour. Specific topics covered in this course include: perception, memory and cognition, animal learning, psychobiology and abnormal psychology. After describing the basic phenomena within an area, the goal will be to explore the neural bases of these behaviours. In addition, training in the methods of psychological inquiry and an introduction into the basic procedures of data analysis is also provided.

5. Student Learning Outcomes

Psychology B (PSYC1011) introduces the content and methods of psychology as a basic science, with an emphasis on the social bases of behaviour. By the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Appreciate diverse but complementary theoretical and experimental approaches to major psychological issues
2. Recognise and appreciate the role of the scientific method in psychology

The following areas will be explored: memory and cognition; perception; abnormal psychology; psychobiology and animal learning.

Psychology B will present not only the outcomes of research, but highlight the importance of research methods in psychology.

Psychobiology	1	Mid semester and final examination(MCQ)	7 lectures(+ relevant textbook readings)+ 1 tutorial
Memory and cognition	1		

LectureComponent

Lecturetimes and locations

Lectures are held in daytime and evening slots on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays each week. You may come to any combination of day and evening lectures as long as you attend an 'A', 'B' and 'C' lecture each week.

	LectureA	LectureB	LectureC
DAY	Monday 12 1pm Clancy Auditorium	Wednesday 2pm Clancy Auditorium	Thursday 12 1pm Clancy Auditorium
EVENING	Monday 6 7pm Mathews A	Wednesday 6 7pm Mathews A	Thursday 6 7pm Mathews A
WEB	Recordings on Moodle	Recordings on Moodle	Recordings on Moodle

Textbook

The textbook for this course, available from the University Bookshops is:

Burton, L., Westen, D., & Kowalski R. (2012). Psychology Australian and New Zealand Edition (3rd ed.) John Wiley & Sons Australia: Milton QLD.

The fact that each topic in the lecture course is given by a different lecturer will tend to highlight differences in approach and methods. The best way to gain an understanding of links between different areas of psychology is to make proper use of the textbook. While the textbook should be referred to as a source of information on specific questions, it is intended to perform an even more useful role if treated simply as intrinsically interesting material. If you regularly read the textbook you are likely to develop a broad appreciation of the methods and content of psychology.

Lecture Schedule

The lecture topics, lecturers and relevant required reading from the textbook for 2014 are presented Psychology B: Course timetable – 2014 (p.5). It is a good idea to keep this timetable handy and refer to it often.

Attendance at lectures

For the content areas covered in this course, the primary source of information is the lectures. That is, the textbook supplements the lectures rather than the lectures supplementing the textbook.

If you have chosen to enrol in the web based lecture (Class No. 9132), you are required to listen to all Echo360 lecture recordings made available on Moodle following each lecture. Lectures can be streamed via Echo360 on Moodle and will not be available as podcasts. Lecture notes will also be available on Moodle either before or shortly after the lecture.

You are reminded that, at the moment, we cannot guarantee that Echo360 lectures will always work. Background noise or technical difficulties may result in poor recording. Moreover, technical difficulties can sometimes lead to lectures not being recorded at all. If a lecture fails to record properly on Echo360 it is still your responsibility to catch up on the lecture material.

For those enrolled in other, in person lectures, lecture attendance is very important. Should you miss one through sickness you can make use of Echo360 lecture recordings as well. All the above caveats apply.

As the lectures are held in large theatres with many people present, we urge you to consider your fellow students. Even a relatively small number of students having quiet conversations during the lectures can produce enough background noise to interfere with the clarity of the amplified lecture to a serious extent. This interference cannot be overcome by simply turning up the volume of the speaker system.

Note also, interfering with the capacity of fellow students to learn in lectures will result in you being asked to leave a lecture. Repeated interference will be viewed as a deliberate and unacceptable conduct.

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knowledge is essential for becoming a more critical consumer of psychological findings. These lectures are held in Weeks 3 & 6, and will be supplemented by online modules.

Within this component will

9. Course Assessment Course Requirements

The basic requirements of this course are as follows:

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careful when preparing your report to ensure that it represents your own work.

Groupwork and tutorial presentation (10%): In addition, you are expected to participate in tutorial exercises, groupwork exercises and presentation of a research proposal. A key component of these tutorials will be collaboration in small groups to undertake research-related activities. Information will be distributed in tutorials in Week 7, and group presentations will be conducted in Week 12.

Mid Semester Exam (11%): This will allow you to test your understanding of the content covered in the first 6 weeks of the course. The exam will be held in tutorials in week 7 and all questions will be multiple choice. All topic areas covered in the first six weeks are potentially examinable. Questions on the mid semester exam will be based primarily on the lecture material, however these may be supplemented by questions on the tutorial material and textbook readings. See the course timetable for the relevant textbook readings.

Research participation (4% + 4.5% optional bonus credit): See Section 10 of this course outline.

Final examination (50%): This exam is held during the University examination period (Friday 7 to Saturday 22 November 2014) and is designed to promote an understanding of diverse theoretical and empirical approaches across a broad range of psychological issues. Questions on the final examination will be based primarily on the lecture material, however these may be supplemented by questions on the tutorial material and textbook readings.

