

PSY 1000A General Psychology (Fall, 2006-2007)
Course Outline

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By appointment

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Lecture time: Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. at ELB 401

Tutorial time: Thursday 4:30 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. at HYS G05/ 306

Textbook: Gerrig, R. J., & Zimbardo, P. B. (2004). *Psychology and life* (17th Ed.). Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon.

Lecture	Topic	Reading	Tutorial	Content
7/9	Orientation; Characteristics of a scientist (I)	Ch. 1, 3	7/9	Characteristics of a scientist (II)
14/9	Scientific rules	Ch. 2	14/9	Astrology vs. Psychology
21/9	Special guest lecture	Ch. 4	21/9	Physiological Psychology
28/9	Visual perception	Ch. 12	28/9	<i>Quiz 1</i>
5/10	Emotions and health	Ch. 6, 7	5/10	(to be confirmed)
12/10	Learning	Ch. 8, 9	12/10	Social Intelligence
19/10	Intelligence and creativity	Ch. 11	19/10	<i>Quiz 2</i>
26/10	Hereditary influence	Ch. 10	26/10	APA style – for Psych. Majors!
2/11	Developmental influences	Ch. 13	2/11	Nature vs. nurture: "As Nurture made him"
9/11	The self	Ch. 14	9/11	<i>Quiz 3</i>
16/11	Depression and Suicide	Ch. 15	16/11	The "Self"
23/11	Psychotherapy	Ch. 5	23/11	Psychopathology
30/11	Helping behavior	Ch. 16, 17	30/11	<i>Quiz 4</i>

Lectures

Professor Bond will **NOT** lecture from the book, although he will follow the approximate topic order of the text in his lectures. If you have any confusion with the contents of the book or the lectures, it is your responsibility to consult the tutors.



Regarding your behavior in the lectures, you are expected:

1. To attend;
2. To arrive before the lesson and stay until it ends;
3. If late, to use the back door to enter, and to sit at the back two rows until the break;
4. To keep quiet when the lecturer is talking, and to converse quietly with your neighbors, in case you want to have intellectual discussion with them;
5. To turn off your beepers and mobile telephones during the lectures and the tutorials;
6. To contribute to a social environment conducive towards learning.

Thanks!

Grading

Your grade in the course will be determined by your scores obtained on four quizzes. The four quizzes will be equally weighted to determine your overall grade in this course (i.e., 25% for each). Each quiz will include 45 multiple-choice questions (2 points each), which are related to the content of the textbook; and 2 short-answer questions (5 points each), which are related the content of the lectures.



A grade of zero will be recorded for each quiz missed, unless permission is obtained in advance. This can be obtained by informing the tutors at least 48 hours before the quiz. If your absence is accepted as unavoidable, an appointment can then be made to do the make-up quiz as soon as possible. If you become sick on the day of the quiz and unable to take the quiz, a signed letter to that effect from your doctor is required on the day you return to classes at the University. The missed quiz must then be taken on that same day. These are the only exceptions allowed.

Other Resources

A course web has been prepared for the course (<http://cuforum.cuhk.edu.hk>). It is a forum where you can post questions about the course content or other questions concerning psychology. The course tutors will answer your questions to the best of their capacity. Your participation in the forum is optional, but you are advised to closely monitor the forum on a regular basis because the content/questions appearing in the forum maybe included in the quizzes. Besides, you may find interesting web resources that are related to our study in psychology there.

Your course tutors also welcome you to consult them about *any* issue related to your study in psychology. You are expected to go to them prior to any consultation with Prof. Bond. In case if you want a private conversation with Prof. Bond, you may arrange an appointment with him via email.

Subject Pool Requirement (<http://www.psy.cuhk.edu.hk/~subjectpool/>)



In order to help students grasp the nature of experimentation in psychology, every student in PSY1000 is expected to sign up and participate in one or more experiments conducted by the faculty, the graduate students, or in conjunction with courses in Experimental Psychology. The total number of hours you are required to complete will be **THREE**. Interested students may voluntarily choose to participate in more experiments. Information about the experiments is posted on the 3rd floor bulletin board of the Sino Building.

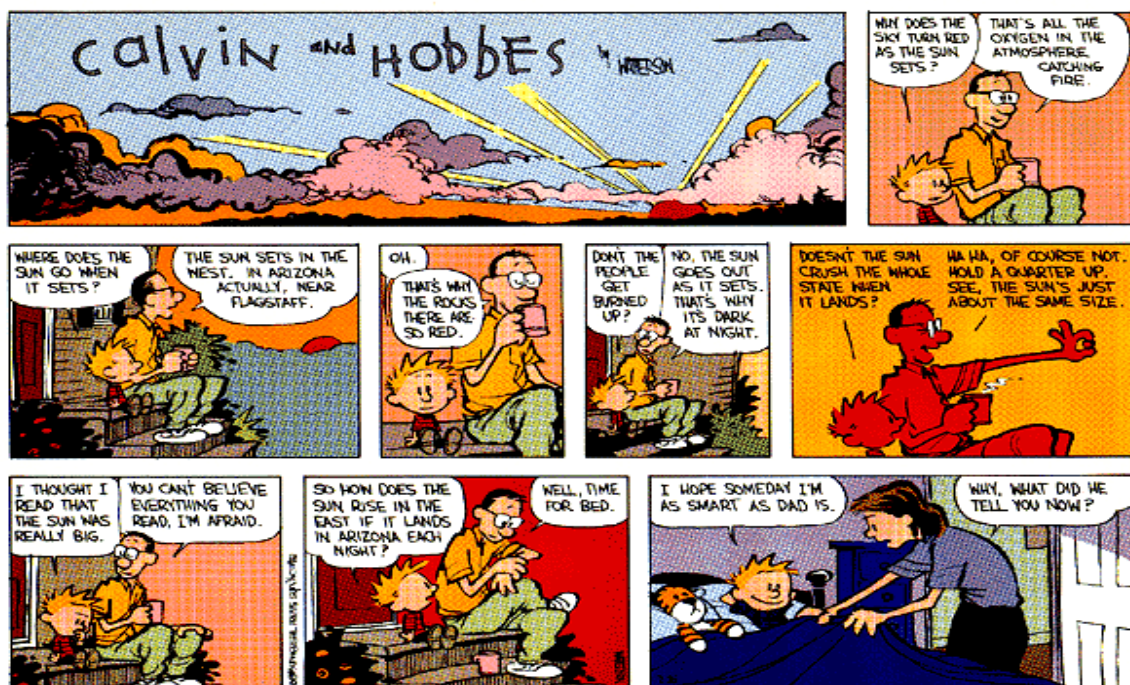
The last day for running experiments will normally be 2 weeks before the last quiz. After this time, students who have not completed the required hours of experiments should produce written assignments instead (see below).

