

Psychology 1010A, section 530
Introduction to Psychology as a Natural Science
Dr. Shelley Cross-Mellor
Intersession 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.

This is a **fully online course** that will use Western's learning platform OWL and the online Connect platform that comes with your textbook. This class is designed to be **asynchronous**, meaning we will not have a regular, mandatory time when the entire class must be online.

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

COURSE INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Shelley Cross-Mellor

Email: scrossmellor@gmail.com

Office Hour: by appointment via zoom; please send me a message and we will schedule a time to meet!

Course Website The course website on OWL will have all of the links to our video lectures, course outline, and your course grades (tests and assignments). Please check this website regularly!

TEXTBOOK (Required)

Passer, M.W., Smith, R.E., Atkinson, M.L., & Mitchell, J.B. (2020). *Psychology: frontiers and applications, Seventh Canadian Edition*. Whitby, Ontario: McGraw-Hill Ryerson.

This course makes use of the CONNECT platform, an interactive site associated with our textbook. You will be completing the chapter assignments and your tests on this CONNECT platform. Therefore, you must purchase an access code for the text.

Given that this is an online course it is expected that you have stable and consistent high speed internet!

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 as well as the contributions to sensation and perception (*Brescia Competencies: critical thinking; inquiry and analysis; problem solving*)
- Understand and recognize the mechanisms underlying various states of consciousness (*Brescia Competencies: critical thinking; inquiry and analysis; problem solving*)
- Compare and contrast the various forms of processes involved in human and animal learning and memory (*Brescia Competencies: critical thinking; inquiry and analysis; problem solving*)

EXPECTED TIME COMMITMENT

This course will require a substantial amount of time and effort. You will learn the same amount of material that is typically covered during a fourteen-week semester, but you will do so in approximately **three weeks**. Additionally, online courses require more reading than most face-to-face courses, so please understand these will be significant and time-consuming parts of your learning experience. Students often underestimate the work that online courses require, so be advised that this will be a major time commitment. In a typical face-to-face course half year course, you would spend 42 hours just attending lectures over the course of the semester – this doesn't even include all of your time spent outside of class reading, studying, and completing assignments. Therefore, I do expect that you will be spending a substantial amount of time devoted to this class over the next three weeks.

COURSE LESSONS

Students will work through each of the assigned chapters. To do so, students will watch the posted video lectures for the particular chapter, which will help guide you as you then read through the assigned chapter. After your reading the chapter students will then complete the chapter assignment before moving onto the next chapter. After you have covered the week's assigned chapters you will take the weekly test. While this course is being delivered online, I would like as much interaction as possible. You will see numerous spots along our OWL page to share your thoughts and reflections on the material presented. Please be sure to post your ideas, comments and questions about the material! I will be available for one-on-one virtual meetings for more specific questions and guidance.

CLASS SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading</u>
<u>Week 1</u>	Psychology: The Science of Behaviour	1
May 16-20	Studying Behaviour: Research Methods	2
	Biological Foundations of Behaviour	3
<u>Week 2</u>		
May 23-27	Genes, Evolution, and Behaviour	4
	Sensation and Perception	5
	States of Consciousness	6
<u>Week 3</u>		
May 30-June 3	Learning and Adaptation	7
	Memory	8
June 3	Final Assignment Due	

EVALUATION SCHEDULEEvaluation Summary:

Week 1 Test – 25% (Chapters 1-2; open from 12:00-11:59pm **Fri. May 20** on Connect)

Week 2 Test – 25% (Chapters 3-5; open from 12:00-11:59pm **Fri. May 27** on Connect)

Week 3 Test – 25% (Chapters 6-8; open from 12:00-11:59pm **Fri. June 3** on Connect)

Online Chapter Assignments – 10%

Final Summative Assignment – 15% - due 11:55pm Fri. June 3 on OWL

Online Chapter Assignments – After reading through the chapter and watching the video lectures, you will 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. You can take each assignment **twice**, and your highest grade will count. Each chapter assignment will be open until the date below. Please note there are no make-ups for these chapter assignments, be sure to complete them prior to the deadline.

Chapter Assignments 1-3 will close 11:59pm Friday May 20

Chapter Assignments 3-6 will close 11:59pm Friday May 27

Chapter Assignments 7-8 will close 11:59pm Friday June 3

Online Weekly Tests (**Tests will be administered on the Connect Platform**) – Each test will be open for 12 hrs as noted above and will be available to you on the Connect platform. You will have only **one** attempt at each test. Each test will be a mixture of multiple choice and short answer style

questions – you will have 60 minutes for this exam. **Once you start the test, your time begins and cannot be stopped. I cannot reopen the exam so make sure you have a strong wifi connection and are in an environment that you can take your test from start to finish.** You should make sure you have adequately reviewed the material for those sections before attempting the weekly test. Completing the practice questions available to you on Connect (through SmartBook) as well as the chapter assignments are good ways to prepare for these tests in addition to your other studying and note-taking strategies. These tests will involve mainly application questions (not definitional ones); if you haven't studied in advance, it is unlikely you will be able to do well on the exam.

Final Summative 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 the last scheduled day of our course – 11:55pm on June 3.

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 assignments cannot be re-written to obtain a higher mark and there are no extra credit assignments available.

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

2021-22 BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

1. POLICY REGARDING ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

The complete policy regarding [Accommodation for Illness - Undergraduate Students](https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12) can be found at https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12 .

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. Submitting a **Self-Reported Absence** form provided that the conditions for submission are met;
2. For medical absences, submitting a **Student Medical Certificate (SMC)** signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner;
3. 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.

Requests for Academic Consideration Using the Self-Reported Absence Portal

Students who experience an unexpected illness or injury or an extenuating circumstance of 48 hours or less that is sufficiently severe to render them unable to meet academic requirements should self-declare using the online Self-Reported Absence portal. This option should be used in situations where the student expects to resume academic responsibilities within 48 hours. Note that the excused absence includes all courses and academic requirements within the up to 48 hours, it is not intended to provide an excused absence from a single course while students fulfill their academic responsibilities in other courses during that time.

The following conditions are in place for self-reporting of medical or extenuating circumstances:

1. Students will be allowed a **maximum of two self-reported absences** between September and April and one self-reported absence between May and August;
2. The duration of the absence will be for a maximum of 48 hours from the time the Self-Reported Absence form is completed through the online portal, or from 8:30 am the following morning if the form is submitted after 4:30 pm;
3. The excused absence will terminate prior to the end of the 48 hour period if the student undertakes significant academic responsibilities (writes a test, submits a paper) during that time;
4. Self-reported absences will **not** be allowed for scheduled final examinations; midterm examinations scheduled during the December examination period; or for final lab examinations scheduled during the final week of term;
5. Self-report absences may **not** be used for assessments worth more than 30% of any course;
6. Any absences in excess of 48 hours will require students to present a Student Medical Certificate (SMC), or appropriate documentation;
7. Students **must** communicate with their instructors **no later than 24 hours after the end of the period covered by the Self-Reported Absence form** to clarify how they will fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed during the absence.

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 http://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.

The [full policy on requesting accommodation due to illness](#) can be viewed at:

http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12

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://www.brescia.uwo.ca/enrolment_services/academic_advising/index.php). If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines; please refer to <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/> or the list of official sessional dates in the Academic Calendar (<http://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 (http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=5&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#SubHeading_68).

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:

http://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 (<http://www.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

http://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 Skills Services 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.
