

SECTION L02

(Fall Term, 2002-2003)

PSY A01Y3 Web Page: <http://psych.utoronto.ca/~joordens/courses/PsyA01/Mother/>

MEETINGS

Tues.2-4, Thurs. 2-3

Office Hours: Tues.10-12, Thurs. 1-2

INSTRUCTOR

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1. **General Introduction to Psychology:** Chapt. 1 & 2
2. **Questions Psychologists Ask** Chapt. 16

You, as students, have so many interesting and important questions to ask. Yet psychologists are asking questions such as "will depriving a very young rat of food affect his later behaviour?" Is this relevant to understanding the important issues in human behaviour? To answer this, we will look in some detail at the question, "Why does one's personality change when under stress?"

- a) Stress and affiliation
- b) Stress and learning
- c) One effect of stress on the body - "executive monkeys"
- d) Experimental neuroses
- e) Childhood stress and adult personality

3. **Mental Disorders**

Freud and Psychoanalytic theory, Chapt. 14, pp.463-471

Classification of mental disorders, Chapt. 17

Treatments of mental disorders, Chapt.18

4. **Biology of Behaviour** Chapt. 4 & 9

Underlying all behaviour is the functioning of the brain and nervous system. We will consider how behaviour is related to brain function.

5. **Learning and Behaviour** Chapt. 5

To adapt to the demands of a changing environment, organisms must be able to profit from past experiences. Two basic relationships are essential for successful adaptation: Prediction of a future environmental event on the basis of a prior event (classical conditioning) and prediction of the environmental consequences which follow from given responses on their part (operant conditioning). We will examine these two basic kinds of learning as building blocks for understanding how behaviour is brought under the control of stimuli, and how environmental stimuli can be controlled by behaviour.

6. **Memory and Human Cognition** Chapt. 8

The study of memory involves the question of how knowledge is stored, retained and retrieved. We will examine procedures used to investigate the cognitive organization of information.

Material from text to be covered on 1st term exam: Week of October 21

| <u>Topic</u> | Text Chapter |
|---|----------------|
| The Science of Psychology | 1 |
| Ways and Means of Psychology | 2 |
| Personality | 14, pp.463-471 |
| Life-style, Stress, and Health | 16 |
| The Nature and Causes of Mental Disorders | 17 |
| The Treatment of Mental Disorders | 18 |

Material from text to be covered on 2nd term exam: Exam Period

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Biology of Behaviour | 4 |
| Learning and Behaviour | 5 |
| Memory | 8 |
| Consciousness | 9 |