



Course Outline

PSYC1011

Psychology 1B

School of Psychology

Faculty of Science

T2, 2019

1. Staff

Position	Name	Email	Consultation times and locations	Contact Details
Course Convenor	Dr David White	david.white@unsw.edu.au	By appointment Mathews 1002	Email
Lecturer				
Tutor				

2. Course information

Units of credit:	6
Pre-requisite(s):	Nil
Teaching times and locations:	PSYC1011 Timetable

2.1 Course summary

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.

2.2 Course aims

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, 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.

2.3 Course learning outcomes (CLO)

At the successful completion of this course the student should 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.
3. Think critically about the information presented throughout this course.
4. Use psychological information in an ethical manner.

5. Communicate effectively within a psychology context.
6. Better understand the application of psychological theories and principles to everyday life.
7. Locate, evaluate and apply research information effectively.

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2.4 Relationship between course and program learning outcomes and assessments

Program Learning Outcomes							
CLO	1. Knowledge	2. Research Methods	3. Critical Thinking Skills	4. Values and Ethics	5. Communication, Interpersonal and Teamwork	6. Application	Assessment
1.	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, readings	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, readings		Lectures, tutorials, online activities, readings			Formative quizzes, Final exam.
2.	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, readings	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, readings		Lectures, tutorials, online activities, readings			Essay, Formative quizzes, Final exam.
3.	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, readings		Lectures, tutorials, online activities, readings	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, readings			Essay, Group work, Formative quizzes Final exam.
4.	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, readings			Lectures, tutorials, online activities, readings			Essay, Group work.
5.				Lectures, tutorials, online activities, readings	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, readings		Essay, Group work.
6.	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, readings					Lectures, tutorials, online activities, readings	Essay, Group work, Formative quizzes, Final exam.
7.		Lectures, tutorials, online activities, readings	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, readings		Lectures, tutorials, online activities, readings		Group work.

3. Strategies and approaches to learning

3.1 Learning and teaching activities

The aim of the lectures is to give you the opportunity to learn about the content, issues, and theories in the major topic areas of modern psychology. Psychology 1B covers the following topics: psychobiology; memory and cognition; animal learning; perception; abnormal psychology. Each topic will be given by a different lecturer, so that you will have the benefit of their specialised interests and knowledge. It will be common to find a lecturer presenting several different theories about the same body of data. You will, we hope, find this diversity a source of excitement and challenge, as there should be something of interest for everybody curious about how the mind works. 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.

Textbook: 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.

Tutorials: The tutorial component has two main roles. As the classes are relatively small they represent an opportunity for you to engage with your tutor and other students in a more active form of learning than is possible in the large-class lectures. They also perform an essential role in showing you how psychology is put into action. This second role takes place through the conduct of experiments and other demonstrations. These research projects will take place in class. There will also be group discussions and videos. Although *Page 9 of 19* the tutorials consist mainly of material related to the lecture component, many tutorials will also contain independent research-related material.

The Lecture Discussion Forum provides students with an opportunity to question and clarify the concepts and ideas mentioned in the lectures. Students are strongly encouraged to engage with this forum by posting questions or comments, and reading, answering, or replying to other student's posts to enhance understanding of the content, critical thinking, and written communication skills.

Formative topic revision quizzes are available for students that provide an opportunity to evaluate understanding of course material on a weekly basis. Completion of the weekly quizzes will assist students in gaining a proper understanding of each topic so that this knowledge can be built on in future content. By using 'Student Quiz', students will also be able to create their own questions to challenge fellow students and provide feedback to one another on these questions.

3.2 Expectations of students

It is expected that students are aware of UNSW Assessment policy and understand how to apply for special consideration if they are unable to complete an assignment/exam due to illness and/or misadventure.

It is expected that students have read through the School of Psychology Student Guide.

You **must attend the tutorial in which you are enrolled for the duration of session**; you are not allowed to arrange with a tutor to change tutorials.

