

**SYLLABUS
PSYCHOLOGY 312 (010)
LEARNING & MOTIVATION
Spring 2018**

COURSE INSTRUCTOR: Mark E. Stanton, Ph.D.
Office: Wolf Hall, Room 132A
Phone: 831-0175
Email: stanton@udel.edu
Office hours: Wednesdays 11:05-12:05pm

TEACHING ASSISTANT Rachel Clein
Office: Wolf 437
Phone: 443-617-8830
Email: rclein@psych.udel.edu
Office hours: By appointment

PREREQUISITES:

You must have successfully completed Psyc100 (General Psychology), Psyc207 (Research Methods) and Psyc209 (Measurement and Statistics), or equivalent, in order to enroll in this course.

TEXTBOOK: Michael Domjan, *The Principles of Learning and Behavior*, 7th Edition, 2015, Wadsworth.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

This course covers learning and motivation as an empirical, theoretical, and applied science in psychology and neuroscience. To earn credit for the course, you must master the material in the textbook and complete in-class assignments. To excel in the course, you must complete a seminar that deals with select topics in greater depth. In-class assignments are offered to the entire class. Seminar enrollment is limited to three seminars of 8 students each (see calendar). Enrollment is first-come-first-served based on class rank and a cumulative grade of at least 80% (determined by exam performance and in-class assignments). Students can take only one seminar (except if a second seminar has open seats). There are no class sessions on days when seminars are being held. More information about seminar enrollment, course structure and requirements appears below.

LEARNING GOALS:

The learning goals are to make students knowledgeable of the phenomena and theories in the field, to acquire fluency in the “language” and analytical thinking used by professionals in this field, and to develop skills in written and oral communication.

TIMES AND PLACES:

Events in the course (see Course Calendar below) will take place at the following times and places. *Exceptions may be announced in class, via e-mail, and on the [course website](#).*

<u>Event</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Times</u>	<u>Location</u>
Class sessions	MWF	10:10-11:00am	Gore 117
Seminars	MWF	10:10-11:00am	TBA (or Gore 117)
Chapter Tests	WR	10:00am-8:00pm	850 Library Avenue (after 9/14/18)
	F	10:00am-5:00pm	850 Library Avenue (after 9/14/18)
	WF	11:30am-3:30pm	850 Library Avenue (9/5 & 9/7/18 only)
	R	10:00am-2:00pm	850 Library Avenue (9/6/18 only)
	R	2:00pm-8:00pm	850 Library Avenue (9/13/18 only)
	F	12:00pm-5:00pm	850 Library Avenue (9/14/18 only)

E-MAIL, WEB-BASED, AND CLICKER COMMUNICATION:

In order to take this course, you must have a registered clicker for class sessions and at least 1 group member must bring a laptop computer to class. You must also be able to send/receive emails to the course instructor or teaching assistant. You also must have a UD username and password and have access to a web browser for online access to Sakai. The instructor expects you to receive course announcements that are sent via e-mail or Sakai and grades and feedback on your assignments are posted confidentially on Sakai, or with your permission, sent via e-mail. *In-class and seminar assignments must be submitted electronically on Sakai.* Any problems in meeting course requirements due to malfunction of your computer equipment, software, etc. are your responsibility.

COURSE SCHEDULE:

DATE	DAY	LECTURE TOPIC	PREPARATION	IN-CLASS ASSIGNMENT
8/29/2018	W	Orientation		
8/31/2018	F	History, Animal models, Define & Study Learning	Chapter 1 pp. 1-14	p. 26, Questions 1-3
9/3/2018	M	No Class, Labor Day Holiday		
9/5/2018	W	History, Animal models, Define & Study Learning	Chapter 1 pp. 14-26	p. 26, Questions 4-6
9/7/2018	F	Lecture Chp 1 Test Closes (Testing RF)		
9/10/2018	M	Habituation & Sensitization	Chapter 2 pp. 29-47	p. 56, Questions 3-5
9/11/2018	T	(Drop/Add Deadline)		
9/12/2018	W	Habituation & Sensitization	Chapter 2 pp. 47-56	p. 56, Questions 6-7
9/14/2018	F	Lecture Chp 2 Test Closes (Testing WRF)		
9/17/2018	M	Experimental Preparations	Chapter 3 pp. 59-73	p. 85, Questions 1-3
9/19/2018	W	Excitatory and Inhibitory Learning	Chapter 3 pp. 73-85	p. 85, Questions 4-6
9/21/2018	F	Lecture Chp 3 Test Closes (Testing WRF)		
9/24/2018	M	Classical Conditioning Mechanisms	Chapter 4 pp. 87-103	p. 119, Questions 1-3
9/26/2018	W	Classical Conditioning Mechanisms	Chapter 4 pp. 103-119	p. 119, Questions 4-6
9/28/2018	F	Lecture Chp 4 Test Closes (Testing WRF)		
10/1/2018	M	Instrumental Conditioning Preparations	Chapter 5 pp. 121-133	p. 152, Question 1-2
10/3/2018	W	Instrumental Conditioning Fundamentals	Chapter 5 pp. 134-152	p. 152, Question 4,5 & 7
10/5/2018	F	Lecture Chp 5 Test Closes (Testing WRF)		
10/8/2018	M	No Class, Seminar 1 (select participants only)		Seminar 1: Associative learning theories
10/10/2018	W	No Class, Seminar 1 (select participants)		Seminar 1: Associative learning theories
10/12/2018	F	No Class, Seminar 1 (select participants only)		Seminar 1: Associative learning theories
10/15/2018	M	Instrumental Conditioning: Associations	Chapter 7 pp. 185-196	p. 209, Questions 1-3
10/17/2018	W	Instrumental Conditioning: Behavioral Regulation	Chapter 7 pp. 196-209	p. 209, Questions 5-6
10/19/2018	F	Lecture Chp 7 Test Closes (Testing WRF)		
10/22/2018	M	Stimulus Control: Measurement & Performance	Chapter 8 pp. 211-227	p. 243, Questions 1-3
10/23/2018	T	Last day to withdraw without academic penalty		
10/24/2018	W	Stimulus Control: Learning & Contextual Factors	Chapter 8 pp. 227-243	p. 243, Questions 5-7
10/26/2018	F	Lecture Chp 8 Test Closes (Testing WRF)		
10/29/2018	M	Extinction: Procedures, Recovery	Chapter 9 pp. 245-255	p. 271, Questions 1,2,4
10/31/2018	W	Extinction: Enhancement, What is learned.	Chapter 9 pp. 255-271	p. 271, Questions 5-7
11/2/2018	F	Lecture Chp 9 Test Closes (Testing WRF)		
11/5/2018	M	No Class, Seminar 2 (select participants only)		Seminar 2: Stimulus control / topic TBA
11/7/2018	W	No Class, Seminar 2 (select participants only)		Seminar 2: Stimulus control / topic TBA
11/9/2018	F	No Class, Seminar 2 (select participants only)		Seminar 2: Stimulus control / topic TBA
11/12/2018	M	Avoidance	Chapter10 pp. 273-289	p. 304, Questions 1-3
11/14/2018	W	Punishment	Chapter10 pp. 289-304	p. 304, Questions 5-7
11/16/2018	F	Lecture Chp 10 Test Closes (Testing WRF)		
11/19/2018	M	***No Class Thanksgiving Break***		
11/21/2018	W	***No Class Thanksgiving Break***		
11/23/2018	F	***No Class Thanksgiving Break***		
11/26/2018	M	Cognition: Memory paradigms and mechanisms	Chapter11 pp. 307-323	p. 341, Questions 1-3
11/28/2018	W	Cognition: Forgetting	Chapter11 pp. 323-341	p. 341, Questions 5-7
11/30/2018	F	Lecture Chp 11 Test Closes (Testing WRF)		
12/3/2018	M	No Class, Seminar 3 (select participants only)		Seminar 3: Extinction
12/5/2018	W	No Class, Seminar 3 (select participants only)		Seminar 3: Extinction
12/7/2018	F	No Class, Seminar 3 (select participants only)		Seminar 3: Extinction
12/7/2018	F	CLASSES END, NO CLASS FINAL		

COURSE COMPONENTS: Your grade will be determined from three components of the course. Each component provides an opportunity to earn points toward your final grade.

CLASS PARTICIPATION (Up to 20 points toward your final grade)

The instructor administers daily quizzes, monitors/assists with group exercises, and delivers lectures. Each chapter unit is covered in three class sessions (MWF). Two class sessions (MW), will begin with five multiple-choice questions (answered via clicker, 5 min). This will be followed by group exercises (~40 min) and an opportunity to answer the same five multiple-choice questions (via clicker, 5 min). Group exercises closely follow the assigned readings in the textbook. Students who have not studied the textbook before coming to class will find it difficult to answer clicker questions and participate in group exercises concerning the assigned material. Group exercises will be completed by 6-8 students who will consider discussion questions and post collective answers on Sakai at the end of the discussion period. Each group must have one member who can do this via a laptop PC that they bring to class. A weighted average of your performance on clicker questions will be computed---first time, 30%; last time 70%---and your performance on group exercises will be combined (50% questions, 50% group exercises) to determine a percentage class participation score for that class day. This will be multiplied by 2/3 point/day/chapter unit. A third class session (F) will be devoted to lectures that summarize that week's chapter unit. The lecture will include clicker questions that will be used to compute class participation scores for that day, which are also worth 2/3 point. You may skip this lecture with full credit if you pass the relevant chapter test prior to the lecture (see Early Passing Bonus, below). In this way you can earn 2 points per chapter unit up to a maximum of 20 points (across the 10 chapter units) toward your final grade.

