

PSYCH 101: Introduction to Psychology I

Winter 2021 Syllabus

Course Information:

Professor: Dr. Zoë Francis

Lectures: Asynchronous (on your own time), new lectures posted each Monday morning

Assignments/Quizzes: Asynchronous

Final Exam: Flexible timing (asynchronous). Available online between April 19 and 21.

Zoom Hours: Optional tutorials/Q&A periods, held synchronously over Zoom. Days and times to be determined in the first week.

Course Description:

This course introduces students to the field of psychology and its research methods, and surveys the basic perspectives of psychology with respect to learning, memory, thought, sensation and perception, and physiology.

We will focus on how psychology approaches questions of human behaviour using the scientific method, and learn about the different approaches used by psychologists to understand why people act, feel, and think the ways that they do.



Contact Me:

Prof. Francis
email: zoe.francis@ufv.ca

I would like to get to know everyone who is on the other end of the screen! I hope to meet many of you during the optional weekly zoom hours.

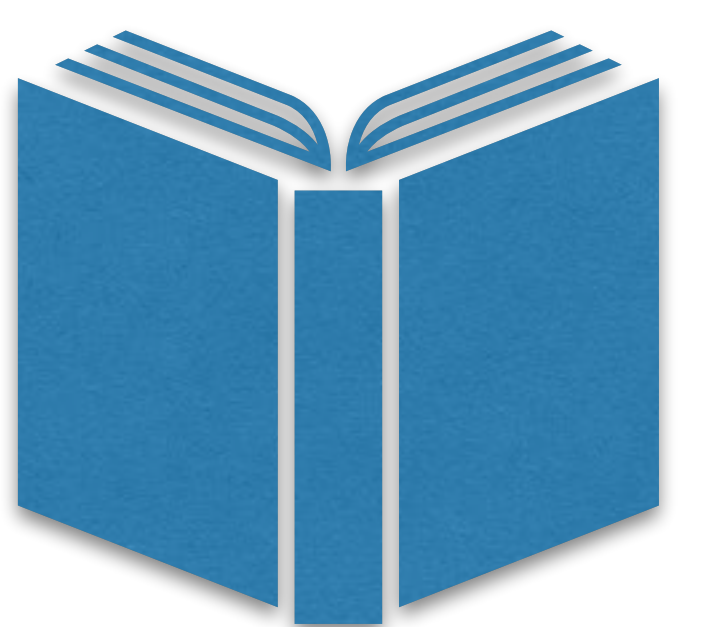
I also encourage you to chat with me and each other via the group discussion boards or by email. I am able to schedule online meetings with students as needed; email me to arrange.

I will respond to emails within 1-2 business days, and will check/respond to questions on the online discussion boards once each working day (Mon-Fri).

Course Textbook (required):

Psychology: Frontiers and Applications (7th Canadian Edition), by Passer, M.W., Smith, R.E., Atkinson, M.L., & Mitchell, J.B.

Students may choose to use previous versions of the textbook at their own risk, but all exams and quizzes will be based off of material in the 7th edition.



Course Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the methods of psychology
2. Demonstrate basic knowledge of the major theoretical approaches of psychology.
3. Discuss ideas, theories, and concepts using the language of psychology.
4. Apply basic psychological findings to real world situations.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of the usefulness and limitations of the field of psychology.

Course Schedule

Please note: This schedule is subject to minor revisions, Any changes will be announced on MyClass.

Week	Topic	Textbook Reading	Assessment
1 [Mon, Jan 11]	The Science of Psychology	Chapter 1	
2 [Mon, Jan 18]	Research Methods	Chapter 2	Assignment 1 (News article) Due: Monday, January 25
3 [Mon, Jan 25]	Biological Foundations of Behaviour	Chapter 3	Quiz 1 (on Weeks 1-3) Due: Monday, February 1
4 [Mon, Feb 1]	Sensation & Perception I: Vision	Chapter 5 (p. 139 - 154)	
5 [Mon, Feb 8]	Sensation & Perception II: Other Senses	Chapter 5 (p. 155 - 182)	Assignment 2 (Perception lab) Due: Monday, February 22
[Mon, Feb 15]	<i>No Lecture: Reading Week</i>		
6 [Mon, Feb 22]	Learning	Chapter 7	Quiz 2 (on Weeks 4-6) Due: Monday, March 1
7 [Mon, Mar 1]	<i>No Lecture: Midterm Check-In</i>		Midterm Check-In Individually scheduled
8 [Mon, Mar 8]	Memory	Chapter 8 (p. 272 - 293)	
9 [Mon, Mar 15]	More Memory	Chapter 8 (p. 294 - 309)	Assignment 3 (Memory lab) Due: Monday, March 22
10 [Mon, Mar 22]	Language, Thought & Reasoning	Chapter 9	Quiz 3 (Weeks 8-10) Due: Monday, March 29
11 [Mon, Mar 29]	Social Behaviour	Chapter 13 (p. 483 - 507)	
12 [Tues, April 6]	More Social Behaviour	Chapter 13 (p. 508 - 532)	Assignment 4 (Social lab) Due: Monday, April 12
13 [Mon, April 12]	<i>No Lecture: Catch-up week</i>		Quiz 4 (Week 11-12) Due: Tuesday, April 13
April 19 - 21			Final Exam

