[Bermuda College](http://www.college.bm/), [Division of Liberal Arts](https://www.college.bm/index.php/academics)

**Psychology 2270 01: Learning Theory**

Fall 2019

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 12:35 to 1:25

Hallet Hall H273

**Lecturer:** [Dr. Jeremiah M. Faries](file:///\\fileprint\home\faculty\jfaries\index.htm)

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***Prerequisite****:*  [Psychology 1101/1102](file:///\\college.bm\fileprint\Profile\jfaries\Downloads\Syllabus%20Psych%20101%20TAB.htm)

***Goals of the Course****:* The purpose of the course is to provide an overview of the major developments in our understanding of the factors that influence how people learn. In this course we will cover some theories that explain learning at a basic level such as the behaviourist theories of classical conditioning as well as theories that explain higher order learning of the kind that occurs in classrooms. We will consider several complex theories of how new information is stored in memory and consider the advantages and disadvantages of each theory. We will also give some thought to how motivation to learn interacts with our ability to learn and use motivation as an explanation for some kinds of learning data.

Of course, most students are learning at the same time we study these theories of learning so we will consider how our knowledge of learning theories can improve our educational environment. Your term project will be an application of the theoretical knowledge offered in the course to a realistic situation that requires learning.

***Classes and Assignments****:* There will be three classes each week. These will be a combination of lecture and discussion format. I hope you will think critically about the topics we cover and that you will feel free to raise questions and comment on what you study. You will be required to prepare and turn in a short [weekly assignment](#assig) based on the readings for the week. The details of this weekly assignment are outlined below. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT I RECEIVE THESE ASSIGNMENTS EACH MONDAY (unless I specify otherwise). You will also be preparing a research project in the form of a written paper. You should discuss potential topics with me as early in the term as possible so as to allow time to do a thorough job. I hope that you all can easily think of a topic of interest to you but if you cannot please see me and we can discuss possible topics for you. In addition to submitting a [research paper,](http://3dharbour.com/jmf/coursepages/2270%20assignments/2270%20assignment%201.asp) you will be presenting the product of your research to the class towards the end of the term. There will also be a midterm and a final exam. You are expected to attend all lectures and complete all assignments and exams in timely fashion. Should there be a problem with those expectations please see me to arrange an alternative way to satisfy your obligations. PLEASE CHECK YOUR COLLEGE ISSUED EMAIL ON A REGULAR BASIS AS IT IS THE MOST RELIABLE WAY TO CONTACT YOU OUTSIDE OF CLASS.

***Textbook*:** [Ormrod, J. E. (2016) Human Learning (7th Edition). Pearson. ISBN-10:](https://www.pearson.com/us/higher-education/program/Ormrod-Human-Learning-Pearson-e-Text-with-Loose-Leaf-Version-Access-Card-Package-7th-Edition/PGM240157.html) **[013357928](https://www.pearson.com/us/higher-education/program/Ormrod-Human-Learning-Pearson-e-Text-with-Loose-Leaf-Version-Access-Card-Package-7th-Edition/PGM240157.html)** [|](https://www.pearson.com/us/higher-education/program/Ormrod-Human-Learning-Pearson-e-Text-with-Loose-Leaf-Version-Access-Card-Package-7th-Edition/PGM240157.html)

***Grading:***Grades will be based on your term paper, a midterm and a final exam as well as your short weekly assignment and participation.

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| --- | --- |
| 15 % | Weekly assignments /  Class participation |
| 30 % | [Term Paper](http://3dharbour.com/jmf/coursepages/2270%20assignments/2270%20assignment%201.asp) |
| 25 % | Midterm Exam |
| 30 % | Final Exam |

*(Please remember that for your term paper the ideas should either be your own or you should cite the person from whom you've borrowed the ideas. I will give you more details on what I expect in a written paper later on in the course.)*

***Weekly Assignment****:* ***Due each Monday:***

Each week we will read at least one chapter of the text plus occasional supplementary materials. To help prepare you for our tutorial discussion of the material I ask that you do the following short assignment. This assignment should not take much of your time as each point should only be a sentence or two. PLEASE SUBMIT THESE TO MOODLE ON OR BEFORE THE FIRST DAY WE DISCUSS THE TOPIC IN CLASS.

