

CURRENT TOPICS IN HUMAN BRAIN AND BEHAVIOUR
PSYD66
Tentative Course Outline Spring 2012

Instructor: Dr. Janelle C. LeBoutillier
Room S557A
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Office Hours: Tues 1 to 3 pm

Lecture: Tues: 9-11 am in MW 110

Textbook: There is no textbook for this course. You will make use of the library and internet to access primary source readings

Course Description:

The aim of this course is to conduct an intensive examination of a cross-section of selected topics and research problems in human brain and behaviour. Topics may include, but not be limited to, the neural bases of mental functions such as language, learning, memory, emotion, stress, motivation and addiction.

You may find that the seminar nature of this course is unlike many of the courses you have taken to date. In fact, the format of this course is similar to the type of learning experience you would gain in graduate school. As a result of the small class sizes of our D level courses at UTSC, there is a greater opportunity for independent learning. You are expected to read and discuss current empirical research in this field during our seminars.

Grading Scheme Overview:

15%	Class Participation
20%	Oral Presentation
2%	Literature Review Outline
33%	Literature Review
20%	Critique of Literature Review
10%	Response to Reviewer Comments

Class Participation:

A weekly mark out of 3 will be assigned for participation. This will be based on active participation in the class discussions. Students are expected to learn from each other by way of attendance and participation during presentations.

Oral Presentation:

Each student will give one oral power point presentation during the term. Students will present in groups of 3 or 4. Following a brief overview of the subject area each student in the group will discuss in-depth one or 2 empirical papers. Topics to be presented will be assigned following the first week of classes.

Literature Review:

Students will write a review paper on a specified topic which will be a maximum of 20 pages. A one page outline of your paper is due on January 30, 2012. You are required to submit 3 copies of this paper, one paper with your name and student number and 2 without your name and student number. In addition, you are required to submit your paper to Turnitin (details to follow). Papers should be prepared according to the Publication Manual for the American Psychological Association, 5th or 6th Edition. This assignment is due no later than noon on the Monday following reading week ie Feb 27, 2012. Papers can be dropped off to my office S557. (If I am not in the office you may slide your papers under the door and send an email indicating that you have done this). All papers will be assigned a manuscript number only by me.

Critique of Literature Review:

Each student will receive 2 review papers on similar topics identified by number only. You will be required to read these papers and provide a critique of each manuscript. These critiques will be a maximum of 2 pages due March 12, 2012. Students are required to turn in two copies of each of these evaluations, one with their name and student number and the other with only the Manuscript ID number. You will be evaluated by the instructor on your critique of the assigned literature reviews. A copy of your evaluation (identification by manuscript number only) will be provided to the author of the paper.

Response to Reviewers Comments:

A formal response addressing the concerns of the reviewers is due on April 2, 2012, ie the last day of our class. This should be a maximum of 2 pages.

Late Assignments:

A penalty of 10% per day will be given for all late assignments. All assignments are due at the start of the lecture unless noted otherwise.

Turnitin:

First, some background information on this program. Turnitin.com is a tool that assists in detecting textual similarities between compared works i.e.: it is an electronic resource that assists in the detection and deterrence of plagiarism.

Students agree that by taking this course all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the

purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site.

As indicated on the turnitin home page, all work submitted to Turnitin is checked against three databases of content:

- A current and archived copy of the publicly accessible Internet
- Millions of published works (from ABI/Inform, Periodical Abstracts, Business Dateline, ProQuest, the Gutenberg Collection of literary classics, and tens of thousands of electronic books);
- Millions of student papers submitted to Turnitin since 1996.

Students will submit all written reports to the turnitin.com site (www.turnitin.com). Detailed instructions on setting up your account can be found on this page. You must set up your own account and will need the following information: Course name, PSYD66; Class ID # 4663857; Enrolment Password, graduation

Topic Choices

1. Stress and the brain
2. Sleep and dreaming
3. Sleep and learning/memory
4. The maternal brain and behaviour
5. Neurological bases for visual language processes
6. Hemi-neglect
7. Face recognition
8. Narcolepsy
9. Lateralization and handedness
10. Exercise and Cognition
11. Autism
12. Enhanced learning, is there a smart pill?
13. Mild cognitive impairment
14. Diet, health and cognition
15. Animal models of cognitive disorders
16. Others TBA

General Information which you should be aware of:

The University of Toronto is dedicated to fostering an academic community in which the learning and scholarship of every member may flourish, with vigilant protection for individual human rights, and a resolute commitment to the principles of equal opportunity, equity and justice.

ACCESSABILITY STATEMENT

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the AccessAbility Services Office as soon as possible. I will work with you and AccessAbility Services to ensure you can achieve your learning goals in this course. Enquiries are confidential. The UTSC AccessAbility Services staff (located in S302) are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations (416) 287-7560 or ability@utsc.utoronto.ca.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STATEMENT

Academic integrity is essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarship in a university, and to ensuring that a degree from the University of Toronto is a strong signal of each student's individual academic achievement. As a result, the University treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously. The University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>) outlines the behaviours that constitute academic dishonesty and the processes for addressing academic offences. Potential offences include, but are not limited to:

IN PAPERS AND ASSIGNMENTS: Using someone else's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgement. Submitting your own work in more than one course without the permission of the instructor. Making up sources or facts. Obtaining or providing unauthorized assistance on any assignment.

ON TESTS AND EXAMS: Using or possessing unauthorized aids. Looking at someone else's answers during an exam or test. Misrepresenting your identity.

IN ACADEMIC WORK: Falsifying institutional documents or grades. Falsifying or altering any documentation required by the University, including (but not limited to) doctor's notes. All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following procedures outlined in the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters. If you have questions or concerns about what constitutes appropriate academic behaviour or appropriate research and citation methods, you are expected to seek out additional information on academic integrity from your instructor or from on-line institutional resources.

Tentative Course Outline

- Jan 10 Course introduction
Topic choices for written and oral presentation to be emailed to me no later than
Thurs Jan 14 at 5 pm
- 17 Introduction to Writing and Researching a Review Paper
- 24 Empirical article (1 or 2) on your oral topic to be brought to class
Oral presentation format discussed
- 31 Literature Outline due and discussed
- Feb 7 Presentation 1
- 14 No class
- 21 READING WEEK
- 27 Literature review due ON MONDAY Feb 27 no later than noon
- 28 Presentation 2
- Mar 6 Introduction to Responding to Reviewer Comments
- 13 Presentation 3
- 20 Critique of Literature Review due
Presentation 4
- 27 Presentation 5
- April 3 Response to Reviewers Comments due
Presentation 6