Attendance at tutorials is a **compulsory** part of the course and that tutorial content is examinable. In addition, as some of the tutorials involve group assessments, you must attend your scheduled tutorial time, so as not to disadvantage your group.

You should not attend alternative tutorials other than in exceptional circumstances and with approval, as it could significantly impact your assessment. There is, however, **one exception: If you are enrolled in a tutorial that is affected by a public holiday, you must attend another tutorial that week.** Arrange this in advance. If you are enrolled in a Friday tutorial and cannot attend university due to illness, a replacement tutorial is not possible, however you still need to contact your tutor and the Course Administrator and provide them with documentation explaining your absence.

The basic requirements of this course are as follows:

- Attendance at three one-hour lectures per week.
- Attendance at and contribution to a one-hour tutorial per week.
- Participation in tutorial group presentation, including group work that is conducted in and out of tutorial class time.
- Completion of a psychology essay.
- Completion of 6 (or more) hours of research participation.
- Participation in the mid-semester examination.
- Participation in the final examination at the end of semester

All news updates and announcements will be made on the 'Announcements' forum on the Moodle page and/or by email. It is the student's responsibility to check Moodle and their student emails regularly to keep up to date. If you are taking PSYC1011 as an online-only course, it is expected that students dedicate the same amount of time each week to studying for this course as they would for an 'on-campus' course.

The final exam for this course will take place on campus during the UNSW examinations period. Students should not arrange travel during the UNSW exam period until the date of the final exam has been released. Students who arrange travel prior to the release of the final exam date will not be granted consideration in the event they are scheduled to be out of country when the final exam is to occur. This is especially important for study abroad students – do not arrange travel home until the final exam date has been released.

Students registered with Disability Support Services must contact the course co-ordinator immediately if they intend to request any special arrangements for later in the course, or if any special arrangements need to be made regarding access to the course material. Letters of support must be emailed to the course coordinator as soon as they are made available.

4. Course schedule and structure

Each week this course typically consists of 3 hours of lecture material, 1 hour of face to face tutorials, and 1 hour of online modules and quizzes. Students are expected to take an additional 5 hours each week of self-determined study to complete assessments, readings, and exam preparation.

Week	Lecture topic/s	Tutorial/lab topics	Online modules	Self-determined activities
Week 1 03/06/2019	Intro/ Psychobiology I	-	Course introduction	Textbook readings, online resources, StudentQuiz
Week 2 10/06/2019	Psychobiology II	Psychobiology	Psychobiology quiz/ smart sparrow lesson Psychobiology	Textbook readings, online resources, StudentQuiz
Week 3 17/06/2019	Memory & Cognition I	Writing workshop	Memory & Cognition Quiz I / smart sparrow lesson	Textbook readings, online resources, StudentQuiz
Week 4 24/06/2019	Memory & Cognition II	Memory & Cognition	Memory & Cognition Quiz II	Textbook readings, online resources, StudentQuiz
Week 5 01/07/2019	Abnormal Psychology I	Abnormal Psychology I	Abnormal Psychology Quiz I / smart sparrow lesson Abnormal Psychology	Textbook readings, online resources, StudentQuiz
Week 6 08/07/2019	Abnormal Psychology II	Abnormal Psychology II	Abnormal Psychology Quiz II	Textbook readings, online resources, StudentQuiz
Week 7 15/07/2019	Perception I	Perception theory	Perception Quiz I/ smart sparrow lesson Perception	Textbook readings, online resources, StudentQuiz
Week 8 22/07/2019	Perception II	Visual Illusions	Perception Quiz II	Textbook readings, online resources, StudentQuiz

Week 9 29/07/2019	Animal Learning I	Animal Learning	Animal Learning Quiz I/ smart sparrow lesson Animal Learning	Textbook readings, online resources, StudentQuiz
Week 10 05/08/2019	Animal Learning II	Exam revision	Animal Learning Quiz II/ Exam information	Textbook readings, online resources, StudentQuiz
Study period 13/08/2019	-	-	-	Textbook readings, online resources, StudentQuiz
Exam period 16/08/2019	-	-	-	Textbook readings, online resources, StudentQuiz

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5. Assessment

5.1 Assessment tasks

All assessments in this course have been designed and implemented in accordance with UNSW Assessment Policy.