Penalty for signing up for an experiment and failing

to appear. If your plans change, and you will be unable to participate in an experiment at the time you have chosen, you must notify the experimenter, at least 48 hours in advance. Should you fail to do so, and miss an appointment, you will be required to participate in two experiments (i.e., double the time for that experiment), to make up for your failure – one to replace that one you missed, and another “PENALTY” experiment.

Be sure to make a note of the date, time, place, the name, and the contact of the experimenter, and the title and the code of the experiment when you sign up for an experiment. You may cancel the booking of the experiment, after the closing of the posted form. However, you must inform the experimenter at least 24 hours before. If you have difficulty in contacting the experimenter, you may approach Mr. Matthew Chung instead.

Explanation after the experiment is over. Participating in an experiment can be a richer way to learn about experimentation than merely reading a textbook. To increase its educational value, the experimenter will (whenever possible) be available at the end of the experiment to explain in the nature of the experiment and to answer questions. Where this is not possible, written “feedback sheets” will be prepared, and distributed to the students in the debriefing session after the experiment. If experiments last over a term, these feedback sheets will be posted on the same bulletin as you sign the experiment recruit sheets after data collection has been completed. Copies will also be available for individual students. Such sheets will explain the purpose of the experiment, the methodology, and the expected results.



These are of considerable educational value, so be sure to consult them. Moreover, owing to the distinct nature of most psychological experiments, students are **requested not to** discuss them even after they have taken part in them. Discussion is, of course, advisable after the entire data-collection procedure is completed. Usually that is towards the end of the term.

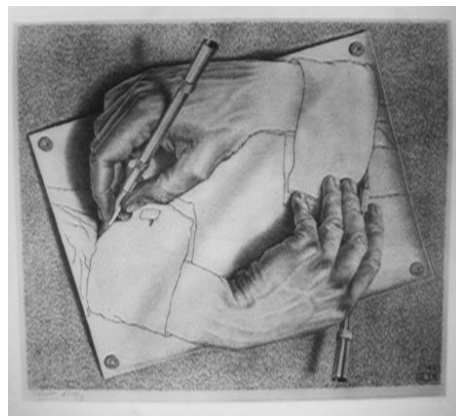
Failure to complete the subject-pool requirement. If for any reason a student fails to complete the required number of hours by the end of the term, that student's grade in the course will be Incomplete/Failed (F). The deficiency must be made up within 4 weeks of the end of the term. When the deficiency has been removed by appropriate participation in experiments (or written assignments), your earned grade will replace your F.

Written assignments. Short written assignments can be produced: (1) as an alternative for students who have strong personal reason for not wanting to participate in experiments; (2) to make up for the hours of experiment which students fail to complete by the time all experiments have been completed. Written assignments will be short written papers on particular psychological experiments from the scientific literature.

Go to the University Library and read an article that interests you in one of the psychology journals. Prepare a brief paper (about 2-typed pages) describing the experiment, the results, and what it was presumably like to serve as a participant in that experiment. Each such paper will count the same as one hour of participation in an actual experiment.

Plagiarism

Any assignment (i.e., project, essay, or paper) that shows evidence of plagiarism will be marked down **SEVERELY**. In simple terms, plagiarism is copying passages and/or ideas from other sources without referencing those sources. Moreover, when you report someone else's ideas/findings you must put it in your own words and not merely copy full sentences or parts of sentences from the source article. It is your responsibility as a scholar-in-training to cite the ideas and work of others correctly. Please visit the following websites for discussions of how to recognize and avoid plagiarism.



<http://ec.hku.hk/plagiarism/introduction.htm>

<http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/wts/plagiarism.html>

<http://www.hamilton.edu/academic/Resource/WC/AvoidingPlagiarism.html>

If you commit plagiarism in an assignment, and it is your first offence in the course, the penalty will range from a minimum of a single letter grade reduction in score on the assignment to a maximum of **FAILURE** on the assignment. A second offence within the same course will result in a minimum penalty of a single letter grade reduction in the course grade to a maximum penalty of course failure. The specific penalty applied is up to the discretion of the professor. In all cases of plagiarism, the student's name will be recorded in a central database maintained by the general office. If a student is referred for plagiarism in more than one course, or more than one instance in the same course, the student's case will be forwarded to the university administration for follow-up action.

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