Grading Overview:

Assessment	% of Total	Due Date
Assignments (4 x 6%)	24%	See above, by 11:59pm PST
Quizzes (4 x 4%)	16%	See above, by 11:59pm PST
Midterm Check-in	16%	Individually scheduled, March 1-5
Research Participation	4%	April 10
Final Exam	40%	Flexible timing on April 19-21

Navigating MyClass

Our MyClass page is organized using a week-by-week module format. Find each week's material by clicking on the appropriate link in the left sidebar. Everything that you need for Week 1 is available in the "Week 1" module. Everything that you need for Week 2 is available in the "Week 2" module (including lectures, assignments, links to quizzes, links to the discussion board, etc.).

What will I find inside each Week's Module?

Lectures. Each week will have 1 or 2 "lectures" available on MyClass. A lecture is typically comprised of multiple short components that you can work through at your own pace. A lecture may include (i) videos that I have recorded myself, (ii) YouTube videos or videos from other sources, (iii) links to other articles or resources/activities. All of the content in the "lectures" is required material; you will be expected to know the information for exams, quizzes, and assignments.

Assignments and Quizzes (some weeks). Assignment instructions/information, videos of me talking about the assignment, and the links to submit the assignment can all be found in the week's module. Links to quizzes will also be inside the relevant week's module.

Additional Materials (Optional): Some weeks will also include a folder of "optional" videos or linked materials. You are not required to watch/read these videos, and will not be tested on their contents. I typically include materials that I find especially interesting, or that have helpful explanations of difficult concepts that have also been discussed in the textbook or required lectures. If you have some extra time, or if you find a topic to be especially interested, I recommend checking this folder!



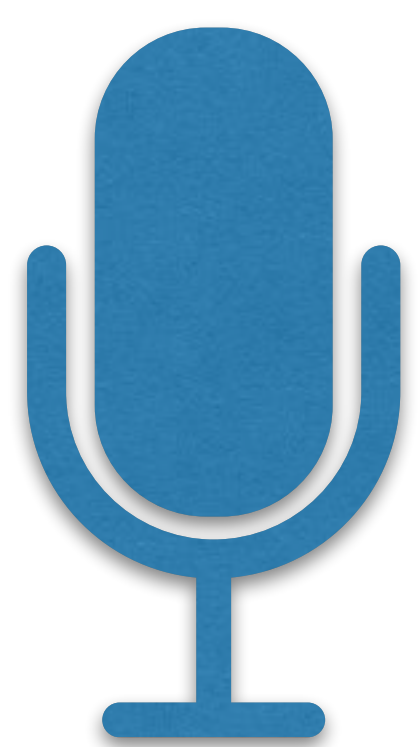
What else should I look for in MyClass, outside the weekly modules?

Announcements. You should also make note of the Announcements tab, where I will regularly be posting important updates (extra info about assignments, due-date reminders, etc.)

Course Resources/Info. This folder is where you can find the syllabus, information about the research participation/SONA, and the academic integrity policy, the "declaration of absence" form and other important links that apply to this course or university *in general*.

My Grades. See your grades, what you already submitted, and what assignments are upcoming.

Zoom Hours



**** Times will be scheduled based on responses to the Week 1 survey. Please complete the survey, and then regularly check the Announcements page for more information!**

Zoom hours will be our **optional, synchronous, online** time to (i) meet other students, (ii) meet the prof, (iii) ask questions about course content and readings (iv) clarify expectations for course assignments and "workshop" lab assignments together, (v) discuss psychology, research, and university in general. Like tutorials and office hours, these sessions are extra, scheduled times to form connections with others and improve/reinforce your understanding of course material. If you are able to attend, I recommend them.