Assessment task	Length	Weight	Mark	Due date
Assessment 1: Essay	1500 words	26%	/100	
Assessment 2: Group work and presentation	20 mins	20%	/100	
Assessment 3: Final exam	2 hours	50%	/100	Exam period
Assessment 4: Research participation	Varied	4%	N/A	

Assessment 1: Writing essays in any area of science is an essential skill that reflects your ability to synthesise empirical (research-based) material and report empirical conclusions clearly and concisely. In order to successfully complete this component, you will need to develop a logical and concise argument, supported by empirical and theoretical evidence. It is an exercise that requires a considerable level of both theoretical and conceptual understanding and critical analysis.

The essay exercise is designed to familiarise yourself with the formal style of psychological research, including the basic elements of effective and efficient scientific communication, and to further develop your information literacy skills. This is an individual (as opposed to group) exercise, which means that each student will submit an essay that they have prepared on their own. Detailed information regarding the content and format of the essay will be given in Week 5.

Assessment 2: For this piece of assessment, you will work in groups to demonstrate a basic psychological issue/concept to the other students in your tutorial class. Initially, guidance on the topic of this presentation will be provided by your tutor. You will be allocated a presentation topic in week 6 from one of the following areas:

- Memory
- Abnormal psychology
- Perception
- Cognition

Detailed information about the material you are required to cover in your presentation will be distributed to you two weeks prior to the date of your presentation. You will receive a detailed marking criteria when the presentation material is distributed. This ensures that all groups are provided the same amount of time to prepare for the presentation.

You will receive a **group mark (50% weighting)**, **individual mark (25% weighting)** and **peer mark (25% weighting)**. Your group and individual mark will be allocated by your tutor. Your peer mark will be based on your groups peer review of your level of contribution and performance as a group member.

Two groups will present in each of the presentation weeks, so you will be working in groups of 3-5 students. Each group presentation will take up 20 minutes of class time, and be conducted during

your tutorial time. Each presentation will involve a demonstration/class activity and additional information concerning the topic, including a literature search of relevant references, and a discussion of the real-world relevance of the issue/concept. During this part of the activity, other members of the tutorial class will be invited to ask your group questions about the material presented.

Assessment 3: The final exam is worth 50% of the overall mark. The exam will consist of multiple choice questions and cover all material covered in the course.

Assessment 4: You will be able to participate in psychological research within the School for up to 12 points throughout the semester, 6 of which are compulsory (4%) and up to 6 optional (up to 4% bonus). By participating in ongoing research you learn first-hand about the ways in which research in psychology is conducted, and can appreciate the application of the concepts that you encounter in lectures and tutorials. You also find out about theories and areas of investigation that are beyond those you study in the course, giving you an insight into the research that academics conduct in the School of Psychology. **In this sense, you are very much contributing to the advancement of psychological science.** Clearly, the study of human behaviour cannot progress without humans to observe and we ask that you act in a responsible way to ensure your research participation provides usable data to researchers within our school. Every researcher is under the general supervision of an Ethics committee, and is therefore required to satisfy certain conditions to ensure ethical practice during an experiment (e.g., to provide information regarding the nature and aims of the study). There is no compulsion to participate in any particular study and it is quite in order to decline to participate after an explanation of what is involved has been given.

UNSW grading system: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/grades>

UNSW assessment policy: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/assessment>

5.2 Assessment criteria and standards

Further details and marking criteria for each assessment will be provided to students closer to the assessment release date (see 4.1: UNSW Assessment Design Procedure).

5.3 Submission of assessment tasks

Essay: In accordance with UNSW Assessment Policy written pieces of assessment must be submitted online via Turnitin. No paper or emailed copies will be accepted.

