Lucy Pickering
Life Sciences Divisional Office

PSYC42
Learning Laboratory
Spring, 2001

Instructor: Dr. Valerie Davey
Room S – 512 (office)
(416) 287 – 7445 (office; messages)

Office hours: Wednesdays from 1 to 3 PM
(or by appointment)

Teaching assistant: Janelle Leboutillier

Required texts:

Michael Domjan (1998). The principles of learning and behavior (4th ed.). Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole.

Tom Alloway, Greg Wilson, Jeff Graham, and Lester Krames (2000). Sniffy the virtual rat—Pro version. Toronto, Canada: Wadsworth.

Course requirements and grading:

Exams: There will be one midterm and one final exam. Each will consist of multiple choice questions covering material from the Domjan textbook and from lectures. Note the final exam will be cumulative and will be scheduled during the final exam period.

Term reports: Three short lab reports are planned. Due dates are noted on the lecture schedule below. Scheduled lab periods may be used for occasional hands-on demonstrations or for providing general information on conducting and reporting simulated experiments with the Sniffy software but are not otherwise required. Whether attendance is required or recommended on any occasion will be announced in lecture one week in advance of the lab.

Grading: Your final grade will be based on the midterm (30%), the final exam (40%), and the three lab reports (10% each).

Lecture Schedule

Note: Chapter references are to the Domjan text.

Jan. 10	Chp.1	What is learning? Learning as a general process
Jan. 17	Chp. 2	Elicited behavior, habituation, and sensitization
Jan. 24	Chp. 3	Classical conditioning: Paradigms and prevalence
Jan. 31	Chps. 3, 4	Classical conditioning: Temporal and signaling relations between CS and US
Feb. 7	Chp. 4	Classical conditioning: Mechanisms
Feb. 14	Chp. 5	Instrumental conditioning: Basic procedures and the response—reinforcer relation
Feb. 21	Reading Week	
Feb. 28		**MIDTERM EXAM**
Mar. 7	Chp. 6	Instrumental conditioning: Schedules of reinforcement and choice behavior **LAB REPORT 1 DUE DATE**
Mar. 14	Chp. 7	Reinforcement: Theories and experimental analysis
Mar. 21	Chp. 8	Stimulus control: Generalization and discrimination **LAB REPORT 2 DUE DATE**
Mar. 28	Chp. 9	Aversive control: Avoidance and punishment
Apr. 4	Chp. 10	Classical—instrumental interactions and the associative structure of instrumental conditioning **LAB REPORT 3 DUE DATE**
TBA		**FINAL EXAM**

—This outline is subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances—