

THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG
WINNIPEG MANITOBA
Department of Psychology

**PSYC-2610 – Section 001 & 002 – Fall 2021 – Hybrid Online
Perception I - An Introduction to Sensation and Perception**

Calendar description

At the border between the physical world and the mind lie the senses. Exactly how the senses manage to gather information about the world is a difficult question that has long engaged physicists, physiologists, anatomists, psychologists, engineers, and computer scientists. This course surveys the results and theories of this interdisciplinary field. The course is valuable preparation for those interested in such areas as audiology, optometry, human factors engineering, medicine, and psychology.

Prerequisite: PSYC-1000 - Introductory Psychology

Course Information

Dr. P. M. Pearson

Student Hours: Zoom office hours: We will be meeting on Tuesdays during class time on Zoom and there will be ample time for questions during the assigned class time. In addition, individual assistance is always available via appointment. Please e-mail me to arrange a mutually convenient time for us to meet over Zoom to chat.

Time & Location of Lectures: Hybrid Online (Nexus, Launchpad, iClicker & Zoom). **High speed internet and access to an electronic device with a webcam (e.g. smart phone, laptop) is mandatory.** You should attend your regularly scheduled class section unless you have permission from me to attend at another time. (Section 001 – 2:30 – 3:45; Section 002 – 4:00-5:15).

Contact Information: p.pearson@uwinnipeg.ca (I do my best to respond to e-mails within a few hours. To assist me with this, please **avoid using the e-mail in Nexus** as it will delay my response. Students are welcome to use an e-mail address of their choosing, but please reference the course name in your subject line. Also, I recommend that you forward Nexus e-mail to your personal e-mail address to ensure that you get my messages in a timely manner. If I do not respond within 24 hours, you should attempt to contact me again using another e-mail address.) Phone: 204-786-9853 (Note that this is forwarded to my personal home phone, so please be conscious of this and avoid calling outside work hours.)

Textbook

Yantis, S. (2014) *Sensation and Perception*. 2nd Edition, Worth Publishers. ISBN – 9781319232696

You will also need a code to access the **Launchpad** modules (**10% of grade**) and the **iClicker** application (**20% of grade**). The code and application are included with the book or can be purchased separately from the publisher (see Nexus). Launchpad does NOT include an e-book for this text, unfortunately.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, the successful student in this course will be able:

- 1) to explain how to measure sensory thresholds using the classical psychophysical methods and be able to explain the advantages and disadvantages of each of the methods
- 2) to describe the physical aspects of the stimuli for vision, hearing, & touch and the perceptual qualities which correspond to each physical attribute
- 3) to explain how human observers perceive patterns of light, sound, & touch based upon what is understood about the physiology of the human sensory systems
- 4) to describe the impairment associated with diseases that affect sensory systems

Evaluation

All students are required to log onto Zoom for proctoring and tests will be delivered via Nexus (2 devices with internet access strongly recommended). Tests will be multiple choice. Consistent with best practice recommendations, questions will be delivered **in random order, with the number of questions permitting approximately 1.5 minute/question for timely completion of the test, and students will not be able to go backwards to review or complete questions that they may have missed.** There will be 4 tests. The 2nd test will cover topics covered in class since the 1st test, the 3rd material since the 2nd test, and the 4th material since the 3rd test. Students may be asked to provide identification at tests. Calculators, dictionaries, class notes and outside materials are not permitted in tests.

The weighting of these tests in determining your final mark will be as follows:

- First test 13%
- Second test 19%
- Third test 19%
- Fourth test 19%
- Launchpad assignments 10%
- iClicker quizzes 20%
- Quiz on Course Outline & Academic Integrity (Bonus – 2%: Due **Sept 27** midnight)

How Can I Best Succeed In This Course?