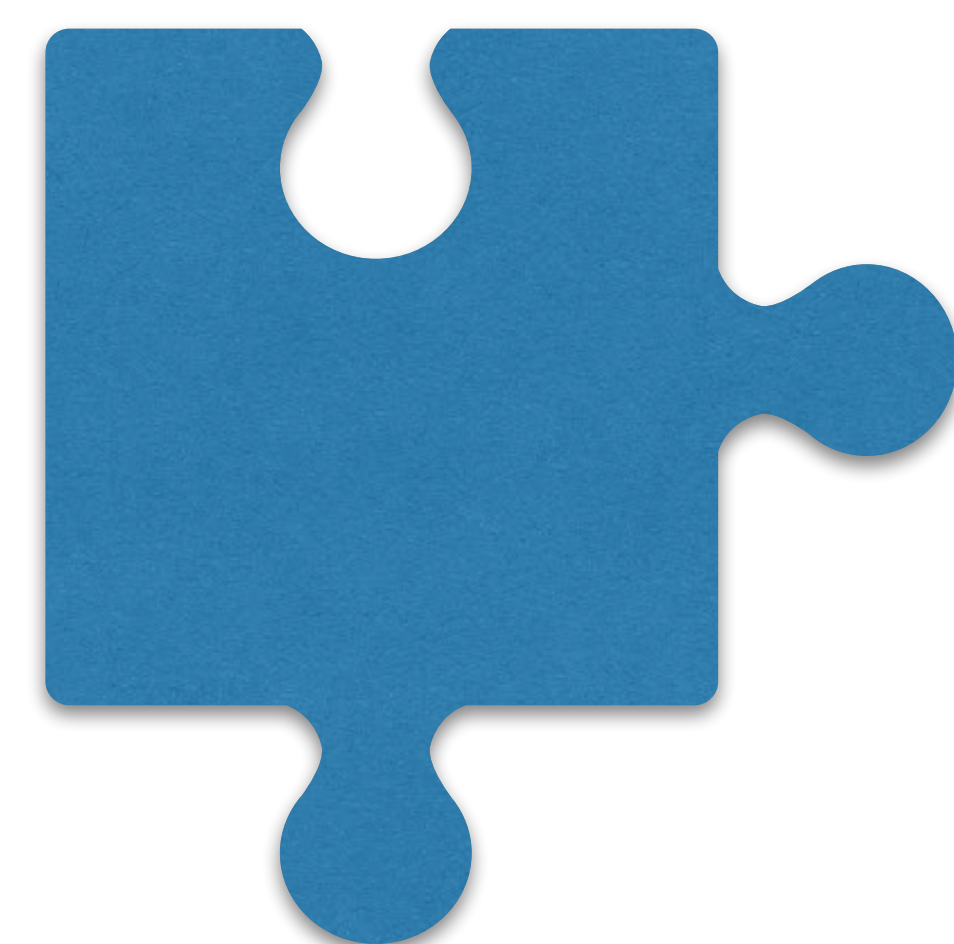
Attending online zoom hours is entirely optional. Any supplemental information that is discussed (anything not in the textbook/lectures) will not be testable. If you are unable to attend, check out the discussion boards or email me your questions instead.

Assignments & Evaluations

Assignments (4 x 6% each = 24%)

Throughout the semester, there are four assignments that are closely linked to the course content of that week. Instructions and expectations for each assignment will be discussed in video lectures and posted to Blackboard. Assignments will generally involve an engagement activity (e.g., finding a newspaper article, completing a lab activity), followed by a short, structured written submission.

Assignments must be uploaded to Blackboard by 11:59pm on the due-date. Late assignments will be deducted 20% per day.



Quizzes (4 x 4% each = 16%)

