

# PSYC 3760: Animal Communication

## Fall 2019

**Room:** B650

**Time:** Tuesday & Thursday 1:40 – 2:55

**Website:** Moodle; <http://sites.sinauer.com/animalcommunication2e/>

**Instructor:** David Logue

**Instructor's Email:** david.logue@uleth.ca

**Office:** SA 8380

**Office hours:** Tuesdays 3:30 – 5:00

**TA:** Peter Mower

**TA's email:** peter.mower@uleth.ca

**Office:** SA 8304

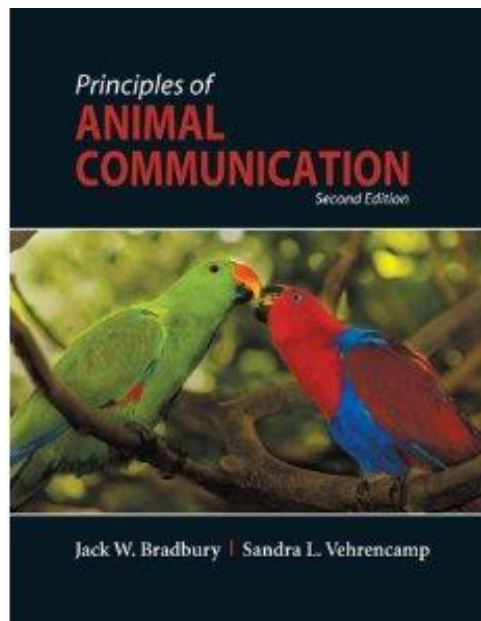
**Office hours:** 3:30 – 5:00 on the Thursdays after exam weeks, or by appointment

### Prerequisites

PSYC 2700 and at least one other 2000-level, 3-credit course in PSYC or NEUR.

### Textbook

Available as a regular book or an E-book (through CourseSmart). The first edition is not an acceptable substitute. The course is based largely on the book, but everything on the exams is covered in lecture. Purchasing the textbook is recommended, but not mandatory.



## Course structure

*Lectures* – On most days, David will lecture on a chapter from the textbook. He'll post the slides on Moodle before class. You should bring a copy of the PowerPoint presentation (on a computer or printed out) and take additional notes during class. The lectures will follow the book pretty closely, but they will include some material that is not in the book and omit some material that is in the book. The material in the lectures will be the basis of the exam questions. If a topic is not discussed in the lecture, it will not appear on the exam.

*Exam review* – Prior to review days, each student will post one question about the material. These should be questions that you want answered to help you understand the material (some students in the past have submitted exam-style questions; that's not what I'm looking for). Questions are due before the start of class. The instructor and TA will select questions to be answered during the review class period.

## Exams

Exams will be made up of multiple-choice questions and administered in the Testing Centre. No notes of any kind are permitted, but you may use the Windows calculator program. The midterms will cover the lectures. The final will include the lectures from the last quarter of the course, as well as comprehensive questions addressing some of the most important ideas from quarters one through three. *Students will not be able to access completed exams with their own accounts*. If you wish to review you completed exam, you should visit office hours and the instructor or TA can open it for you on Moodle.

Exam	Dates	Content
Midterm 1	Sept 30 – Oct 4	Ch. 1-4
Midterm 2	Oct 21 – Oct 25	Ch. 5,6, & 8
Midterm 3	Nov 18 – Nov 22	Ch. 9-11
Final	Dec 9 – Dec 13	Ch. 12-14 <i>and</i> major concepts from the entire course

## Grading

### Grade breakdown

20% Midterm 1  
20% Midterm 2  
20% Midterm 3  
30% Final  
10% Questions for review days

At the end of the term I will assign letter grades on a straight scale. I reserve the right to increase all grades by a flat amount, if necessary.

A+ > 95	C+ = 69 – 72
A = 90 – 95	C = 64 – 68
A- = 85 – 89	C- = 60 – 63
B+ = 81 – 84	D+ = 55 – 59
B = 77 – 80	D = 50 – 54
B- = 73 – 76	F < 50

### Other Course Policies

I offer make-up credits for *documented emergencies only*. If you are not sure if your situation qualifies as an emergency, you should ask the instructor ahead of time. *Students that miss exams or assignments for non-emergencies will receive a zero.*

Please do not use electronic devices for any off-topic purpose during class. Feel free to step outside if you want to call, text, tweet, Steam, Tinder, etc.

Students wishing to meet with the instructor or TA should do so during office hours. We can schedule meetings outside of office hours if the student cannot meet during office hours. (We like meeting with students, but we're very busy, and there are a lot of you.)

# Schedule

The schedule may change in response to changes to the academic calendar or if we get behind.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Chapter</b>	<b>Topic</b>
Thurs Sept. 5	Syllabus, 1	Signals and Communication
Tues Sept. 10	2	Sound and sound production I
Thurs Sept. 12		Sound and sound production II
Tues Sept. 17	3	Sound propagation and reception I
Thurs Sept. 19		Sound propagation and reception II
Tues Sept. 24	4	Light and visual signal production
Thurs Sept. 26		Midterm I review
Tues Oct. 1	5	Visual signal propagation and reception
Thurs Oct. 3	6	Chemical signals
Tues Oct. 8	8	Decisions, signals, and information I
Thurs Oct. 10		Decisions, signals, and information II
Tues Oct. 15		Midterm II review
Thurs Oct. 17	9	Economics of communication I
Tues Oct. 22		Economics of communication II
Thurs Oct. 24	10	Signal evolution I
Tues Oct. 29		Signal evolution II
Thurs Oct. 31	11	Conflict resolution
Tues Nov. 5		Midterm III review
Thurs Nov. 7	12	Mate attraction and courtship I
Tues Nov. 12	No School	
Thurs Nov. 14	No School	
Tues Nov. 19		Mate attraction and courtship II
Thurs Nov. 21	13	Social integration I
Tues Nov. 26		Social integration II
Thurs Nov. 28	14	Environmental signals
Tues Dec. 3		Final exam review