



Professor John Bassili.....

Office Hours (Room S550): M & W 10:30 - 11:30.....

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E-mail the TAs for administrative matters such as exams, EPS etc.: psya02@utsc.utoronto.ca

You are welcome to e-mail me about matters pertaining to academic material in the course. Administrative queries should be directed to the teaching assistant at the psya02 address. We would love to hear from you, but we ask that you include your full name and that you write in a form appropriate for the professional context of the communication. Please do not write like we are on MSN.

SYLLABUS.....

PSYA02 is Part II of Introduction to Psychology. The focus in this course is on topics where the individual is immersed in an interpersonal context. The course explores Language, Intelligence, Life-Span Development, Motivation and Emotion, Personality, Social Psychology, Health and Stress, Clinical Disorders and the Treatment of Clinical Disorders.

The Three Components of the Course

There are three essential elements of the course on which you will be tested. They consist of the textbook, lectures and the discussion forum. Here is a brief description of each, along with their educational role in the course:

Textbook: The textbook is an essential course resource. We will be covering Chapters 10 to 18. By its very nature, the textbook can cover a broad range of material in a fair amount of detail. If I attempted to cover all of this material in lecture, I would need hundreds of hours. You should realize, therefore, that the textbook covers more information than what is actually discussed in lecture, and that all that information is important. As you study the textbook, you should not assume that what is covered in lecture is a clue to what will be on the exam on textbook material. Because you will be busy with extra material from lectures and with forum participation (see below), I have made a few sections of the textbook optional. This means that there will not be exam questions on these sections. Here are the optional sections (that's all the information I can give you, so please do not email me with questions about what is or is not on the exam):

Chapter 10

From page 315 (from "What happens if...") to page 317 ("...concepts they denote").

From page 324 (from "LANGUAGE ACQUISITION BY CHILDREN") to page 331 ("...for us to discover")

Chapter 11

From page 359 ("THINKING") to page 369 ("to these errors")

Chapter 16

From page 528 ("HEALTHY AND...") to page 540 ("why not?")

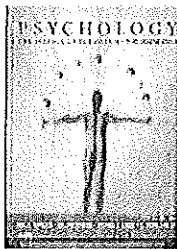
From page 546 ("Psychoneuroimmunology") to page 552 ("Explain")

Lectures: Lectures provide a wonderful opportunity for me to highlight interesting topics. Most of these topics are also covered in the textbook, but I make it a point not to simply "teach the

book." My feeling is that lectures must add value to what is in the book and that excessive redundancy creates inefficiency and boredom (I dread boredom as much as you do!) One important goal I have when lecturing is to present as much illustrative material as possible to highlight interesting aspects of the topic I cover. I am constantly on the lookout for footage that illustrates phenomena we talk about in lecture (from chimpanzees learning to talk, to adults taking orders to administer potentially lethal electric shocks to others, to self-abusing patients undergoing behaviour therapy). My lectures are also accompanied by PowerPoint slides that organize information and provide figures and illustrations. You can download and print these PowerPoint slides before you come to class as they will help you take notes. You should not, however, treat the PowerPoint slides as substitutes for lectures. **You can assume that there will be about one multiple choice question on the exam on each hour of lecture, including the content of videos.**

Discussion Forum: The discussion forum provides a virtual substitute for the interaction that can take place in class. There you can raise questions about course content and contribute your own insights into questions raised by others. Note that the forum will only deal with academic matters covered in the course. Information about administrative matters, such as what you are responsible for on an exam, is available elsewhere (in this course syllabus, for example). Participation in the forum is not marked but you are expected to participate in order to enrich the learning experience of all those involved in the course. Guidelines for what constitutes good participation are posted under the [Access Discussion Forum](#) link on the home page for the course.

Purchasing The Textbook



The textbook is *Psychology: The Science of Behaviour (3rd Canadian Edition)*, by Carlson, Buskist, Enzle and Heth.

We switched to the third edition of the textbook in the summer of 2005 (do not purchase the second edition).

We will cover chapters 10 through 18 in the order in which they appear in the book.

If you need to purchase the textbook, you will find it at the UTSC bookstore where it is sometimes bundled with a workbook and a CDrom. You might also be able to purchase used copies of the book which may or may not include the workbook and CDrom. Note that neither the workbook nor CDrom are essential for the course, and that tests do not deal specifically with their content. However, they do provide a more interactive way of learning the material presented in the text, and many students find them helpful.

In addition, the publishers of the textbook also offer a [student support webpage](#) that offers a number of features you might find useful while studying and while assessing your knowledge. The practice tests are especially popular. Note that on occasion students have alerted me to obviously wrong answers in the practice test. This year I would like to document any problems with the practice questions in order to alert the publisher. If you really, really think an answer is wrong, please e-mail me the problem and I will take note of it after verifying the information.

Evaluation

Exams: Your performance in the course will be assessed by two multiple-choice exams: a midterm and a final that will be held during the final examination period. The final exam is not cumulative, and will contain questions only on material not covered by the midterm. The midterm and final will each be worth 50% of your mark. The midterm will cover pages 304 to pages 464 (up to "...locus of control?") of the textbook and lectures from the beginning of the course to the first lecture on Chapter 14. The final will cover pages 464 (from The Psychodynamic Approach) to page 635 and all lectures from the second lecture on Chapter 14 to the last lecture in the course.

Note that you are responsible for all material in the textbook including that appearing in boxes labeled "Questions to Consider" or "Evaluating Scientific Issues" and all material in lectures including the general meaning of the contents of videos. The only material you are not responsible for is that from the pages listed as excluded in the section on the textbook above.

Each exam will consist of 52 multiple choice questions containing 5 alternative answers. Only the first 50 questions will be marked. Following the marking of the exam, each of the 50 questions will be analyzed statistically to make sure that none of the questions are flawed. If I discover that there is something seriously wrong with a question, I will replace it with question 51. If necessary, question 52 will be used to replace a second problematic question. Two criteria will be used to decide if there is a problem with a question that necessitates its replacement. The first is if very few students get the correct answer (this would suggest that the question is too difficult or unclear, or that there is, unintentionally, more than one correct answer to it). The second criterion is if students who scored high on the exam as a whole did not do better on that question than students who scored low on the exam as a whole (this would suggest that the question either did not measure knowledge of the material or that it actually confused students who knew the material best). The decision to replace questions will be based entirely on my assessment of statistical information about each question and will precede the posting of the marks. Office hours will be held following the midterm exam to allow you to see the exam along with the correct answers. The time and date of office hours will be announced following the midterm exam.

Scheduling of Exams: There is always some uncertainty relating to the scheduling of exams because the Registrar's office has to slot many courses for midterms and final. Large courses such as PSYA01 and PSYA02 have the additional problem of requiring the gym for three hours so that two sittings of the exam, each an hour long, can be held back to back.

THE TENTATIVE DATE FOR THE MIDTERM IS FEBRUARY 15 OR 16. I WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH DETAILS AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE.

THE FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE IS PUBLISHED BY THE REGISTRAR'S OFFICE LATER IN THE SEMESTER.

Discussion Forum: Your contributions to the discussion forum will not be marked. I will read all the posts and will moderate the forum to make sure that nothing offensive or intolerant is posted. Guidelines for good posts can be seen by clicking the [Access Discussion Forum](#) link on the home page of the course.

EPS: It is possible for you to receive an additional 2% worth of bonus marks through experimental participation. To find out more about this, follow the [Experimental Participation System \(EPS\)](#) link on the home page for the course. Please note that neither me nor the TA are involved in the administration of EPS. Please address any questions you have about EPS to [Professor Steve Joordens](#).