

# Introduction to Psychology

HUL 261 (M Slot)

1 Semester [2022-2023](#)

Classroom for lecture: LH121 (Mon, Thu, 5pm-6:30pm)

Classroom for Tutorials: LH512 (Mon, Tues, Thu, Fri, 1pm-2pm)

## Course Instructors:

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## Teaching Assistants:

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## Course Description

This course would deliver an insightful introduction to various aspects of human behavior and mental processes. Students would engage in an interactive learning of the concepts, terminology, principles, history and relevance of the field of Psychology to their academic as well as day-to-day lives. Every component of the course would have an underpinning focus on rigorous scientific approach and empirical research evidence.

## Expectations and Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites as such, but it is expected that students will read the material before coming to the class and participate in class activities and discussions.

## **Academic Honesty**

You will be required to sign the pledge and abide by it. Any form of cheating in any examination or assignment will count against you. All students have the responsibility to abide by academic honesty him/herself and also report any student who they might know of indulging dishonest behavior.

## **Attendance:**

You are expected to attend all sessions. Attendance policy is as per institute norms.

## **Tutorials:**

Tutorials will be conducted on a weekly basis. Tutorials will also be used as doubt clearing/help sessions. The students will be divided into groups and a TA will be assigned to each group.

## **Reading Material**

- Online and PDF version of the textbook is available here: <http://noba.to/6pgmy2rc>

The direct links to each topic is also added in the content below.

- Professor's notes, powerpoints and prescribed readings

## **Audit/Pass criteria (out of 100)**

The pass criterion for the course (i.e., to get D grade) one needs to score  $\geq 40$ .

The audit pass criterion for the course is D.

## **Evaluation:**

Exam I - 20 marks

Exam II - 30 marks

Research participation - 20 marks

Class participation - 5 marks

Surprise and declared Quizzes - 25 marks

## **Final Grading:**

Grading will be relative to the performance of the cohort but will not force fit any distribution.

### Re-minors:

Only in exceptional circumstances and with prior permission. A medical certificate is required in case you miss the exam for medical reasons.

## Course Content

<u>Week</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>No. of Hours</u>
1 Aug – 7 Aug	<b>Week 1. Introduction: Psychology as a Science - 1</b> 1. What should you expect to learn in this course? Course Overview and Approach (S & Y)	1.5
8 Aug – 14 Aug	<b>Week 2. Introduction: Psychology as a Science - 2</b> 1. <a href="#">Thinking like a scientist to understand the mind; Addressing the real world using basic and applied research</a> (S)	1.5
15 Aug – 21 Aug	<b>Week 3. Introduction: History and Method</b> 1. <a href="#">History of Psychology and its development</a> (Y)	1.5
22 Aug – 28 Aug	<b>Week 4. Method</b> 1. <a href="#">Research designs</a> (S) 2. <a href="#">Conducting Psychology Research in the Real World</a> (S) Tutorial activity: Create a historical map of ideas/key people <b>Research participation 1 starts (10 marks)</b>	1.5 1.5
28 Aug – 04 Sep	<b>Week 5. Perception</b> Information Processing, Models of Information-Processing, Perceptual systems - <a href="#">Sensation and perception</a> (S) - Perception of forms (S) [own notes] Tutorial activity: Experiment design for b/w and w/n subject	1.5 1.5

	designs	
05 Sep- 11 Sep	<b>Week 6. Attention</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <a href="#">Attention</a>, (S)</li> <li>- <a href="#">Social attention</a> (S)</li> <li>- <a href="#">Inattentional blindness</a> (S)</li> </ul> <p>Tutorial Activity: Case study on Apollo Mission to communicate about earthlinks to aliens</p>	1.5 1.5
12 Sep – 18 Sep	<b>Week 7. Memory</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <a href="#">Encoding, storage, retrieval</a>, (S)</li> <li>- <a href="#">Eyewitness testimonials and memory biases</a> (S)</li> </ul> <p>Tutorial activity: Case about attention during driving (intro to eye tracker).</p>	1.5 1.5
19 Sep – 25 Sep	<b>Week 8. Judgment and Decision Making</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <a href="#">Judgment</a></li> <li>2. <a href="#">Decision Making</a></li> </ol>	1.5 1.5
25 Sep- 28 Sep	<b>MINOR EXAM WEEK</b>	
29 Sep – 01 Oct	<b>Week 9.</b> Key Debate - <a href="#">The Nature-Nurture Question</a> (S/Y)	1.5
	<b>SEMESTER BREAK</b>	
6 Oct- 9 Oct	<b>Week 10.</b> <b>Emotions, Movies and Goals</b> <p><a href="#">Emotions and their functions</a></p> <p><a href="#">Motives and goals</a></p> <p>Tutorial Activity: Class debate on using eye witness testimony in court rooms. Pre-read <a href="#">blog post</a> and article on <a href="#">ScAm MIND</a></p> <p>Tutorial activity: Design a nudge for promoting healthy eating /</p>	1.5 1.5

	washing hands before food in India.	
10 Oct- 16 Oct	<b>Week 11. Cognition in Social and Cultural Context</b> <a href="#">Social Cognition and Attitudes</a> (Y) <a href="#">Culture</a> (Y) <u>Tutorial</u> Activity: Cognitive biases activity and discussion <b>Research Participation 2 A: (5 marks)</b>	1.5 1.5
17 Oct – 23 Oct	<b>Week 12. Identity and Prosocial Behavior</b> <a href="#">Personal and Social Identity</a> (Y) <a href="#">Helping and Prosocial behaviour</a> (Y) <u>Tutorial</u> Activity: Case study of helping during Covid pandemic	1.5 1.5
24 Oct – 29 Oct	<b>Week 13. Authority and Social Influence</b> <a href="#">Conformity</a> (Y) <a href="#">Obedience</a> (Y) <u>Tutorial Activity:</u> Discussing the film ‘ <a href="#">12 Angry Men</a> ’	1.5 1.5
31 Oct -05 Nov	<b>Week 14. Bias</b> <a href="#">Prejudice, Stereotyping and Discrimination</a> (Y) <a href="#">Gender</a> (Y) <u>Tutorial Activity:</u> Exercise and discussion on implicit and explicit biases towards outgroups. <b>Research Participation 2 B: (5 marks)</b>	1.5 1.5
07 Nov- 12 Nov	<b>Week 15. Applied Psychology: Collective Behavior and Health</b> <a href="#">Crowd Behavior</a> (Y) <a href="#">Relationship and Wellbeing</a> (Y) <u>Tutorial Activity:</u> Discussion on deindividuation and its effects	1.5 1.5

	on anti-normative behavior	
13 Nov - 15 Nov	<b>Week 16. Revision and Summary (S &amp; Y)</b>	<b>1.5</b>
17 Nov- 26 Nov	<b>Major Exam (30 Marks)</b>	

**Self-learning (required):**

**Psychology of learning -**

**Reading material:**

1. [Conditioning and learning](#) (S)
2. [Factors influencing learning](#) (S)
3. [Feelings that foster learning and exploring](#)

**Other relevant topics**

[Self and Identity](#)

[Aggression and Violence](#)

[Psychology of human sexuality](#)