50% of the total marks for Psychology B are determined before the end of semester examination. The assessments, therefore, are essentially of the continuous, rather than "one shot exam" type. The assessment also takes a number of forms, from a report component written in one's own time, to a formal examination. Thus, no student should be too heavily penalised by a "bad" day or a weakness in one particular form of assessment.

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that: (1) The assessor of this assessment item may, for the purpose of assessing this item, reproduce this assessment item and provide a copy to another member of the University. (2) The assessor may communicate a copy of this assessment item to a plagiarism checking service (which may then retain a copy of the assessment item on its database for the purpose of future plagiarism checking).

Collection of Marked Assessments

The marks and comments for your research report will be posted and available to view by the end of Week 14. Once marks are posted you will be advised via an announcement in Moodle.

Feedback about your group presentation will be provided in Week 13 tutorials.

It is strongly suggested that you read over the comments on your marked assignments so that you can learn and benefit from the comments provided. Those of you who intend on taking psychology courses in later years will be expected to write numerous reports, and you are more likely to improve in this skill by reflecting on and incorporating the feedback provided by tutors.

Feedback on Assessments

Marking of Assessments

Your report will be marked by one of the Psychology B tutors. All of the tutors are experienced markers, and will have the same general approach to the content of each report, determined by discussion and consultation at regular tutors' meetings.

Remarks

If you are dissatisfied with the feedback that you receive for your written work, you must contact your tutor, who will arrange a time to discuss this in person. After meeting with your tutor, if you are still dissatisfied you may apply for reassessment by completing a form available from UNSW Student Central. You are required to give reasons to justify your request and pay a fee, and where insufficient reasons are given, the Assessment Executive Committee of the Faculty or Board may decline to take action. Please note that marks may be increased or decreased as a consequence of a re-mark. The application form must be submitted no later than 15 working days after the return of the piece of work.

You must keep all marked work that is returned to you, in case it is needed for re-marking.

Extensions

It is the School's policy not to provide extensions for written work unless there is a medical certificate accompanying a specific request, or exceptional compassionate grounds. Pressure of other academic or non-academic work will generally not qualify you for an extension. If you are experiencing difficulties in meeting the deadlines please talk to your tutor or Course Administrator before the piece of work is due.

Failure to meet the submission deadlines will be penalised. It is the School's policy never to accept reports after others are returned. If you have not handed in a report by the time others are returned an alternative essay will be set, if appropriate, but note that the deduction for lateness will still apply from the time the original report was due. Even if you are heavily penalised for lateness, you will at least be avoiding an automatic failure.

For reports submitted late without acceptable reason, but submitted before other marked reports are returned, a penalty of 2% will be deducted for each day it is overdue (including weekend days). A 'day', in this context, refers to 24 hours; thus if an assignment is due on Friday at 4pm and you submit it on Saturday at 5pm, you will be penalised 4% for being 2 days late. The date/time stamp on the Turnitin copy will be used to determine whether or not a report is overdue. Late submissions may not receive detailed feedback.

To apply for an extension you should submit an application through MyUNSW, see detailed instructions for 'special consideration' in Section 9.6 of this course outline. Please take note that you will need to attach third party supporting documentation to your application, and documentation dated after the submission date may not be accepted.

Special Consideration

URL <http://www.it.unsw.edu.au/students/software/endnote.html>. When you obtain a copy, ensure that you configure it to produce APA style citations, which is not the default mode.

12. Course Evaluation & Development

We regularly gather student evaluative feedback on the course and continual improvements are made to the course based in part on such feedback. The forms of feedback include UNSW's Course and Teaching Evaluation and Improvement (CATEI) process, focus groups and custom made written feedback forms.

books, journals, Internet pages and other student's assignments. The database checks referencing and whether you have copied something from another student, resource, or off the Internet. Sometimes students submit their work into Turnitin when they hand it in, but academics can also use it to check a student's work when they are marking it. You can find out more about Turnitin here:
<http://telt.unsw.edu.au/turnitin>.

What if plagiarism is found in my work?

If plagiarism is found in your work when you are in first year, your lecturer will offer assistance to improve your academic skills. They may ask you to look at some online resources, attend the Learning Centre, or sometimes resubmit your work with the problem fixed. However, more serious instances in first year, such as stealing another student's work or paying someone to do your work, may be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures.

Repeated plagiarism (even in first year), plagiarism after first year, or serious instances may also be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures. The penalties under the procedures can include a reduction in marks, failing a course or for the most serious matters (like plagiarism in a honours thesis) even suspension from the university. The Student Misconduct Procedures are available here
www.unsw.edu.au/studentmisconductprocedures.pdf

Phone:89360739
Email:cofalearningcentre@unsw.edu.au

14. Administrative Matters

School of Psychology Student Guide

The School of Psychology Student Guide is available at:
http://www.psy.unsw.edu.au/sites/all/files/page_attachments/psychology%20student%20guide%202014%20s2_0.pdf

It contains school policies and procedures relevant for all students enrolled in undergraduate or Masters psychology courses, such