

Psychology 1010A, section 531
Introduction to Psychology as a Natural Science

Dr. Shelley Cross-Mellor
Fall 2022

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to the biological bases (evolutionary, genetic, and physiological) of behaviour. The course surveys core areas of psychology including behaviour genetics and evolutionary psychology, brain and behaviour, sensation and perception, learning, states of consciousness, motivation and emotion, and cognitive psychology.

Antirequisites: Psychology 1000, 1000 W/X, 1002a, 1100E

COURSE INFORMATION

Classes: Wednesdays 6:30 – 9:30 pm, BR 2001

Instructor: Dr. Shelley Cross-Mellor

Office: UH 356

Email: scrossmellor@gmail.com

Office Hours:

Course Website The course website, on OWL, has lecture outline notes, exam information, a copy of the course outline and other course information. You will be able to check your test and exam marks on the course website. Please check this website regularly!

TEXTBOOK (Required)

Passer, Smith, Atkinson, Mitchell, and Muir. (2020). *Psychology: Frontiers and Applications, Seventh Canadian Edition*. Toronto: McGraw-Hill Ryerson Limited.

This course makes use of the CONNECT platform, an interactive site associated with our textbook. You will be completing online chapter quizzes on this CONNECT platform. Therefore you must purchase an access code for the text, it is mandatory.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Compare and contrast different theoretical approaches to the study of psychology (*Brescia Competencies: critical thinking; inquiry and analysis; problem solving*)
- Understand psychology as a science, including research design and methodology used to approach the study of psychology (*critical thinking; inquiry and analysis; problem solving*)
- Recognize the different structures of the central and peripheral nervous system and their functions (*Brescia Competencies: critical thinking; inquiry and analysis; problem solving*)
- Understand how language, motivation, and cognition influence behaviour; and the processes involved in human and animal learning (*Brescia Competencies: critical thinking; inquiry and analysis; problem solving*)
- Critically analyze journal articles, and interpret the findings (*Brescia Competencies: critical thinking; inquiry and analysis; problem solving*)
- Students will also have an opportunity, via voluntary participation, to have an active role in the research process and to experience directly how psychological research is performed (*Brescia Competencies: critical thinking; inquiry and analysis; communication*)

CLASS SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Reading
September 14	Intro to Course & Psychology: The Science of Behaviour	1
21	Studying Behaviour: Research Methods and Statistics	2, Appendix
28	Catch-Up and Review	
October 5	Exam #1	Chapters 1, 2 & Appendix
12	Biological Foundations of Behaviour	3
19	Genes, Evolution, and Behaviour	4
26	Sensation and Perception	5
November 2	<i>Fall Reading Break – no class</i>	
9	Exam #2	Chapters 3, 4, 5
16	States of Consciousness	6
23	Learning and Adaptation	7
30	Learning and Adaptation	7
December 7	Memory	8
December 10-22	Final Exam	Chapters 6, 7, 8

Topics will be covered in the order given above. *Approximate* lecture dates are listed so that you can keep up with the readings. It is best to read the assigned chapter or chapter section briefly before class, and then return to the text and reread the material more carefully after we have discussed it in class. The lectures will highlight certain aspects of each topic and may include material that is not in the text to update and expand upon the topic. Classes will include lectures, video clips, films, demonstrations and activities to help further understand material. There is not enough time to cover all of the material from the text in class; you are, however, responsible for all of the material from the text as well as material presented in class.

EVALUATION & EXAM SCHEDULE

EXAM #1: Scheduled for Wednesday October 5, in class (2 hours). The exam will consist of approximately 50 multiple choice questions - and is worth 25% of your course mark. Questions will be based on material from Chapters 1 and 2 + Appendix and the corresponding classes.

EXAM #2: Scheduled for Wednesday November 9, in class (2 hours). The exam will consist of approximately 60 multiple choice questions - and is worth 30% of your course mark. Questions will be based on material from Chapters 3, 4 and 5 as well as the corresponding classes.

Final Examination: Scheduled during the Final Examination Period (December 10-22). The Final Exam is worth 30% and will contain approximately 60 multiple choice questions based on Chapters 6, 7 and 8 and the corresponding classes.

Evaluation Summary:

Exam #1 (Oct. 5):	25%
Exam #2 (Nov. 9):	30%
Final Exam (Dec. 10-22):	30%
Online Chapter Assignments	5%
<u>Infographic</u>	10%
	100%

Online Chapter Assignments – After attending lecture and reading through the chapter you will need to complete the associated chapter assignment on the Connect platform. These assignments are designed to reinforce one or more of the major concepts of that chapter and thus will help you prepare for the tests. The assignments will consist of either watching a short video clip and answering the associated questions, and/or answering specific questions based on an interactive exercise. Each assignment should likely take you approximately 15 minutes, although they are untimed. You can take each assignment twice, and your highest grade will count. While I do expect you to keep up with the chapter assignments on a weekly basis, the last day the unit chapter assignments will be open is the dates below. **Please note there are no make-ups for these chapter assignments, be sure to complete them prior to the deadline.**

Chapter Assignments 1-2 will close 11:59pm Tuesday October 4

Chapter Assignments 3-5 will close 11:59pm Tuesday November 8

Chapter Assignments 6-8 will close 11:59pm Thursday December 8

Final Infographic Assignment – details regarding this will be posted on OWL. This assignment will involve synthesis of the entire course material presented in an infographic format. The due date for this assignment is due on Thursday December 8, 2022 by 11:55pm.

Please note that grades **cannot** be adjusted on the basis of need. Your mark in the course will be the mark that you earn. Tests and exams cannot be re-written to obtain a higher mark and there are no extra credit assignments available.

