Psychology 51: An Introduction to Psychology

Monday, Wednesday & Friday 11:00 a.m.
Lincoln 1125

Professor Richard Lewis
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Neuroscience Program
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Office hours: by appointment

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Required Textbooks:

Dubuque, IA: McGraw Hill (about $40)

(about $30)

http://www.intropsych.com/index.html

Laboratory Experiments

http://opl.apa.org

Class ID: 3544

Tentative Schedule

Wed Sep 2: What is Psychology?

Sources
1.1: William James (1890): from “Principles of Psychology”

Assignment for Friday: **What is the distance of “personal space”?**

Optional Online Resource
Sommer (1959)

**Fri Sep 4: Psychological Research: Descriptive and Experimental methods**

The Norton Psychology Reader
Stanovich (2004): from “How to Think Straight about Psychology”

Online Reading:
Anderson et al. (1999): Research in the Psychological Laboratory

Optional Resources

**Research Methods**
http://faculty.frostburg.edu/mbradley/researchmethods.html

Means and standard deviations:
http://www.uwsp.edu/psych/stat/5/CT-Var.htm

Effect size:
http://web.uccs.edu/lbecker/Psy590/es.htm

**Mon Sep 7: Labor Day--No Class**

**Wed Sep 9: Psychological Research: Correlational Methods**

The Norton Psychology Reader

Resources
**The correlation:**
http://www.uwsp.edu/psych/stat/7/correlat.htm#I1
Fri Sep 11: Obedience to Authority & Ethical Principles of Conducting Psychological Research.

NO CLASS – watch Replication of Milgram’s Obedience Study on etv.

Assignment for Monday Sep 14: Read the Belmont Report. Was Milgram’s experiment ethical or unethical? Why or why not? (maximum length: one page)

Resources:
Belmont Report: Ethical Principles and Guidelines for the Protection of Human Subjects of Research:
http://ohsr.od.nih.gov/guidelines/belmont.html

Optional Reference: American Psychological Association Guidelines

Sources

Optional Resource

Mon Sep 14: Application of Correlational Method in Psychology: The role of genetics (and environment) in behavior

Norton Psychology Reader
Marcus (2004): from “Birth of the Mind”

Online Reading
Bouchard et al. (1990): Sources of human psychological differences; The Minnesota study of twins reared apart.
Bouchard (2004): Genetic Influence on Human Psychological Traits: A Survey

Wed Sep 16: Evolutionary Framework of Psychology

Norton Psychology Reader

Sources

Online Reading
McAndrew (2002): New Evolutionary Perspectives on Altruism

Fri Nov 18: Love, Sex and Evolution

Sources

Online Reading
Buss (1999). The strategies of human mating

The Norton Psychology Reader
Angier (1999): from Woman: An Intimate Biography

Mon Sep 21: Biological Perspective: Brain Plasticity and The Role of Experience

Online Reading
Kolb et al. (2003): Brain Plasticity and Behavior
Rosenzweig et al. (1972). Brain changes in response to experience

Dewey
Chapter 2: The Human Nervous System, Part Three: Neurons

Wed Sep 23: Biological Perspective: Gall, Gage, and Localization of Function

The Norton Psychology Reader
Damasio (1994): Phineas Gage

Online Reading
Broca (1861): Loss of Speech…
Dewey
Chapter 2: The Human Nervous System, Part One: The Brain

**Fri Sep 25: Biological Perspective: The two sides of the brain**

**Sources**
5. Roger Sperry: Hemisphere Disconnection and Unity of Conscious Awareness

**Student presentation:**
*Group 1: Word Recognition*

**Mon Sep 28: Sensing and Perceiving the World**

*The Norton Psychology Reader*
Sacks (1985): The Case of Christina. from “The Man Who Mistook His Wife”
Hoffman (1998): from “How We Create What We See”
Hughes (1999): from “Sensory Exotica”

**Student presentations on Sensation-Perception Experiments**
*Group 2: Line Motion*
*Group 3: Muller-Lyer Illusion*
*Group 4: Ponzo Illusion*

Optional Dewey
Chapter 4: Senses and Perception, Part One: The Visual system

**Wed Sep 30: Perceiving the World: The role of nature and nurture**

**Online Readings**

Turnbull (1961): Some observations regarding the experiences and behavior of the BaMbuti Pygmies
http://www.wadsworth.com/psychology_d/templates/student_resources/0155060678_rathus/ps/ps06.html
Gibson & Walk (1960): The visual cliff
http://wadsworth.com/psychology_d/templates/student_resources/0155060678_rathus/ps/ps05.html

**Fri Oct 2: The First Midterm**

**Mon Oct 5: The Developing Mind: Stages of Development**

Sources

Online Reading
Baillargeon (2004): Infants physical world

*Mentor: How to use PsychInfo to find psychological literature*

**Wed Oct 7: The Developing Mind: Intentions and Mirror Neurons**

Norton Psychology Reader
Gopnik et al. (1999): The Scientist in the Crib
Bloom (2004): Descartes’ Baby
Grandin (1995): from My Life with Autism