This class is being offered online which means that we are all being asked to rely very heavily upon technology. This means that we all are going to have to be more flexible than before. I like to be very organized well before teaching starts and know exactly how things are going to proceed. Know that the reliance on technology will mean that sometimes things will go wrong. Sometimes that will mean that my technology will mess up my plan. Please be patient and supportive when this occurs, and I will do my best to extend you the same respect. That being said, the more prepared we all are the less often these glitches will interfere with our class. If you are someone who is knowledgeable about a fix to a problem a colleague (that term includes me!) is having, please help us out. Know that the inability to answer a single iClicker question will not significantly impact your grade in the course. However, if you are having an ongoing problem that prevents you from fully participating in the class on a regular basis, please let me know so I can put you in touch with someone who can get the problem resolved before it has a significant impact on your grade.

This online format also demands that students be more fully prepared in terms of course content and be more active learners. I admit that while watching a number of those videos in the “how to teach online course”, I found myself checking my phone, or navigating to Firefox to check out the latest COVID numbers. Heck, I even went to my background picture and completed the occasional workout while the Zoom meetings dragged on. I want to try to help you avoid this temptation. When I created videos, I tried to keep them focused and brief. In addition, I included links to additional video content to supplement the course and provide practical demonstrations of techniques or current findings relevant to the topics discussed in the text. These materials are posted on Nexus well in advance of each class so you can watch them at your leisure.

Please read the assigned chapters in the text and complete the appropriate Launchpad activities before we are to discuss them in class. There will be some overlap between the text and the lectures, but the approach and a substantial amount of material will be unique to each. Your success (i.e., ability to understand the material and engage with the class at class time) will be increased if you have read the text and completed the associated Launchpad activity before class. Being prepared in terms of technology means ensuring that you have the required software running before class begins. You should have iClicker running on whichever device you are going to use to respond to questions during class time. Similarly, you should know the location of the link and password for the Zoom meeting for classes, tests and any individual meetings we schedule. Please ensure you join the Zoom meeting **at least 5 minutes before class begins** so that I can admit students from the waiting room before tests become available in Nexus. Ensure that your name shown in Zoom is the name that WebAdvisor has on record for you. These best practices will hopefully aid things to proceed smoothly.

So, then what are we going to do in class? **Approximately weekly (see class schedule for dates)** we will meet to discuss any questions that you may have about the material for the week. In addition, I have prepared quizzes on iClicker that aim to provide you with a better indication of what I think is most important in each chapter, allow you to practice with some of the concepts, and may generate more discussion/questions. You should not consult with colleagues, the text, class notes, or outside sources when completing the quizzes or the tests. These questions will be available to you in iClicker (with the correct responses indicated) after each meeting and they will comprise approximately 15-20% of the questions on the tests. The **lowest grade on iClicker will be dropped from the grade calculation.**

Academic Integrity & Academic Misconduct

One of the best ways to be successful in this class is to engage actively in learning of the material and practice the application of that knowledge frequently. Through reading the text, watching video resources, completing the Launchpad assignments and iClicker quizzes, you will have many opportunities to engage with the material in this course. Tests and iClicker questions are meant to evaluate your individual understanding of the concepts in the course. Therefore, I expect you to complete these individually and not communicate with other students, your text or outside sources regarding these elements of the course. **At the beginning of each test you will be reminded of these policies and you will be asked to complete an academic integrity declaration at the completion of the test. Failure to complete the declaration will result in a zero on the test.** If I find evidence that students have collaborated or consulted outside sources during tests or quizzes, I will forward that evidence to the Departmental Review Committee for investigation of academic misconduct. Please read the section on Academic Misconduct in Section 8 of the General Calendar (<http://uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/regulationsandpolicies.pdf>) and watch the tutorial (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UvFdxRU9a8g>). If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing (or about to do, or a colleague or friend is asking you to do) is inappropriate, please stop whatever activity you are involved in and e-mail me for further direction. Please note that the Zoom Proctoring Policies (see next section) will apply during tests.

Notice Regarding Zoom Proctoring

Tests/exams and quizzes are proctored through a live Zoom meeting **and may also be recorded for later review**. Proctors will be monitoring for any evidence of academic dishonesty. Each proctor will monitor a small group of students simultaneously. Students must sit and face an engaged camera to enable monitoring. Microphones should be muted.

