San José State University  
Psychology Department  
Psyc 155 Human Learning, Section 1, Summer 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instructor:</th>
<th>Sean Laraway, PhD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office Location:</td>
<td>DMH 311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone:</td>
<td>(408) 924-5679 (do not call or leave voicemail)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email:</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sean.laraway@sjsu.edu">sean.laraway@sjsu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Hours:</td>
<td>Monday &amp; Wednesday, 12:30-1 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Days/Time:</td>
<td>Monday &amp; Wednesday, 1-5:10 p.m.; June 4-July 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classroom:</td>
<td>Clark 243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prerequisites:</td>
<td>Psyc 1 General Psychology (or equivalent)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Web Pages**

We will use Desire 2 Learn (D2L) for posting course grades. You will automatically be given access to D2L upon your successful enrollment in the course.

https://sjsu.desire2learn.com/

We will use Piazza for course announcements, postings, questions, and discussions. You will receive an invitation to enroll in Piazza upon your successful enrollment in the course. Please follow the instructions to gain access to Piazza. Use Piazza to ask questions about the course structure, assignments, and material. Do not use email for these types of inquiries. Use email only for personal questions, such as those involving your grade, missing classes, etc.

www.piazza.com

The best method of contacting me is via D2L email. Please allow 1-2 business days for a response. Email will be sent Monday-Thursday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. You are responsible for regularly checking the site for announcements, etc.

**Course Description**

This course covers, among other topics, memory, forgetting, concept formation, language learning, reinforcement, and related topics. Traditional learning
concepts, theories and findings with reference to contemporary classroom management, behavior modification, and other applications are also addressed.

**Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Understand, recognize, and provide examples of the basic and complex processes involved in classical conditioning, operant conditioning, and other forms of learning.
2. Understand, recognize, and provide examples of practical applications of learning and memory concepts to human and nonhuman behaviors.

**Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)**

Upon successful completion of the psychology major requirements...

- **PLO1 – Knowledge Base of Psychology** – Students will be able to identify, describe, and communicate the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in psychology. **Psyc 155 meets this PLO.**

- **PLO2 – Research Methods in Psychology** – Students will be able to design, implement, and communicate basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretations. **Psyc 155 meets this PLO.**

- **PLO3 – Critical Thinking Skills in Psychology** – Students will be able to use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and a scientific approach to address issues related to behavior and mental processes. **Psyc 155 meets this PLO.**

- **PLO4 – Application of Psychology** – Students will be able to apply psychological principles to individual, interpersonal, group, and societal issues. **Psyc 155 meets this PLO.**

- **PLO5 – Values in Psychology** – Students will value empirical evidence, tolerate ambiguity, act ethically, and recognize their role and responsibility as a member of society. **Psyc 155 meets this PLO.**

**Required Texts/Readings**

**Textbook**


Text can be purchased at the Spartan Bookstore or online.
Other Readings
Additional readings will be provided by your instructor on the Piazza site.

Other equipment / material requirements
You will also need Internet access and Scantron 882-E forms.

Classroom Protocol

Etiquette

Students are expected to attend class and maintain a level of professional and courteous behavior in the classroom. Respect for the rights and opinions of others is expected. The free and open exchange of ideas is the cornerstone of higher education, but we must always remain respectful of others, even if we disagree strongly with them. Disagreement is acceptable, but discourteousness is not. Behavior that creates a threatening or harassing environment (either online or in class) will not be tolerated. Severe and pervasive disruptions of class activities are a violation of the Student Code of Conduct will be reported to the Office of Judicial Affairs. In short, let’s be cool to one another.


Classes are comprised of lectures, in-class activities, question-and-answer periods, guest presentations, and films. Attendance is expected and is critical for success in this course. If you miss a class, you are responsible for getting the information covered. It is vital that you complete all scheduled readings and assignments before each class. Do not talk, read non-class materials, text message, or sleep during class time. This policy is strictly enforced. **Students who fail to abide by classroom protocol may be excused from class.** Please arrive to class on time. If you need to leave early, please inform the instructor prior to the start of class.

Laptops

In-class laptop use should be restricted to course-related activities (e.g., taking notes). Other activities (e.g., checking email, Facebook®) distract both the instructor and students and will not be tolerated. You will be asked to turn off your laptop if you are engaged in non-class activities and you may be asked to refrain from laptop use for the duration of the course if this behavior continues.

Cell phones and other electronic devices
Please be certain to turn off or put in silent mode (not vibrate mode as that is still audible and is distracting) all cell phones, pagers, and any other devices that produce distraction prior to entering the classroom.

Late arrivals
If you must arrive late or leave early, please do so quietly and with a minimum of distraction. Repeated tardiness will not be tolerated. Please come to class on time. If you will be more than 15 minutes late, consider staying home.
I expect you to come to class prepared
“Prepared” means you have completed the readings and any assignment before class starts.

