

Imperial Valley College Course Syllabus – PSY 202

Basic Course Information

Semester	FALL 2015	Instructor Name	Nicole Rodiles
Course Title & #	Learning – PSY 202	Email	nicole.rodiles@imperial.edu
CRN #	10918	Webpage (optional)	
Room	403	Office	807E
Class Dates	08/17/14-12/8/15	Office Hours	T/Th 1-3
Class Days	Tuesday & Thursday	Office Phone #	(760) 355-6142
Class Times	11:20-12:45 p.m.	Office contact if student will be out or emergency	(760) 791-4915
Units	3.00		

Course Description

This course will explore the role of learning in the adaptation of humans and other animals to their changing environment. Research methodology, Pavlovian and operant theories, applications and implications, and higher order cognitive processes will be examined. (CSU, UC)

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

1. explain and apply, using examples, the learning theory of Classical Conditioning (Pavlovian Conditioning) (ILO1); (ILO2); (ILO3)
2. explain and apply, using examples, the learning theory of Operant Conditioning (ILO1); (ILO2); (ILO3)
3. explain and apply, using examples, the theory of Vicarious (Observational) Learning (ILO1); (ILO2); (ILO3)

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. define learning, implications and limitations of the definition, and research leading to the definition
2. explain classical conditioning history, theories, procedures, limits, applications, and implications
3. explain operant conditioning history, theories, procedures, limits, applications, and implications
4. describe theories, procedures, limits, applications, and implications of vicarious learning in humans and other animals
5. describe the partial reinforcement phenomenon with its theories, limits, and implications
6. define “thinking” including its relationship to learning, cognitive processes, and memory

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Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Chance, Paul (2014). *Learning and Behavior* (7th/e). NY Wadsworth. ISBN: 9781111832773

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

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

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.

Thought papers should address the following: 1) A provocative or interesting idea regarding learned behavior from the text, class discussion, an article from the internet or magazine, and/or a television program, from your point of view. Don't provide a review of the reading/program, but your own thoughts regarding the topic. The main focus of thought papers is for you to learn to think critically about psychology. The intention of the assignment is to get some ideas down about the readings, class discussion, or human behavior and then begin exploring your ideas. You do not have to write what you think I would agree with or what is necessarily true, you just need to justify your ideas and statements with explanations.

Assignments. There will be various in class and/or take-home assignments to help you learn the class material. All assignments will be worth 10 to 30 points.

Exams. Three (3) exams will be given. Exams will consist of multiple choice, fill in the blank, short answer and essay questions from the textbook, lectures and videos. No make-up exams will be given unless you have called me PRIOR to the exam and let me know you will not be able to take the exam. If you contact me prior to the exam, you will have one week to make-up the exam. Each exam will be worth 100 points. Please bring a #2 pencil and a scantron to each examination.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Grading System:

90-100% = A	Exams	3@	100 pts.	300 pts.
80-89% = B	Projects	3@	25 pts.	75 pts.
70-79% = C	Assignments	3@	30 pts.	90 pts.
60-69% = D				
0-59% = F	Participation		25 pts.	25 pts.

TOTAL: 490 pts.

Attendance

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- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See General Catalog for details.
- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.
- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.

Classroom Etiquette

- Electronic Devices: Cell phones must be turned off and put away during class unless otherwise directed by the instructor. Laptops or tablets will be allowed for note taking purposes only. The instructor reserves the right to limit the use of technology in the classroom in the event the technology becomes disruptive to the class learning environment.
- Food and Drink are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs. Please comply as directed.
- Disruptive Students: Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the General Catalog.
- Children in the classroom: Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.

Academic Honesty

- Plagiarism is to take and present as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to correctly 'cite a source', you must ask for help.
- Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials, or assisting others in using materials, which are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question. Anyone caught cheating will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the General School Catalog for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to the following:
 - o plagiarism
 - o copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment;
 - o communicating test information with another person during an examination;
 - o allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment

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- o use of a commercial term paper service

Additional Help

- Blackboard support center: <http://bbcrm.edusupportcenter.com/ics/support/default.asp?deptID=8543>
- Learning Labs: There are several ‘labs’ on campus to assist you through the use of computers, tutors, or a combination. Please consult your college map for the Math Lab, Reading & Writing Lab, and Learning Services (library). Please speak to the instructor about labs unique to your specific program
- Library Services: There is more to our library than just books. You have access to tutors in the learning center, study rooms for small groups, and online access to a wealth of resources.

Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S) office as soon as possible. The DSP&S office is located in Building 2100, telephone 760-355-6312 if you feel you need to be evaluated for educational accommodations.

Student Counseling and Health Services

Students have counseling and health services available, provided by the pre-paid Student Health Fee. We now also have a fulltime mental health counselor. For information see <http://www.imperial.edu/students/student-health-center/>. The IVC Student Health Center is located in the Health Science building in Room 2109, telephone 760-355-6310.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and due process. For further information regarding student rights and responsibilities please refer to the IVC General Catalog available online at http://www.imperial.edu/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=4516&Itemid=762

Information Literacy

Imperial Valley College is dedicated to help students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. Students can access tutorials at <http://www.imperial.edu/courses-and-programs/divisions/arts-and-letters/library-department/info-lit-tutorials/>

Anticipated Class Schedule / Calendar

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DATE	TOPIC	CHAPTER – DUE DATE
08/18-20	Introduction to Course	
08/25-27	Introduction: Learning to Change	Chapter 1
9/1-9/3	The Study of Learning & Behavior	Chapter 2
09/8-10		
09/15-17	Pavlovian Conditioning	Chapter 3
09/21-23	Pavlovian Applications	Chapter 4
09/22-24	EXAM #1	Chapters 1-4 Thought Paper #1 due by 9/24/2014
9/29-10/1	Operant Learning - Reinforcement	Chapter 5
10/6-8	Reinforcement – Beyond Habit	Chapter 6
10/13-15	Schedules of Reinforcement	Chapter 7
10/20-22	Operant Learning – Punishment	Chapter 8
DATE	TOPIC	CHAPTER – DUE DATE
10/24-26	Operant Applications	Chapter 9
10/27-29	EXAM#2	Chapters 5-9 Thought Paper #2 Due by 10/26
11/3-5	Observational Learning	Chapter 10
11/10-12	Generalization, Discrimination & Stimulus Control	Chapter 11
11/17-19	Forgetting & The Limits of Learning	Chapter 12 & 13
11/24-26 12/1-3	Review for Final	
12/8	Final Exam	Thought Paper #3 Due by 12/8

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

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