Late penalties: deduction of marks for late submissions will be in accordance with School policy (see: [Psychology Student Guide](#)).

Special Consideration: Students who are unable to complete an assessment task by the assigned due date can apply for special consideration. Special consideration applications must be submitted to Student Central within 3 working days of the assessment due date along with a physical copy of the supporting documentation. Students who have experienced significant illness or misadventure during the assessment period may be eligible. Only circumstances deemed to be outside of the student's control are eligible for special consideration (see - <https://student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration>). In the case of take-home assessment tasks, misadventure must occur for at least 3 consecutive days during the assessment period. If approved, students may be given an extended due date to complete take-home assessments, or an alternative assessment may be set.

Alternative assessments: will be subject to approval and implemented in accordance with UNSW Assessment Implementation Procedure.

Supplementary examinations: will be made available for students with approved special consideration application and implemented in accordance with UNSW Assessment Policy.

5.4. Feedback on assessment

Feedback on all pieces of assessment in this course will be provided in accordance with UNSW Assessment Policy.

Assessment	When	Who	Where	How
Essay	10 working days from due date	Tutors	Moodle	Written comments
Group work and presentation	10 working days from due date	Tutor	Moodle	Written comments
Final exam	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Research Participation	N/A	Experimenter	In lab	Debrief as to aims and procedure of experiment

6. Academic integrity, referencing and plagiarism

The APA (6th edition) referencing style is to be adopted in this course. Students should consult the publication manual itself (rather than third party interpretations of it) in order to properly adhere to APA style conventions. Students do not need to purchase a copy of the manual, it is available in the library or online. This resource is used by assessment markers and should be the only resource used by students to ensure they adopt this style appropriately:

[APA 6th edition.](#)

Referencing is a way of acknowledging the sources of information that you use to research your assignments. You need to provide a reference whenever you draw on someone else's words, ideas or research. Not referencing other people's work can constitute plagiarism.

Further information about referencing styles can be located at <https://student.unsw.edu.au/referencing>

Academic integrity is fundamental to success at university. Academic integrity can be defined as a commitment to six fundamental values in academic pursuits: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility and courage.¹ At UNSW, this means that your work must be your own, and others' ideas should be appropriately acknowledged. If you don't follow these rules, plagiarism may be detected in your work.

Further information about academic integrity and **plagiarism** can be located at:

- The *Current Students* site <https://student.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism>, and
- The *ELISE* training site <http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/presenting>

The *Conduct and Integrity Unit* provides further resources to assist you to understand your conduct obligations as a student: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/conduct>.

¹ International Center for Academic Integrity, 'The Fundamental Values of Academic Integrity', T. Fishman (ed), Clemson University, 2013.

7. Readings and resources

Textbook	Lilienfeld et al. (2015). Psychology: from inquiry to understanding. (2nd ed.) Pearson Australia: Melbourne, VIC.
Course information	Available on Moodle
Required readings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• School of Psychology Student Guide.
Recommended internet sites	UNSW Library UNSW Learning centre ELISE Turnitin Student Code of Conduct Policy concerning academic honesty Email policy UNSW Anti-racism policy statement UNSW Equity and Diversity policy statement UNSW Equal opportunity in education policy statement

8. Administrative matters

The [School of Psychology Student Guide](#) contains School policies and procedures relevant for all students enrolled in undergraduate or Masters psychology courses, such as:

- Attendance requirements
- Assignment submissions and returns
- Assessments
- Special consideration
- Student code of conduct
- Student complaints and grievances
- Disability Support Services
- Health and safety

9. Additional support for students

- The Current Students Gateway: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/>
- Academic Skills and Support: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/academic-skills>
- Student Wellbeing, Health and Safety: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/wellbeing>
- Disability Support Services: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/disability-services>
- UNSW IT Service Centre: <https://www.it.unsw.edu.au/students/index.html>