As part of this monitoring, please note:

- Each student’s name and everything within their camera’s view, including their face, body and background, will be visible to the proctor and to the other students within the group.
- If a student uses the chat feature, anything written will be visible to all meeting participants.
- If a student chooses to un-mute their microphone, anything said will be heard by all meeting participants.

Zoom has been configured to disable students from recording the test/exam. After being reviewed for academic dishonesty, any recordings made by proctors will be deleted if no such evidence is found.

Information regarding Zoom's data collection, including a link to its privacy policy, can be found at <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/privacy/zoom-privacy-notice.html>. Your personal information is collected under the University of Winnipeg Act and 36(1)(b) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. For information regarding privacy at UWinnipeg, contact Dan Elves, Senior Information and Privacy Officer, at da.elves@uwinnipeg.ca or 204.988.7538.

Policy Regarding Missed Assignments/Illness

Unfortunately, illnesses, death in the family, or other traumatic events are part of life. We have all had times that we have not been in the best state (or simply unable) to meet the expectations that are set down for us. Students are entitled to an extension of deadlines for legitimate medical or compassionate reasons (illness, physical disability, domestic affliction, or religious holidays). If you find yourself in this situation, please speak with me at the earliest opportunity to explore whether an extension of deadlines is a recommended route. I generally only consider such extensions when I am consulted before the deadline and when the weighting of the item is greater than 2% of the overall course grade. In the event of a sudden emergency, please contact me as soon as possible.

In the event that ongoing events result in you missing more than 3 assignments or quizzes, you may have overextended yourself in light of those events and should seriously consider dropping the class. If such occurs or you have a medical issue that is interfering with your ongoing success at university, I recommend that you speak a counselor at Student Services to discuss possible arrangements. In general, retroactive requests for grade revisions on medical or compassionate grounds will not be considered.

Procedures for Appealing Academic Evaluations

If in the course of our studies, you have reason to appeal a grade on an item of work or the overall grade in the course, please speak with me about your concern within seven days of receiving your grade. If you are not satisfied with my decision, you may wish to consider making a written appeal to the Chair of the Departmental Review Committee. Please consult the Academic Regulations and Policies Section of the General Calendar for information about appeals.

<http://uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/regulationsandpolicies.pdf> A guide to appeals is available from Student Services and the UWSA Office.

Copyright and Intellectual Property:

Course materials are the property of the instructor who developed them. Examples of such materials are course outlines, assignment descriptions, lecture notes, test questions, and presentation slides—irrespective of format. Students who upload these materials to file sharing sites, or in any other way share these materials with others outside the class without prior permission of the instructor/presenter, are in violation of copyright law and University policy. Students must also seek prior permission of the instructor/presenter before, for example, photographing, recording, or taking screenshots of slides, presentations, lectures, and notes on the board. **Please note that uploading course materials to sharing sites such as Course Hero or Chegg is considered to be a serious violation of academic integrity and intellectual property rights.** Students found to be in violation of an instructor's intellectual property rights could face serious consequences pursuant to the *Academic Misconduct* or *Non-Academic Misconduct Policy* (<http://uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/regulationsandpolicies.pdf>); such consequences could possibly involve legal sanction under the *Copyright Policy* https://copyright.uwinnipeg.ca/docs/copyright_policy_2017.pdf

Services for Students with Disabilities

Students with documented disabilities, temporary or chronic medical conditions, requiring academic accommodations for tests/exams (e.g., private space) or during lectures/laboratories (e.g., note-takers) are encouraged to contact Accessibility Services (AS) at 786-9771 or accessibilityservices@uwinnipeg.ca to discuss appropriate options. All information about a student's disability or medical condition remains confidential <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/accessibility>.

Additional University Policies

Undergraduate students who plan to conduct minimal-risk research interviews, focus groups, surveys, or any other method of collecting data from any person, even a family member, must obtain the approval of the Departmental Ethics Committee before commencing data collection. (For greater-than-minimal-risk or Graduate student studies, approval of the UHREB is also required.) Exceptions are research activities in class as a learning exercise. See <http://uwinnipeg.ca/research/human-ethics.html> for submission requirements and deadlines."