Check the course Piazza site regularly
I will make important course announcements, answer questions, and post readings on the Piazza site. If I become ill, I will inform you as soon as I can via Piazza. You should check the site before each class.

Electronics Policy
Do not use cell phones, foreign language dictionaries, laptop computers, headphones, or any other electronic device during exams. Turn off all pagers, cell phones, headphones, etc. before class. Using cell phones and other communication methods (e.g., text messaging) during class is not allowed. Do not use electronic devices to check email, visit web sites, play games, or send instant messages. Doing so is a distraction to other students and the instructor and will result in expulsion from class.

Dropping and Adding
Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, academic renewal, etc. Refer to the current semester’s catalog policies section for any add/drop deadlines, policies, and procedures section and specific registration information. Please be aware of the Late drop policy is available. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Assignments and Grading Policy
Method of instruction
This course will use the classic lecture-discussion format as its primary form of instruction. In addition, this course will use films, web-based content, and in-class activities to supplement lectures. Power Point lecture material for each chapter will be made available online; I will attempt to post lecture notes prior to class. However, sometimes I may be unable to do so. Please remember that I post these notes as courtesy, and I appreciate your patience if notes are not up before class time.

Be advised that due to time constraints not all text material will be covered in lecture. This does not mean that such material is not important, nor does it mean that such material will not appear on exams. You are responsible for all text and lecture material. Students are encouraged to ask questions during class or via the course web site.
Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material, Amends F06-2

Whereas Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that someone is notified when being recorded; and audio recording without consent in private settings is prohibited by California Penal code 630-635, and

Whereas Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval; and is already prohibited by California Civil Code 980 a(1), and

Whereas It is desirable to allow flexibility to faculty as to when and how consent is given for recording classes or publicly sharing course material; therefore be it

Resolved That the following items be included in the list of greensheet items recommended for consideration in the Appendix of University Policy F06-2.

“Common courtesy and professional behavior dictates that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor’s permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. This permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.”

“Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”

Therefore, neither recording of class lectures or discussions nor distribution of course materials are allowed. Failure to follow this policy will result in immediate expulsion from the class, a grade of F in the course, and reporting the student to the University and proper authorities for further sanctions/punishment.

Exams
You will have four exams. Exams will comprise multiple-choice and short answer questions. Please bring a Scantron form (882-E) and pencils to each exam.

Final Exam
The Final Exam will consist of the 4th unit exam. It will not be cumulative.

Reflection Papers
You will complete two Reflection Papers. Each paper will require you to find a peer-reviewed empirical research article, summarize its contents, and critically evaluate it (e.g., critique the paper in terms of methods, findings, conclusions, practical applications). Each paper should cover any of following broad topics: (1)
“Behavior modification” in general (e.g., applied behavior analysis, cognitive-behavioral therapy, drug abuse treatment), (2) Classroom management or academic behavior (e.g., behavior of special needs students, academic skills training), (3) Child behavior management or training (e.g., ADHD, language training, speech pathology, autism), and (4) Organizational behavior or another topic of your choice (e.g., incentive systems in business; health, sport, or fitness; coaching; motor learning/behavior; choice; self control; behavioral community interventions; gambling; pro-environmental behaviors; behavioral gerontology).

All articles must involve the use of one or more concepts listed in the textbook (e.g., reinforcement, punishment, stimulus control, motivation, self control, choice, observational learning, classical conditioning) and must be published after 2002. Papers should be between 3-5 pages in length (double-spaced, 1" margins, 12-pt Arial, Times, or Times New Roman fonts); this does not include the cover page or reference section. Papers shorter than 3 pages will automatically lose points. Papers must be submitted to Turnitin.com for credit. Be sure to find articles that interest you and that fit your current academic/career goals. If you have any questions regarding the appropriateness of your chosen articles, feel free to let me know. I will be happy to review them.


Writing Policy

The quality of your writing is graded in this class. You will lose points if I cannot understand what you are trying to say. If you are not comfortable writing, you should seek additional assistance (see below). Whenever referencing something you have read, you are expected to provide a complete, APA-style reference. It is assumed that you know, understand, and can properly apply APA-style. If not, it is your responsibility to re-familiarize yourself with this style guide. Never reference a web site or web source, ever. If you find a good article referred to on the web, get it, read it, and use that original source.

Important!! The Department of Psychology has adopted the policy that designated written assignments will be returned un-graded for substantial (5 or more per page) errors in grammar, punctuation, spelling, clarity, conciseness, or validity of content. Papers returned will suffer a minimum penalty of 10% on the final grade on rewritten work. The revised paper must be returned within a maximum of seven calendar days and submitted with a copy of the original work.
This policy is in effect for all courses 100W and above and by instructor discretion for courses under 100.

