

Ψ PSYCHOLOGY OF LEARNING

Course Title:	Learning
Course Number:	Psychology 202
Semester Units:	3
Instructor:	Krista L. Byrd
Office:	807B
Office Hours:	M 1:30-3:00 p.m.; T 3:00-4:00 p.m.; W 3:00-4:00 p.m.; TH 9:30-10:00 a.m.
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Required Text:	Chance, Paul. Learning & Behavior, 2009, 6 th Edition. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.

Course Description:

This course is designed to introduce you to the main concepts and theories of learning. This course surveys psychology as both a science and an applied discipline. Topics to be covered include, theories of learning, behaviorist and cognitive perspectives, research methodology, the relationship of genetics and the environment to behavior, Pavlovian theory, Operant Conditioning theory, observational learning, generalization, extinction and forgetting, cognitive processes, and the limits of learning.

Course Objectives:

The objectives of this course are: **1)** To critically think about, discuss and gain knowledge of the main theories and concepts of the psychology of learning; and **2)** To leave this course with a basic understanding of learning not only in the academic sense, but also how learning is applied and used in all aspects of everyday real world settings.

Course Format:

This course will consist of a combination of lectures, class discussion, assigned readings, videos, group and individual projects and performance on quizzes and exams.

Course Requirements:

Attendance and Class Participation. You are expected to attend class and stay for the whole period. You will be expected to demonstrate an understanding of the assigned reading by actively participating in class discussions. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to get class notes from a fellow student. If you are going to miss a class, please call me **before** class to let me know. You may be dropped from class if you are absent consecutively for the equivalent of one week of instruction, but **DO NOT** count on the instructor dropping you. If you want to drop the class, it is your responsibility. **Please check your I.V.C. e-mail and/or Blackboard before class in case the instructor will not be attending class that day.**

Thought Papers. There will be two (2) thought papers due at various times during the semester. These are essays of 1-2 pages, which will be based on the readings and class material. **Late papers will not be accepted and I DO NOT accept thought papers by e-mail.**

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Reading Assignment
01/14/13	Introduction to Class	
01/16/13-01/23/13	Introduction – Learning to Change	Chapter 1
01/21/13	HOLIDAY – MARTIN LUTHER KING – NO CLASS	
01/28/13-01/30/13	The Study of Learning & Behavior	Chapter 2
02/04/13-02/13/13	Pavlovian Procedures	Chapter 3
	Thought Paper #1 Due	
02/18/13	HOLIDAY – PRESIDENT’S DAY – NO CLASS	
02/20/13-02/25/13	Pavlovian Applications	Chapter 4
02/27/13	Exam # 1	
03/04/13-03/11/13	Reinforcement	Chapter 5
	Thought Paper #2 Due	
03/13/13-03/20/13	Schedules of Reinforcement	Chapter 6
03/25/13-03/27/13	Punishment	Chapter 7
04/01/13-04/05/13	SPRING BREAK – HAVE FUN	
04/08/13-04/10/13	Applications of Operant Conditioning	Chapter 8
04/15/13	Exam #2	
04/17/13-04/22/13	Observational Learning	Chapter 9
	Thought Paper #3 Due	
04/24/13	Generalization & Discrimination	Chapter 10
04/29/13-05/01/13	Memory & Limits of Learning	Chapters 11&12
05/06/13	Review for Final	
05/08/13	Final Exam - Cumulative	

This instructor reserves the right to make announced modifications to this course outline.