Online Reading
Woodward (2009): Infants ‘grasp of others’ intentions

**Fri Oct 9: The Developing Person: Social Attachment**

Online Reading
Harlow (1958): Discovering Love
http://psychclassics.yorku.ca/Harlow/love.htm

Sources
31. Ainsworth (1979): Infant-Mother Attachment
Monday Oct 12: Freud and Psychoanalysis

No Class – Watch Biography of S. Freud on etv

Sources
11.33: Freud: The Psychical Apparatus
13.40: Freud: from Inhibitions, Symptoms, and Anxiety

Norton Psychology Reader
Freud (1962): from “The Unconscious”

Dewey
Chapter 11: Personality, Part Two: Freud’s Theory

Wed Oct 14: The Learning Perspective: Classical Conditioning & Little Albert


Sources
2. Watson (1913): Psychology as the Behaviorist Views It
15. John B. Watson and Rosalie Rayner: Conditioned Emotional Reactions

Fri Oct 16: Classical Condition and Treatment of Phobias

Dewey
Chapter 13: Therapies: Part Three: Behavior Therapies: Desensitization Therapy

Online Resource
Craske & Waters (2005): Panic disorder, phobias, and generalized anxiety disorder

Independent Research Project Deadline: Generate general idea of what you wish to study

Mon Oct 19: Fall Break
**Wed Oct 21: The Learning Perspective: Operant Conditioning, Learned Helplessness & Depression**


**The Norton Psychology Reader**
Kramer (1993): from Listening to Prozac

**Sources**
41. Seligman (1973). Fall into Helplessness

**Online Reading**
Jacobs (2004): Depression

**Fri Oct 23 The Learning Perspective: Social Cognitive Learning**

**Online Reading**
Bandura et al. (1961): Transmission of aggression through imitation of aggressive models.

**Sources**

**Mon Oct 26: The Cognitive Perspective: Intelligence**

**Sources**
22. Rosenthal and Jacobson (1966). Teacher’s expectancies

**Marcus**
Goleman (1995): from Emotional Intelligence

**Online Reading**
Gardner (2004). A Multiplicity of Intelligences

Student Presentation
Group Presentation 5: Mental Rotation

**Wed Oct 28: The Cognitive Perspective: Remembering**

The Norton Psychology Reader
Schacter (1996): Searching for Memory

Student Presentation
Group 6: Self Reference

**Fri Oct 30: The Cognitive Perspective: Misremembering**

Sources

Student Presentation
Group 7: Be a Juror

*Independent Research Project Deadline: Find three studies in the literature related to your project*

**Mon Nov 2: Language**

Norton Psychology Reader
Pinker (1997): from The Language Instinct
Baker (2001): from The Atoms of Language

Student Presentation
Group 8: Lexical Decision

*Mentor: How to create surveys*

**Wed Nov 4: The Second Exam**
Fri Nov 6: Consciousness: Sleep and Dreaming

Sources

Online Reading

Optional Dewey
Chapter Three: States of Consciousness, Part Two: Sleep

Mon Nov 9: Consciousness: The Significance of Dreaming

Sources
11. Freud (1900): The dream as a wish-fulfilment.

Wed Nov 11: Personality

The Norton Psychology Reader
Kagen (1994): Galen’s Prophecy
Harris (1998): The Nurture Assumption
Gladwell (2004): Personality Plus
Nisbett (2003): from “The Geography of Thought”

Sources
34. Rotter (1971). External control and internal control.

Assignment: Take online personality test
http://test.personality-project.org/

Optional Dewey
Chapter 11: Personality, Part One: What is Personality?
Independent Research Project Deadline: Research Design Complete

Fri Nov 13: Universals and Culture: The Case of Emotions

The Norton Psychology Reader
Ekman (2003): from “Emotions Revealed”

Sources

Optional Online Resource

Mon Nov 16: Motivation

Sources
25. Bandura: Self-efficacy

*Online Reading


*Topic of class discussion

Wed Nov 18: Stress and Health

The Norton Psychology Reader
Sapolsky (1994): from Why Zebras Don’t Get Ulcers
Sources
37. Hans Selye (1973): The evolution of the stress concept
38. Richard Lazarus (1984): Little hassles can be hazardous to health

Mentor: How to create a scientific poster

Fri Nov 20: Sociocultural Perspective: When will people help?