TEN EXAMS (Required, up to 80 points toward your final grade)

There will be 10 unit exams worth 8 points each (see schedule above). The unit exams will be in multiple choice format and are based on the text, including the list of terms and study questions, for each assigned chapter of the Domjan textbook. These unit exams will NOT be cumulative (to the extent possible). Each will focus on the material covered since the last exam (see schedule above).

The opportunity to take chapter tests is offered Wednesday through Friday for a total of 27 hours each week (except September 5th-14th, see "Times and Places" above). You are the one who determines your test schedule. Just go to the University testing center at [850 Library Avenue](#), second floor and take the test "on demand" during these times (for details, see "Computerized Testing Facility" below). You can drive, walk or take a [campus shuttle](#) to this location. Tests typically take 15-25 minutes to complete but you can take up to 2 hours if time is available. Testing ends promptly at the designated closing time each day (the computer system that administers the tests automatically shuts off). So, be sure to give yourself enough time to finish your test. You will know your test result within a few minutes of completing it. You must take all chapter tests in numerical sequence (i.e., you must finish the Chapter 1 test before the Chapter 2 test is released to you, etc.). Each chapter test has three different versions (e.g., Test 1a, 1b, and 1c). Each version covers the same material and is of similar difficulty. Your best score among the tests you take is used in grade computations (regardless of whether it's your first or last try). Once you score 80% or higher on a given version, you may either take another version to improve your score or you can progress to the next chapter test. Based on the way grades are determined (see [Grade Determination](#), below), there is little or nothing to gain by retaking chapter tests after you have scored 90% or higher. The next chapter test will become available automatically after all three versions of the preceding test have been taken or after the preceding test closes. If you wish to progress to the next chapter test after taking 1 or 2 versions of the preceding test, you must request this via email to rlein@psych.udel.edu by 9:00pm on the day before you take the next test. The email must list "Psyc312 Test Request" in the subject line (otherwise you may not have access to the exam). You can take up to two tests on any given day. These can be different versions of the same chapter test or different chapter tests, depending on your progress through the test sequence. You must wait until the next scheduled test day to take the next two tests that are available to you. Since chapter tests close on Fridays (see Course Calendar, above), you must take your first test on or before the preceding Thursday in order to have 3 tries on a given test. Chapter tests must be taken by the date that they close (see course schedule). Whatever your best test score is as of the closing date for a given test is final (including a score of zero for failing to take a test).

Early passing bonus. Because you can take tests at your own pace, there is an opportunity to take tests before the material is covered in class. Incentives are offered to encourage you to be proactive in your studying and test taking because this improves learning. Passing a chapter test (ie., scoring 80% or higher) by Friday before the material is covered in class (the following MWF) earns 1 point of extra credit toward your class participation grade (10 points for 10 tests). This test score ($\geq 80\%$) will also replace your in-class clicker-quiz scores on those class days if that improves your participation grade. If you pass a chapter test by Thursday of the week that the chapter is covered in class, you may skip the Friday lecture covering that chapter and still receive full credit for class participation on that day. Obtaining these benefits by passing a test (scoring at least 80%) does not prevent you from subsequently taking more versions of the test to get a higher "best score," if you choose.

SEMINARS (Required for students seeking an "A", up to 10 "extra credit" points toward final grade).

Three seminars covering different topics are offered to selected students (see Course Calendar above). Seminar enrollment is limited to 8 students each and are conducted by Dr. Stanton. Seminar participants will read theoretical and empirical articles (~30-50 pp total), prepare a 10-15 minute seminar presentation, discuss the readings and presentations of other participants in a conventional "seminar format," and submit a written summary of their presentation to the seminar instructor (Dr. Stanton). Details concerning content and assignments for each seminar will be posted on the course website at least 1 week prior to the start of that seminar. Participation in a seminar itself is worth 10 points. If a seminar is under-enrolled (< 8 students), extra credit can be obtained by taking extra assignments.

How to enroll in a seminar. Seminars are available automatically to students with a cumulative class grade of 80% or higher. Otherwise, they are filled first-come-first-serve based on class rank (accumulated points in the course, highest to lowest) after Exam 4 (Seminar 1), Exam 7 (Seminars 2), and Exam 10 (Seminar 3). Email invitations will be sent to students to enroll in priority order until 8 students are enrolled. Declining a seminar invitation keeps you in line for subsequent seminars, based on class rank at that point in the semester. An individual student can only take 1 seminar (unless unclaimed seminar seats are available).

