

PSY1000C General Psychology
Instructor: Dr. Kelly Y. L. Ku
Lectures: 1630-1815 (Wednesdays)

1. Course Description

You will be introduced the major psychological perspectives and theories in explaining and predicting various human functioning (i.e. behavior, thought and emotion). Emphasis will be put on application of theories in real-life contexts, as well as critical reflection of your everyday-life experience.

2. Learning Approach

Both lectures and tutorials adopt an interactive approach that allows you to further your understanding of psychological concepts through different kinds of learning activities (discussion, reflection, demonstration, game, video viewing, experiment etc.).

3. Prerequisites

No prerequisite.

4. Teaching Members

Dr. Kelly Y. L. Ku

Office location : Rm 616, Sino Building
Phone : 26096210
Email : kylku@psy.cuhk.edu.hk
Lecture Time \ Venue : HYS G05 1630-1815 (Wednesdays)
Office hours : Thur 1045 – 1245 or by appointment (with prior notice)

Teaching Assistants		
	Ms. Bess Y. H. Lam	Ms. Angel Leung
Office	Rm 351, Sino Building	Rm 351, Sino Building
Phone	2609 6521	26096521
Email	byhlam@psy.cuhk.edu.hk	anmleung@psy.cuhk.edu.hk
Tutorial	HYS G05	HYS 306
Time\Venue	Mon 11:30-12:15	Mon 11:30-12:15
Office hours	Mon 14:00- 15:00 or by appointment	Mon 12:30-1:30

5. Course Content

Topics	Contents
1.Introduction	Provide an overview of the course content
2.Research Methods & Issues	What is psychology? What are some basic research methods, issues & controversies in psychology?
3.Development I: Cognitive Development	What is the relative influence of nature and nurture? How does a child grow and develop? How does cognitive development proceed?
4.Development II: Social Development	How do we tell right from wrong? How do children and adolescents develop a sense of self and learn to interact with others?
5.Sensation & Perception	What are the differences between sensation & perception? How do we make sense of the stimulations received?
6.Memory	What are the foundations of memory? How do we remember? Why do we forget?
7.Learning	What is learning? How do we learn? What are some effective methods for bringing behavior change?
8.Intelligence	What is IQ? Is there more than one type of intelligence? How do we measure different types of intelligence?
9.Motivation & Emotion	What motivate our behavior? What are the roots of emotions? Why do we need to experience emotions?
10.Personality	What are some major approaches to personality? Can we really tell what someone is like using personality tests?
11.Social Influence	How do we interact, influence and being influenced by others in the society?
12.Psychological Disorders	How do we define abnormal behavior? What are the major psychological disorders? What are their symptoms and underlying causes?
13.Stress & Health	In what ways does health compromise and enhance behaviors? What are some effective stress coping strategies?

6. Expected Learning Goals

- I. Demonstrate familiarity with the fundamental concepts, theories and research methods of psychology
- II. Develop critical thinking skills in analyzing and evaluating personal and social issues related to psychology
- III. Apply and relate psychology to the understanding and explaining everyday events
- IV. Reflect on your own behavior and mental processes

7. Expected Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, you will be expected to

- I. demonstrate a fundamental understanding in various areas of psychology (***matches with learning goal I***)
- II. be able to relate and apply major psychological concepts in analyzing events in real-life contexts (***matches with learning goals I, II, III***)
- III. be able to conceptualize, structure and express your own ideas, both in written & verbal formats, on various topics of psychology (***matches with learning goals, I, II, III, IV***)
- IV. Gain insights about your own and others' behavior and mental processes (***matches with learning goals, I, II, III, IV***)

8. Learning Activities

	Lecture	Tutorial
Time per week	2 hours Wed 1630 - 1815	1 hour Mon 1130-1215
Venue	HYS G05	HYS G05/ 306
No. of sessions	13	13
Attendance	Mandatory	Mandatory
Teaching Member(s)	Instructor	Teaching Assistants
Matching with learning goals (LG)	LG I, II, III,IV	LG I, II, III, IV
Matching with learning outcomes (LO)	LG I, II, III	LG I, II, III, IV

Lectures

The lectures present an overview of psychology-related theories, concepts, research and findings. You will discuss in class various controversial issues and engage in interactive activities to consolidate your understanding.

Tutorials

The tutorials reinforce, through small-group discussions, demonstrations, experiments and exercises, the understanding of learned theories and their applications. You should use tutorial session as a platform to express your viewpoints and comment on others'.

