

**Psychology 1000A - Basic Concepts in Psychology  
Summer Session I, 2012  
Department of Psychology  
The University of Lethbridge**

**Location**

MW, 1:00-3:50 pm, L1060

**Professor**

Dr. Margaret Forgie

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Office Hours: By individual appointment at a mutually convenient time.

**Course Description**

Psychology is the science of behaviour, mind and body, in both human and non-human animals. Behaviour refers to the observable actions of an individual. Mind refers to an individual's sensations, perceptions, memories, thoughts, dreams, motives, and other subjective experiences. Both of these are inextricably linked to one's fundamental physiology. In short, psychological science is a diverse area of study, with research topics that include all aspects of behaviour and experience. During this lecture-based course you will be introduced to the multiple facets of this discipline, and will be challenged to use your critical thinking skills to separate fact from fiction where human behaviour is concerned. In each lecture, a particular topic will be highlighted, accompanied by a companion reading from the required text. Readings may include an entire chapter, or a portion thereof (see the Projected Schedule on pages 3 and 4 of the syllabus). Although attendance at lectures is not mandatory, EVERY student is responsible for ALL lecture material, whether or not you attend. It is YOUR responsibility to ensure that your in-class notes are complete. NB: Lecture slides WILL NOT be posted to Moodle.

**Required Text**

Gazzaniga, M., Heatherton, T.F., Halpern, D.F., & Heine, S.J. (2012). *Psychological Science: Third Canadian Edition*. W.W. Norton and Company: New York, NY.

**Optional Student Resources**

All students that have purchased the textbook have access to a wealth of online study resources made available from Norton Publishers. You are encouraged to explore these study materials, but they should not be misconstrued as sufficient preparation for exams. Please see your textbook for the URL.

**Course Information and Online Tests**

The Online Course Management System at the University of Lethbridge will be used to post a running schedule of the course, specific readings covered, and so forth. In addition, you will use this system to take your graded tests.

All students are expected to be familiar with this utility. (<https://moodle.uleth.ca/>)

Please consult the following URL to familiarize yourself with the Testing Centre Location and Procedures related to taking your test

[http://fusion.uleth.ca/crdc/testcenter/testcenter\\_student\\_info.htm](http://fusion.uleth.ca/crdc/testcenter/testcenter_student_info.htm)

## Grading

Your grade in this course is based on your performance on three, non-cumulative, multiple-choice tests. Tests are closed-book exams, written online via the Moodle utility. Each student is permitted one sheet of blank paper for rough work. This sheet must be destroyed prior to leaving the Testing Centre.

**NB. All students MUST take the tests within the scheduled dates.  
NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE.**

Final letter grades will be assigned to total course percentages according to the following scale:

A+ (90+)	B+ (77-79)	C+ (67-69)	D+ (56-59)
A (85-89)	B (73-76)	C (63-66)	D (50-55)
A- (80-84)	B- (70-72)	C- (60-62)	F (< 50)

## Extra Credits for Research Participation

In addition to the foregoing, this course provides students with an opportunity to participate as a subject in ongoing research projects. If you are asked to volunteer to be a participant, and you accept, each project usually requires about one hour of your time. In recognition of the value of your data, and in recognition that you are learning something about the discipline of psychology beyond that of the typical classroom environment, an extra credit of 1 to 2% for each study (variable) in which you participate will be added to your final course percentage. **MAXIMUM EXTRA CREDIT = 5%.** These extra credits are added only after all grade cutoffs have been established, such that students who choose not to participate are not disadvantaged.

### Directions for Participation

You will receive an email with your Login name and password. It is **IMPORTANT** that you keep this information. You will use your user name and password [psyc1000a], once you have signed in you may change your password. Please go to <http://psychleth.sona-systems.com> and sign in.

**NOTE:** There will be **NO** transferring of credits. If you are registered in another course that offers credits, a second email will be sent to you with a different email and password. Sign up in the course that you want your credits to be assigned. Further studies and timeslots will be added, please keep checking, but remember participation is on a first-come basis. Note that there is no guarantee that all students will be able to achieve the maximum credit. The last date to participate in studies is June 19, 2012. If you experience problems with the Sona System, please contact Leanne at [wehlage@uleth.ca](mailto:wehlage@uleth.ca).

## Students with Special Needs

If you have a documented condition that prevents you from fully participating in this course, including evaluation procedures, it is your responsibility to contact me if special arrangements are necessary to accommodate your individual situation. Please note that you must contact Counseling Services to acquire an official letter registering your situation. No accommodations will be given without notification from that office.

## **Projected Course Schedule and Reading List**

### **Weeks 1 and 2**

May 7

Introduction to the Course (all students are expected to attend this class)

Psychology as a Science: Part 1 - Chapter 1

May 9

Psychology as a Science: Part 2 - Chapter 2

Biological Foundations - Chapter 3

### **Weeks 3 and 4**

May 14

Biological Foundations continued

The Mind and Consciousness - Chapter 4

May 16

The Mind and Consciousness continued

Sensation and Perception - Chapter 5

### **Weeks 5 and 6**

May 21

No Class - Statutory Holiday - Victoria Day

May 23

TEST 1 OPENS AT 10:00 AM

Lecture: 2:30 to 3:50 pm

Sensation and Perception continued

Learning, Attention and Memory: Part 1 - Chapter 6

May 25

TEST 1 CLOSES AT 5 PM

### **Weeks 7 and 8**

May 28

Learning, Attention and Memory: Part 2 - Chapters 6 & 7

May 30

Learning, Attention and Memory: Part 3 - Chapters 7 & 8

### **Weeks 9 and 10**

June 4

Thinking and Intelligence: Part 2 - Chapter 8

June 6

TEST 2 OPENS AT 10:00 AM

Lecture: 2:30 to 3:50 pm

Human Development (Early Childhood): Part 1 - Chapter 11

June 8

TEST 2 CLOSES AT 5 PM

## **Weeks 11 and 12**

June 11

Human Development and Individual Differences: Part 2 - Chapters 11 & 13

June 13

Motivation, Emotion, and Stress - Chapters 9 & 10

## **Weeks 13, 14 and Finals**

June 18

Psychological Disorders and Therapy

Chapters 14 & 15

June 20

Social Psychology

Chapter 12

June 25

TEST 3 OPENS AT 10 AM AND CLOSSES AT 10 PM