1. Identify ONE major claim and evaluate the kind of evidence used to support it?

2. Briefly describe one example from your own experience or someone you know that

is relevant for the topic in this chapter.

3. Identify one thing you **agree** with about either the theories outlined or the

use of the evidence to support them? Be specific.

4. Identify one thing you **disagree** with about either the theories outlined or the

use of the evidence to support them? Be specific

5. Identify at least one thing that surprised you in this reading.

6. Ask one good question about the chapter.

**Psychology 2270 01, Learning Theory**

**SYLLABUS**

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| *Date* | *Topic* | *Readings* |
| Aug 26 | Introduction |  |
| Aug 28 | Overview of Theories | Chapter 1 |
| Aug 30 | What can Psychology say about education and learning? | Chapter 1 |
| Sep 2 | Labour Day, College Closed |  |
| Sep 4 | Classical Conditioning | Ch 3 p 35-46 |
| Sep 6 | Classical Conditioning | Ch 3 p 35-46 |
| Sep 9 | Operant Conditioning Theory and Applications | Ch 3 p 47-73 |
| Sep 11 | Operant Conditioning Theory and Applications | Ch 3 p 47-73 |
| Sep 13 | Operant Conditioning Theory and Applications | Ch 3 p 47-73 |
| Sep 16 | Punishment as Learning:  the effects of Aversive Stimuli | Chapter 4 |
| Sep 18 | Punishment as Learning:  the effects of Aversive Stimuli | Chapter 4 |
| Sep 20 | Punishment as Learning:  the effects of Aversive Stimuli | Chapter 4 |
| Sep 23 | Social Cognitive Theory | Chapter 5 |
| Sep 25 | Social Cognitive Theory | Chapter 5 |
| Sep 27 | Social Cognitive Theory | Chapter 5 |
| Sep 30 | **Mid Term Exam** |  |
| Oct 2 | Cognitive Theories of Memory | Chapter 6 |
| Oct 4 | Cognitive Theories of Memory | Chapter 6 |
| Oct 7 | Cognitive Theories of Memory | Chapter 7 |
| Oct 8 | Cognitive Theories of Memory | Chapter 7 |
| Oct 11 | Cognitive Theories of Memory | Chapter 7 |
| Oct 14 | Cognitive Theories of Memory | Chapter 8 |
| Oct 16 | Cognitive Theories of Memory | Chapter 8 |
| Oct 18 | First Semester Break – College closed |  |
| Oct 21 | Cognitive theories of Long Term Memory and Forgetting | Chapter 9 |
| Oct 23 | Cognitive theories of Long Term Memory and Forgetting | Chapter 9 |
| Oct 25 | Cognitive theories of Long Term Memory and Forgetting | Chapter 9 |
| Oct 28 | Social Proceses | Chapter 11 |
| Oct 30 | Social Proceses | Chapter 11 |
| Nov 1 | Social Proceses | Chapter 11 |
| Nov 4 | Studying Strategies and Matacognition | Chapter 12 |
| Nov 6 | Studying Strategies and Matacognition | Chapter 12 |
| Nov 8 | Studying Strategies and Matacognition | Chapter 12 |
| Nov 11 | Remembrance Day, College closed |  |
| Nov 13 | Transfer and Problem Solving | Chapter 13 |
| Nov 15 | Transfer and Problem Solving | Chapter 13 |
| Nov 18 | Motivation, Emotions,  and Learning | Chapter 14,15 |
| Nov 20 | Motivation, Emotions,  and Learning | Chapter 14,15 |
| Nov 22 | Motivation, Emotions,  and Learning | Chapter 14,15 |
| Nov 25 | Motivation, Emotions,  and Learning | Chapter 14,15 |
| Nov 27 | Class Presentations |  |
| Nov 29 | Class Presentations [**TERM PAPER**](http://3dharbour.com/jmf/coursepages/2270%20assignments/2270%20assignment%201.asp) **DUE** |  |
|  |  |  |
| Dec ?? | **FINAL EXAM** |  |
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