9. Assessment Scheme

(formative assessment – measures what you have learned at different stages during the course):

Quiz 1 (MCQ)	(22%)
Quiz 2 (MCQ)	(22%)
Quiz 3 (MCQ)	(30%)

**Matching of learning goals:
LG I & II**

(authentic assessment – measures how well you are able to address related real-life problems):

Thought Piece I & II	(8% + 8%)
Tutorial Participation	(10%)

**Matches of learning goals:
LG I, II, III & IV**

(100%)* Bonus points (up to 5% may be granted for additional learning activities well performed, details will be announced during lectures/tutorials)

Note:

- Any quizzes missed without valid medical certificate will be given a zero. Students with valid certificate will be given a make-up quiz with essay questions. The instructor and the teaching assistants reserve the rights for the final decision to grant or not to grant a make-up quiz (in essay format) to a particular student.
- Each thought piece should be two pages long in length (type-written, 1.5-spacing, 12 point font, print double-sided) and should include appropriate application of psychological theories. You must submit a soft copy to CUPIDE (refer to page 7) and a hard copy to your tutor. Any assignments sent through email will not be graded. Late submission will be marked down by 10% per day.
- You are required to participate in 3 hours of psychology experiments. Sign-up sheets are posted outside SB LT1. Details will be introduced in the first tutorial.

10. Learning Resources

Textbook Required

Feldman, R. S. (2008). *Understanding psychology* (8th Ed.). New York, NY: McGraw-Hill.

Recommended readings:

Books & journal articles will be suggested for different topics at the end of each class.

Recommended Movies (on mental illness, stigma and humanity):

- “*One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*” (“飛越瘋人院”) 1975. Director: Milos Forman.
Cast: Jack Nicholson. {Tagline: “*If he’s crazy, what does that make you?*”}
CUHK Library call no. [PN1997.O644 1997](#)
- “*Awakenings*” (“無語問蒼天”) 1990. Director: Penny Marshall. Cast: Robert De Niro; Robin Williams. {based on the book *Oliver Sacks*}
CUHK Library call no. [PN1997.A824 1997](#)

- “*Girl, Interrupted*” 1999. Director: James Mangold, Cast: Winona Ryder; Angelina Jolie.
{based on a true story of a girl’s experience in a mental hospital during 1960s}
CUHK Library call no. [PN1997 .G5682 2000](#)

11. Course Updates

CUForum (<https://cuforum.cuhk.edu.hk/>) will be adopted in this course for posting course notes, announcements etc.

12. Feedback for Evaluation

We welcome your comments. Feel free to talk to, or write to, any of the teaching members for things you like (to help us keep the good features) and do not like (to help us improve). You may also post your comments on CUForum.

13. Course Schedule

Date	Lecture	Reading	Tutorial	Tutorial Preparation
3 Sept	Introduction		8 Sept Introduction	
10 Sept	Research Methods & Issues	1 & 2	15 Sept Public Holiday	
17 Sept	Development I	12 & additional reading to be distributed	22 Sept Conservation (Experiment)	
24 Sept	Development II		29 Sept Nature or Nurture (Case Study)	
1 Oct	National Holiday		6 Oct Quiz 1	
8 Oct	Sensation & Perception	4	13 Oct Thought Piece Topic Discussion	
15 Oct	Memory	7	20 Oct * Digit Span (Exercise)	
22 Oct	Learning	6	27 Oct Classical Conditioning (Illustration)	
29 Oct	Intelligence	9	3 Nov Quiz 2	
5 Nov	Personality	13	10 Nov Personality Test (Exercise)	
12 Nov	Motivation & Emotion	10	17 Nov Advertisement & Maslow's Hierarchy of Need (Illustration)	Collect advertisement clippings
			17 – 21 Nov ^ Individual Thought Piece Consultation	
19 Nov	Social Influence	17	24 Nov ** Sales Techniques (Sharing)	Observation Report #
26 Nov	Psychological Disorders	15 & 16	1 Dec Quiz 3	
3 Dec	Stress & Health #	14		

* submit thought piece I

** submit thought piece II

^ optional meeting: please make appointment with your tutor

submit optional assignment – bonus points will be given to those well-performed

14. Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

The University places very high importance on honesty in academic work, and has a policy of **zero** tolerance on plagiarism. Guidelines on academic honesty are on the website on "Honesty in Academic Work: A Guide for Students and Teachers" <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/>.

Guideline about 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/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml>

<http://www.hamilton.edu/writing/style/plagiarism/plagiarism.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.

Detecting plagiarism

The Senate Committee on Teaching and Learning requires that all student assignments in undergraduate programmes should be submitted via CUPIDE (the Chinese University Plagiarism Identification Engine System). Obviously, this policy will only apply to assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based (i.e., excluding calculations in science, brief laboratory reports, drawings in fine arts and architecture, etc.).

- **Each student must upload a soft copy of the completed assignment to the plagiarism detection engine CUPIDE, at the URL: <http://cupide.cse.cuhk.edu.hk/student>**
- **The system will issue a receipt which also contains a declaration of honesty, which is the same as that in <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/p09.htm>**
- **The declaration should be signed, and the receipt stapled to a hard copy of the assignment, which should be handed in before the assignment due date.**
- **Assignments without the receipt will not be graded by teachers.**

I promise that all assignments submitted to this course across the entire semester will be original except for source material explicitly acknowledged. I also acknowledge that I am aware of University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and of the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations as contained in the website <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/>.

Signature

Date

Name

Student ID

_PSY1000C______
Course code

_General Psychology______
Course Title

** Please hand in this form in the first tutorial.*