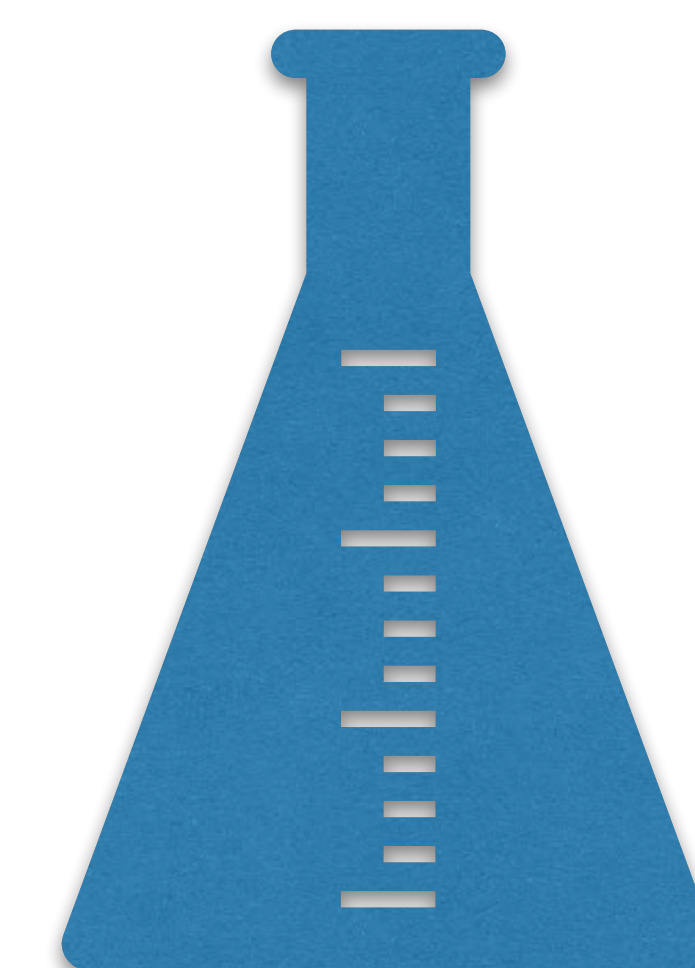
Online quizzes cover the most recent three weeks of material (non-cumulative). They are an opportunity to check your knowledge and make sure you keep up with the material! You have **three attempts** at each quiz, and your highest score counts towards your grade.

Each quiz must be completed before the due-date. Late quizzes are not accepted.

Research Participation (4%)

For this component, you must either (i) participate in three online research studies, or (ii) complete an alternate assignment about the research Code of Ethics. Additional instructions are on Blackboard (under “Course Resources/Info”).

Research participation (or the alternative) must be completed by April 10th.



Midterm Check-In (16%)

In Week 5, I will post a set of 10 open-ended questions that ask about course material covered in Weeks 1-6. Each student will schedule a 15-minute online meeting with me, held during Week 7. You can prepare ahead of time, and then during the meeting, we talk about 4 of the 10 questions. More information on the structure and expectations will be posted to Blackboard ahead of time.

You are *not* be graded on your style of speaking (e.g., grammar, persuasiveness), but only on your understanding of the topics that we discuss.

Final Exam (40%)

The online final exam will cover the concepts, theories, and methods discussed in lectures **and** the textbook. The exam may include multiple choice, short answer, and/or long answer questions. The final exam is cumulative (includes material from across the semester).



Course Policies

Missing or Late Assignments:

If an assignment is missing or late due to an illness or injury, please complete the Student Declaration of Absence form, available in “Course Info/Resources”.

Students are expected to make up any missed work within 3 days of returning to classes after illness, and within a week of bereavement leave. For any excused absences, please contact me with any questions and to arrange accommodations.

Unexcused late assignments will have 20% deducted per day. Neither quizzes nor research participation can be completed after the associated deadlines (for excused absences, marks will be reweighed to the final exam). Midterm check-ins may be rescheduled only due to excused absence.

Letter Grades:

A+	90-100	B+	77-79	C+	67-69	D	50-59
A	85-89	B	73-76	C	63-66	F	BELOW 50
A-	80-84	B-	70-72	C-	60-62	I	Temporary grade

Letter grades will follow the UFV Grading System. Note that a ‘D’ grade does not allow this course to be used as a prerequisite for further psychology courses.

Academic Integrity & Plagiarism Policy:

It is everyone’s responsibility to pay attention to academic integrity. Plagiarizing “by accident” or “not knowing that it is plagiarism” is NOT an excuse. One of the most common forms of plagiarism is when a student uses the *exact words* of someone else, does not put quotes around the words, and then ends the phrase with the author and year in parentheses. Unfortunately, even though this includes a citation, it is plagiarism.

When summarizing someone else’s ideas without direct quotes, you should read the text/source, study it a bit, and then **put it away**. Then, you can write about the ideas and what the article was about holistically, **in your own words**. Only then is it okay to cite the author and year without quotation marks. Substituting individual words (e.g., using a thesaurus to find synonyms) or re-ordering words in a sentence is not the same as re-writing the idea in your own words.

Make sure you are familiar with the plagiarism and academic integrity policies at UFV. The Plagiarism and Academic Integrity policy is available in the “Resources” section of MyClass.

Privacy and Social Media:

Please support and respect everyone’s full participation in this course. Do not share screenshots or recordings from this course (from either MyClass or Zoom sessions) to social media. Doing so may be considered an academic offence or may infringe copyrights. If you are unsure whether you can ‘share’ materials from this course with friends, classmates, or on social media, please ask the professor first.