For academic accommodation to be considered for any course component worth less than 10% of the final course grade, it is the responsibility of the student to approach the course instructor(s) in a timely fashion. Documentation will be required to be submitted to the academic advisor. The request for accommodation will be decided by the academic advisor in consultation with the instructor. If documentation is not required, the instructor will make the final decision. The policies governing requests for academic accommodation for course components worth 10% or more of the course grade are outlined in the Academic Policies section included at the end of the course outline.

Note that if a make-up exam is approved by your academic advisor the format of the exam may be of a different format than the original exam (e.g. including short answer and fill-in-blank questions). Make-up exams are typically held during Brescia's common make-up time of Friday afternoons (1-3pm).

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Unauthorized reproduction through tape-recording, video-recording, photographing, sharing on any social media site, or posting on course-sharing websites is an infringement of copyright and is prohibited. Such action may also be considered a Scholastic Offence, which may lead to sanctions.

Further information on Scholastic Offences is available at:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

2022-23 BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

1. POLICY REGARDING ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

The complete policy regarding Accommodation for Illness - Undergraduate Students can be found at

https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_135

Students who have long-term or chronic medical conditions which may impede their ability to complete academic responsibilities should seek Academic Accommodation through Student Accessibility Services

(https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_10).

Personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are **not** grounds for academic accommodation.

Students who experience an illness or extenuating circumstance sufficiently severe to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements may submit a request for academic consideration through the following routes:

1. For medical absences, submitting a **Student Medical Certificate (SMC)** signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner;
2. For non-medical absences, submitting **appropriate documentation** (e.g., obituary, police report, accident report, court order, etc.) to their Academic Advisor. Students are encouraged to contact their Academic Advisor to clarify what documentation is acceptable.

Request for Academic Consideration for a Medical Absence

When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation **must** be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation.

Academic accommodation for illness will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete their academic responsibilities. Minor ailments typically treated by over-the-counter medications will not normally be accommodated.

The following conditions apply for students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds:

1. Students must submit their Student Medical Certificate (SMC) along with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested no later than two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities. An SMC can be downloaded from https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf;
2. In cases where there might be an extended absence or serious issue, students should submit their documentation promptly and consult their Academic Advisor for advice during their recovery period;
3. Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, scheduled tests or examinations, and other academic requirements;

4. Students **must** communicate with their instructors **no later than 24 hours** after the end of the period covered by the SMC to clarify how they will fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed during the absence;
5. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office/Academic Advisor in consultation with the course instructor(s). Academic accommodation may include extension of deadlines, waiver of attendance requirements, arranging Special Exams (make-ups), re-weighting course requirements, or granting late withdrawal without academic penalty.

2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS

If you feel that you have a medical or personal challenge that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds are not normally considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor

(https://brescia.uwo.ca/enrolment_services/academic_advising/book_an_appointment.php). If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines; please contact your Academic Advisor or see the list of sessional dates in the Academic Calendar (<https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm?SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=>).

You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. *Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.*

3. ABSENCES

Short Absences: If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

Please note that for asynchronous online courses, attendance or participation requirements maybe different than for synchronous or in-person courses.

Extended Absences: If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work, and arrange academic accommodations if appropriate and warranted.

It is important to note that the Academic Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory

(https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=5&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_64).

4. SCHOLASTIC OFFENCES

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence at:

https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_20.

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Scholastic Discipline for Undergraduate Students in the Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Academic Dean's Office, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com.

Computer-marked Tests/exams:

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

5. PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS

All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal is to be sent to the School Chair. If the response of the Chair is considered unsatisfactory to the student, they may then submit a written appeal to the Office of the Dean. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the Dean, they may appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic (SRBA), if there are sufficient grounds for the appeal and if the matter falls within the jurisdiction of the SRBA. For information on academic appeals consult your Academic Advisor or see the Student Academic Appeals – Undergraduate in the Academic Calendar

https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_14.

Note that final course marks are not official until the Academic Dean has reviewed and signed the final grade report for the course. If course marks deviate from acceptable and appropriate standards, the Academic Dean may require grades to be adjusted to align them with accepted grading practices.

6. PREREQUISITES

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written Special Permission from the Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisite(s).

7. SUPPORT

Support Services

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/>. Students can access supports through Brescia's Student Life Centre (<http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/student-life/>) and Learning Development & Success at Western (<https://www.uwo.ca/sdc/learning/>).

Mental Health and Wellness

Students may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to your learning, such as increased anxiety, feeling overwhelmed, feeling down or lost, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. Services are available to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. You can obtain information about how to obtain help for yourself or others through **Health & Wellness at Brescia**, https://brescia.uwo.ca/student_life/health_and_wellness/index.php and **Health and Wellness at Western**, http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/index.html.

Sexual Violence

All members of the Brescia University College community have a right to work and study in an environment that is free from any form of sexual violence. Brescia University College recognizes that the prevention of, and response to, Sexual Violence is of particular importance in the university environment. Sexual Violence is strictly prohibited and unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Brescia is committed to preventing Sexual Violence and creating a safe space for anyone in the Brescia community who has experienced Sexual Violence.

If you or someone you know has experienced any form of Sexual Violence, you may access resources at https://brescia.uwo.ca/safe_campus/sexual_violence/index.php.

Portions of this document were taken from the Academic Calendar, the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy, and the Academic Handbook of Senate Regulations. This document is a summary of relevant regulations and does not supersede the academic policies and regulations of the Senate of the University of Western Ontario.