Sources

Optional Resource
Darley & Latane (1968). Bystander intervention in emergencies

Mon Nov 23: Sociocultural Perspective: Stereotypes and Prejudice

Online Reading
LaPiere (1934). Attitudes and actions
Steele, C.M. (1999). Thin Ice: ‘stereotype threat’ and Black College Students

Sources

Student Presentation
Group 9: Implicit Association Test

Wed Nov 25: Conformity (No Class Session)

- Listen to a BBC radio broadcast discussing Asch's (1951) Experiment and conformity in society today.
Watch: Conformity video clip

Online Reading

Fri Nov 27: The Day After Thanksgiving

Mon Nov 30: Sociocultural Perspective: Roles (NO CLASS SESSION)

http://www.prisonexp.org/

Watch The Stanford Prison Experiment on:
http://etv.pomona.edu

Wed Dec 2: The Nature of Mental Illness

Dewey
Chapter Twelve: Abnormal Psychology, Part One: Defining Abnormal Behavior

Sources

Independent Research Project Deadline: Data analysis completed

Fri Dec 4: Is Psychotherapy Effective?
Sources
14.43: Seligman from “The Effectiveness of Psychotherapy”

Optional Online Resource
Eysenck (1957): The effects of psychotherapy
http://psychclassics.yorku.ca/Eysenck/psychotherapy.htm

Mon Dec 7: Psychotherapies

Sources
42. Carl R. Rogers: Some hypotheses regarding the facilitation of personal growth
43. Aaron T. Beck: Principles of Cognitive Therapy

Dewey
Chapter 13: Therapies
  Part One: The Psychodynamic Therapies: The Psychodynamic Approach to Psychoanalysis
  Part Two: Different Approaches to Counseling: Rogerian Counseling to Criticisms of Rogers
  Part Four: Trends in Therapy

Wed Dec 9, 11-1: Poster Session  SCC Courtyard or Edmunds Ballroom

FINAL EXAM: Monday December 14, 9-10:30.

Grading

There will be a total of 120 points possible in the course. 90 points will come from three “midterm” exams, and 30 points will come from an independent research project that will be publicly presented in the form of a poster session at the end of the semester, along with additional “laboratory” course assignments.
Laboratory Component

Throughout the course, we will engage in different laboratory exercises. The most important exercise will be the development of your independent research project. The project can be broken down into the following components:

1) Generate general idea of what you wish to study- Fri Oct 16
2) Find three related studies in the literature-Fri Oct 30
3) Design experiment
4) Research Design Complete-Fri Nov 13
5) Collect Data
6) Data collection completed-Wed Nov 25
7) Analyze Data
8) Data analysis completed-Wed Dec 2
9) Prepare Poster
10) Present Poster-Wed Dec 9: 11-1 Edmunds Ballroom

At the end of the semester, you will publicly present your research in the form of a poster. All sections of Introductory Psychology will participate in the session. Instructions for how to prepare a poster, as well as an illustration of a sample poster, can be found on the Psychology Department Website under the “materials” section. Information about how to write an APA style journal article can also be found within this section. See: http://psychology.pomona.edu for more information.

In addition, students are required to participate in two psychological experiments (or up to two hours of participation, whichever comes first). The experiments will enable you to get an inside perspective on how psychological research is conducted. You will be given an informed consent form to sign at the beginning of the experiment, and you are entitled to ask any questions of the experimenter at this point. All experiments will have been approved by a Human Subjects Participation Committee prior to being conducted at Pomona College. However, if you feel that you do not wish to continue for any reason whatsoever, you are free to do so without any consequence. If you have any concerns about the experiments being conducted at Pomona, you should contact Associate Dean Conrad (x18328), who is in charge of ethical principles for research at Pomona.

At the conclusion of your participation you should be debriefed by the
experimenter. This may be done verbally or you may be handed a debriefing sheet. You are entitled to be debriefed, and if not debriefed immediately, you should be given a satisfactory explanation as to why you will be debriefed at the conclusion of the research study. Psychologists never provide you with your individual data. However, you are entitled to receive the general results of the experiment at the conclusion of the study. Sign-up sheets for the participation are posted outside of Mason 102B during the semester. Those who do not wish to participate as subjects will be given an alternative written assignment. Failure to complete the requirement will result in a reduction of your final grade. You will be given research completion forms from the experimenters at the conclusion of your participation.

**Grading Scale**

- 90% and above A range
- 80%-89% B range
- 70%-79% C range
- 60%-69% D range
- Below 60% F

**Some Policies**

1. There will be no change in the dates of the exams, including the Final Exam. If there is a conflict, let's discuss it during the first week of classes. Changes in the final exam date must be approved through a petition to the APC.

2. There will not be any make-up exams. If you are seeking an exception to this, a note from Baxter or from Dean of Students is mandatory AND the instructor must be informed prior to the examination.

3. The Academic Honesty policy as outlined in Freshman Seminar handout and catalog will be strictly enforced.

4. You must complete all requirements for the course in order to pass the course. Failure to do so will result in an F or NC.
Some Links

Current Directions in Psychological Science:  

American Psychological Association: 
http://apa.org

Association of Psychological Science:  
http://www.psychologicalscience.org

Psychweb:  
http://psywww.com

Psychology Online Resource Central:  
http://www.psych-central.com

Tips on How to Present a Poster:  
http://www.sfn.org/am2005/index.cfm?pagename=resources_presentation

http://www.swarthmore.edu/NatSci/cpurrin1/posteradvice.htm