

THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG
WINNIPEG MANITOBA
Department of Psychology

PSYC-2610 – Section 001 – Fall 2017-18
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

Instructor: Dr. P. M. Pearson

4L04B, 786-9853, E-Mail: p.pearson@uwinnipeg.ca

Office Hours: **Anytime** (Call or e-mail for an appointment, if you are short on time)

Time & Location of Lectures: Tues & Thurs – 10:00 - 11:15 in 2M73

Textbook

Yantis, S. (2014) *Sensation and Perception*. 2nd Edition, Worth Publishers. ISBN – 1319093884

You will also need a code to access the **Launchpad** modules (**completion worth 10% of grade**). The code is included with the book.

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

There will be three tests. The format of tests will be multiple choice and/or short answer. The second test will cover topics covered in class since the first test. The final test will be held during the final examination period and cover topics covered in class since the second test. Students may be asked to provide identification at tests. Calculators are not permitted in tests.

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

- First test 25%
- Second test 25%
- Final test 40%
- Launchpad assignments 10%

The notes for lectures will be made available on Nexus (<https://nexus.uwinnipeg.ca>), and you are encouraged to bring them to class. The notes contain the major topics to be discussed in class. However, they are meant to provide a learning tool that will assist you and to permit greater class involvement by providing basic notes. However, students should not interpret that the slides should be the only notes necessary to understand the concepts that will be covered in the class.

Policy Regarding Missed Tests/Illness

A grade of 0 will be given for any test that a student fails to write. Students are entitled to a rescheduling of exams or an extension of deadlines for legitimate medical or compassionate reasons (illness, physical disability, domestic affliction, or religious holidays). However, it is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor prior to the date of the examination, when possible, to arrange a timely makeup, and, if requested, to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. In the event of an emergency that the student could not inform the instructor of prior to the date of the examination, the student should contact the instructor as soon as possible. In the case of a final examination, the procedure is outlined in the Academic Regulations and Policies in section VII of the General Calendar. Students should familiarize themselves with these regulations and policies. Students should be aware the make-up tests may be of a different format than those administered in class.

If you feel that you have a medical or personal problem that is interfering with your work, you should contact your instructor and a counselor at Student Services as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence. In general, retroactive requests for grade revisions on medical or compassionate grounds will not be considered.

Policy on Cheating and Academic Misconduct

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism, cheating and other academic offenses. Students are encouraged to read the section on Academic Misconduct in the General Calendar. If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate, consult your instructor.

<http://uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/regulationsandpolicies.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.

Procedures for Appealing Academic Evaluations

In the first instance, all appeals of a grade must be made to the course instructor (informal consultation) within seven working days after notification of the grade. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, the student 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.

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

We ask that you please be respectful of the needs of classmates and instructors/professors by avoiding the use of unnecessary scented products while attending lectures. Exposure to scented products can trigger serious health reactions in persons with asthma, allergies, migraines or chemical sensitivities. Please consider using unscented necessary products and avoiding unnecessary products that are scented (e.g. perfume).

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>.

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, dependent upon the interests in the class, some topics may not be covered.

<u>Week of:</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Chapters</u>
Sept 4	Methods	1
Sept 18	Light & Eye	2
Sept 25	The Visual Brain	3
	TEST (Oct 3)	1, 2 & 3
Oct 2	Object Recognition	4
	<i>Oct 9-13 – Reading Week – no classes</i>	
Oct 16	Colour	5
Oct 23	Depth	6
	TEST (Oct 26)	4, 5 & 6
	<i>Nov 10 - Deadline to Withdraw from this course without academic penalty</i>	
Oct 30	Motion	7
Nov 6	Perception for Action	8
Nov 13	The Auditory System	9
Nov 20	Basic Auditory Functions	10
Nov 27	Body Senses	12
	FINAL TEST (Consult examination schedule)	7, 8, 9, 10, 12