COMPUTERIZED TESTING FACILITY (850 Library Avenue)

Chapter tests are administered in a secure testing facility located at 850 Library Avenue. This is the same University of Delaware test center where testing for online courses is conducted. To take tests, you must register with the online test center in response to an email from continuing-ed@udel.edu (full details including a u-tube video can be found at this [website](#)). After you create an account with the test center, you will receive another email from sender "udonline-exams@udel.edu" asking you to schedule an online exam. When you show up for an exam, you must present your UD student picture-ID to the exam proctor and abide by other policies that are conventional for secure test facilities in order to take chapter tests. Lockers are available for your personal items (coats, backpacks, laptops, cell phones, notebooks, etc.) because they are not permitted at the test stations. The proctors perform video surveillance both of you and your computer screen while you take the exam. If the exam proctors suspect that you are cheating during a chapter test, your test will be terminated and you will not be allowed to resume testing until the case is settled by the Office of Student Conduct (see Cheating, below). The testing facility consists of 50 computer stations that permit testing of 50 students at a time. *A time limit of 2 hours will be in effect for students who are taking a particular exam.* If you take more than one version of a chapter test during the same visit to the test center, you may leave the test center to study your notes and the textbook before returning to take another version. If you don't study before taking subsequent versions of a chapter test, your score on the test is unlikely to improve (and may even get worse).

STUDY AIDS

To help you prepare for chapter tests, sample quizzes for each chapter are posted on Sakai, to serve as a "practice test" before you take the real test in the testing facility. You may also use the class periods to ask or answer questions about the assigned material during group exercises of lectures (see Class Participation above). The textbook also offers a number of study aids. For example, it is helpful to memorize the key words and definitions at the end of each chapter. Many students benefit from finding a study partner (or group) to help prepare for tests. And it often helps to read the text book assignment twice---study it carefully once and read it quickly once (in whichever order suits you best).

GRADING DETERMINATION

Your grade will be determined from performance on chapter tests, class participation, and seminars, subject to some additional conditions as follows:

To receive a passing grade in the course you must...

- **Score 80% or higher on the first chapter test by Friday, September 7th, 2018.**
- Complete all 10 chapter tests.

If either condition is not met you will receive a grade of "F" (regardless of any points you may have otherwise earned during the semester). If you fail to pass the first chapter test by Friday, September 7th, you still have the option of enrolling in a different course by the drop/add deadline of Tuesday, September 11th.

To receive an A- or better, you must enroll in a seminar. *Note that seminar participation is a necessary but not sufficient condition for receiving this grade.* The same is true of accumulated points. They are necessary but not sufficient for earning a grade of A- or higher. Subject to these conditions, grades are determined by your accumulated points and the distributions below. You will receive a percentage grade for your performance on the different course components which will be multiplied by the points for that component. For example, the first exam is worth 8 points and scoring 100% earns 8 points, scoring 60% earns 4.8 points, etc. The total number of points you accumulate during the semester will be **rounded up** to the nearest integer value. This rounded number will determine your final grade as follows:

ONE SEMINAR		NO SEMINAR	
Grade	Points	Grade	Points
A	93-119	---	---
A-	90-92	---	---
B+	88-89	B+	88-119
B	83-87	B	83-87
B-	80-82	B-	80-82
C+	76-79	C+	76-79
C	70-75	C	70-75
C-	66-69	C-	66-69
D	60-65	D	60-65
F	<60	F	<60

CHEATING

We follow University of Delaware policy and guidelines concerning academic dishonesty and cheating (see (<http://www1.udel.edu/studentconduct/policyref.html>)). Cheating can result in penalties ranging from failing the exam or assignment, to failing the course, to being expelled from the University.

POLICY CONCERNING CLASS ATTENDANCE, LATE OR MISSING ASSIGNMENTS, ETC.

University policy regarding [excused absences](#) is followed. Advance requests are seldom a problem. Requests after the fact usually are.

Seminar Participation. If you are late for, or miss, a seminar session or assignment because of extenuating circumstances, you lose the point credit associated with that specific session or assignment. You do *not* lose points for the entire seminar or assignment.

Catastrophic Personal Events. If you believe that a catastrophic personal event is compromising your ability to meet requirements and/or make progress in the course, you may contact the appropriate university official in the Dean of Students Office (<http://www1.udel.edu/studentlife/deanofstudents>) and I will be happy to consider your case with them, in accordance with university policy.

Office of Academic Enrichment (OAE). The University of Delaware offers programs to improve academic skills and study strategies of any student who requests them (see <http://ae.udel.edu/>). If you feel that you could benefit from one of these programs, please don't hesitate to contact the OAE.

ENJOY THE COURSE!