All students, faculty and staff have the right to participate, learn and work in an environment that is free of harassment and discrimination. The UW Respectful Working and Learning Environment Policy may be found online at: www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect.

Students may choose not to attend classes or write examinations on holy days of their religion, but they must notify their instructors at

least two weeks in advance. Instructors will then provide opportunity for students to make-up work and/or examinations without penalty. A list of religious holidays can be found at: <http://uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/important-notes.pdf>.

Grade Distribution/Cutoffs

A+ at the instructor's discretion

A 85+

A- 80-84

B+ 75-79

B 70-74 C+ 65-69

C 60-64

D 50-59

F less than 50

These cutoffs are tentative and may be changed in either direction by i) the instructor, ii) the Departmental Review Committee, or iii) the Senate, when circumstances warrant.

Tentative Lecture Schedule

This schedule is given as a guideline of the topics to be covered. Topics may not be covered on the exact dates shown and some topics may not be covered at all. The first day of class is Sept 7, 2021. December 7 is a make-up day for November 11 and December 8 is a make-up day for September 30. Last class will be held on Dec 8, 2021. Evaluation period is Dec 9-22, 2021.

Class Dates:	Topic	Chapters
Tuesday, Sept 7	Introductions & Review of Course Outline	
Thursday, Sept 16	Methods	1
Thursday, Sept 23	Light & Eye	2
<i>University is closed Sept 30 – National Day of Truth and Reconciliation</i>		
	TEST (Tuesday, Sept 28)	1 & 2 (13%)
Tuesday, Oct 5	The Visual Brain	3
<i>Oct 10-16 – Reading Week – no classes</i>		
<i>University is closed Oct 11 for Thanksgiving</i>		
Tuesday, Oct 19	Object Recognition	4
Tuesday, Oct 26	Colour	5
	TEST (Thursday, Oct 28)	3, 4, & 5 (19%)
Tuesday, Nov 2	Depth	6
Tuesday, Nov 9	Motion	7
<i>University is closed Nov 11 – Remembrance Day</i>		
Tuesday, Nov 16	Perception for Action	8
Nov 16 - Deadline to Withdraw from this course without academic penalty		
<i>(Note: Withdrawing before this deadline does not result in a fee refund. See: https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/registration/docs/withdrawal-schedule-spring.pdf)</i>		
	TEST (Thursday, Nov 18)	6, 7 & 8 (19%)
Tuesday, Nov 23	The Auditory System	10
Tuesday, Nov 30	Basic Auditory Functions	11
Tuesday, Dec 7	Body Senses	13
	FINAL TEST (see exam schedule)	10, 11 & 13 (19%)

Launchpad Assignments

Launchpad assignments will be due weekly at 11 pm on the evening before we meet to discuss a chapter. The **lowest grade on a Launchpad assignment will be dropped from the grade calculation**. See the calendar in Launchpad for due dates. The coverage of materials is meant to correspond to when we are covering the topic in class. **In the event of a change, it will always be to a later date**, never an earlier one, so that you do not miss the opportunity to complete the assignment due to a change in scheduling. In the event a topic is not covered, the Launchpad assignment will not be counted in the grade calculation and the weighting will be distributed between the remaining assignments. Due dates are also shown in the calendar on Launchpad and e-mail reminders are sent by Launchpad (to the e-mail you register with) the day before due dates. I strongly encourage you to read the chapter and complete the accompanying Launchpad assignment(s) before attending the class. As each will be weighted less than 2%, there will be **no extensions granted for Launchpad assignments** except in especially extenuating circumstances. Assignments can be found at : <https://www.macmillanhighered.com/launchpadsolo/yantisabrams2e/17006391>

For more information about programs in Psychology, tutoring, visiting speakers, registration information, research opportunities, and employment, visit the Psychology website at <http://psychology.uwinnipeg.ca> , Facebook Page (Psychology Department@UWinnipeg), and Instagram page (psychologyatuwinnipeg)