University Resources

English Language Services

Services are open to all UFV students. Students will receive support from an English as an Additional Language (EAL) faculty member with reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills to help with any UFV course they are taking. ELS support sessions are private and confidential. The goal is to help you understand expectations for course activities and assignments and to improve your language, study, and cross-cultural skills to help you succeed through personalized, one-on-one support sessions with ELS Department faculty. Students are able to book online appointments.

For further info or to book an appointment: <https://ufv.ca/esl/online-help-centre/general-els-support/>

Centre for Accessibility Services

The Centre for Accessibility Services operates as the central contact point for students with disabilities at UFV. The office focuses on providing accommodations and services to help meet academic demands, while promoting student responsibility and self-advocacy. Students who have been diagnosed with a mental, physical, sensory, or neurological impairment, or learning disorder (either temporary or permanent) that restricts their ability to perform classroom activities should reach out to CAS. Any accommodations for disabilities or learning disorders must be arranged through the Centre for Accessibility Services.

For more information or to register for support, contact: <https://www.ufv.ca/accessibility/>

Academic Success Centre

The Academic Success Centre (ASC) offers FREE student-focused tutoring, workshops, online resources and support programs to develop students' academic skills and knowledge. Peer tutors work with students on personal learning strategies and approaches, and provide writing and subject-area support under the supervision of the Learning Strategist and the Coordinator of the Academic Success Centre.

<https://www.ufv.ca/asc/>

Priority Access to Student Support (PASS)

The UFV Priority Access to Student Supports (PASS) program connects students to the supports and resources that may help them to increase their chance of success. Such assistance may include putting students in touch with an academic advisor, financial aid, a counsellor or another resource. If your instructor is concerned about your progress, he/she may refer you to PASS. The referral is treated confidentially and is sent because your instructor cares about your progress and success in this course. Your response to PASS is entirely voluntary. If you do not wish your instructor to make a referral to PASS on your behalf, please let them know by email. Visit ufv.ca/studentservices/PASS for more information.

** Note that all course instructors are *required* to refer students to PASS who indicate that they have or might have COVID-19.

10 Ways to Succeed: Student Responsibilities

1. **Do the work.** Watch all of the lecture content (in the Learning Modules) and *take notes!* Read the textbook chapters and *take notes!* Taking notes by hand (in your own words) will make sure that you understand the ideas and will improve your memory for the concepts.
2. **Stay on track.** Make a habit of keeping up with course content every week. Write down all assignment and quiz due-dates (from this syllabus) in a calendar.
3. **Check the announcements page regularly.** The “Announcements” page in MyClass will often have important announcements and updates. It is your responsibility to check the website and keep up with course instructions and notices. Make sure your notifications are set so that you know when something new is posted to the course.
4. **Start assignments early.** Aim to submit all of the assignments and quizzes by the Friday BEFORE they are due, instead of waiting until Monday. Make sure to at least open and start the assignments early - I might not be able to answer your question instantly, so definitely do not wait until the day an assignment is due to start it!
5. **Spend the time.** The UFV calendar recommends that students spend between 6-9 hours per week, on average, working on a standard 3 credit course. Your time should be spent on reading and taking notes on the lecture and text chapter; completing assignments; and studying for tests.
6. **Ask questions.** Write down questions that you have while watching the lectures and reading the textbook. If your question was not answered, ask your question on that week’s Discussion Board (MyClass) or during a synchronous Zoom Hours.
7. **Ask for help early.** If you are struggling, please reach out for help! You can email me (zoe.francis@ufv.ca) or email one of the many Centres listed on the previous page (English Language Services, Academic Success Centre). Try to ask for help earlier rather than later; it is easier to find solutions to problems proactively than reactively, and it’s more difficult to help someone who has fallen far behind.
8. **Plan for technological difficulties.** Do not wait until the last minute to submit assignments or take a quiz. Do not wait until the last minute to email me a question or ask for help. Having access to internet/wifi is your responsibility, and “not having wifi” is *not* an acceptable excuse. Plan ahead, and create a backup plan for accessing the internet! (E.g., do you have a neighbour, library, or coffee shop with wifi nearby?)
9. **Understand and follow the Academic Integrity policy.** Do not share work or answers with other students. Never copy-and-paste *anything* that you submit for grades (not from the lecture slides, not from other students, not from your own past work, not from the internet, not from the textbook). Plagiarism is a very easy way to lose marks, but is entirely avoidable.
10. **Take care of yourself!** Lastly, but most important, is to take care of yourself this semester! Try to find balance between your course obligations and the rest of your life. Remember to sleep! Remember to eat! Remember to relax, take breaks, and do things that you enjoy. Do the best you can, but be kind to yourself. University is a journey, not a sprint!