Unless otherwise noted, all written assignments must be typed, double-spaced, with 1" margins, and use a standard font (i.e., Arial, Times New Roman, or Helvetica) of size 12. Your name, the semester of the course, and the course name must appear on a separate cover page. Multiple pages must be sequentially numbered in the upper right corner. Assignments will not be accepted and will be considered “late” until they are consistent with the above policy.

Homework and Other Assignments
Additional assignments may involve in-class activities, take-home assignments, or other activities depending on time and other considerations. This is an upper-division course, so you should expect to spend at least 2-3 hrs/day on average outside of class reading and studying. You must be present to receive credit for in-class assignments, unless you make other arrangements with the instructor before the class you miss. Assignments will be given on an irregular basis, so come to every class prepared. You will only be allowed to make up missing assignments for justifiable and documented reasons (e.g., illness).

Extra Credit
There may be opportunities for extra credit throughout the semester. These opportunities will be announced in class and on the course web site.

Late work
All assignments must be submitted by the scheduled due date. Late assignments will not be accepted, except by permission of the instructor. Do not email late assignments, unless given explicit permission to do so. Unapproved emailed assignments will not receive credit.

Make-up Exams
A make-up exam will only be given if you contact me prior to missing the exam in question and/or you have a documented excuse. A cumulative make-up exam with content of my choosing will replace one missing exam score. This exam will occur immediately following the Exam 4.

Assessment of student learning outcomes
The learning objectives will be assessed via homework, Reflection Papers, in-class activities, and exam questions.

Grading
Your grade will result from the total number of points that you earn during the semester.
Table 1: Assignments and point totals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>How Many?</th>
<th>Points per assignment</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
<th>Percent of Final Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Activities</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Papers</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: Grading scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points earned</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Points earned</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>≥ 98</td>
<td>≥ 98</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>C (passing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>C-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>D-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>&lt; 60</td>
<td>&lt; 60</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>78</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

University Policies

Academic integrity

Students should read the University’s Academic Integrity Policy. Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University and the University’s integrity policy, require you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. Visit the Student Conduct and Ethical Development website.

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person’s ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include in your assignment any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU’s Academic Policy F06-1 requires approval of instructors.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) to establish a record of their disability.
Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library. A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include digital and VHS camcorders, VHS and Beta video players, 16 mm, slide, overhead, DVD, CD, and audiotape players, sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

Learning Assistance Resource Center

The Learning Assistance Resource Center (LARC) is located in Room 600 in the Student Services Center. It is designed to assist students in the development of their full academic potential and to motivate them to become self-directed learners. The center provides support services, such as skills assessment, individual or group tutorials, subject advising, learning assistance, summer academic preparation and basic skills development. The LARC website is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/.

SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Room 126 in Clark Hall. It is staffed by professional instructors and upper-division or graduate-level writing specialists from each of the seven SJSU colleges. Our writing specialists have met a rigorous GPA requirement, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. Visit the Writing Center website for more information.

Peer Mentor Center

The Peer Mentor Center is located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall in the Academic Success Center. The Peer Mentor Center is staffed with Peer Mentors who excel in helping students manage university life, tackling problems that range from academic challenges to interpersonal struggles. On the road to graduation, Peer Mentors are navigators, offering “roadside assistance” to peers who feel a bit lost or simply need help mapping out the locations of campus resources. Peer Mentor services are free and available on a drop-in basis, no reservation required. Visit the Peer Mentor Center website for more information.

Acknowledgment

This syllabus uses materials (with permission) developed by Dr. Ron Rogers, Dr. Susan Snycherski, Dr. Clifton Oyamot, and the SJSU Center for Faculty Development’s Accessible Syllabus Template.
### Psyc 155 Human Learning, Summer 2012 Tentative Course Schedule

Please note that this schedule is subject to change with fair notice.

**Table 3 Course Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topics, Readings, Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1    | 6-04        | *Introduction to Psyc 155: Syllabus and course overview  
*Introduction to Learning & Behavior: Ch. 1  
#Brainstorm and discuss paper topics  
#HW: find 4-8 abstracts for papers, take library Plagiarism tutorial  
  
6-06  | *Research Methods: Ch. 2, Huiitema & Laraway (2006)  
*Introduction to Operant Conditioning: Ch. 6  
#Submit at least 4 abstracts, plagiarism tutorial results  
#Complete CITI IRB training |
| 2    | 6-11        | #Exam 1 on all previous material  
#Submit CITI IRB training certificate  
  
6-13  | *Motivating Operations, continued  
*Schedules and Theories of Reinforcement: Ch. 7  
*Extinction and Stimulus Control: Ch. 8  
#Paper 1 due and discussion |
| 3    | 6-18        | #Exam 2 on all material since Exam 1  
*Escape, Avoidance, and Punishment: Ch. 9  
*Choice, Matching, and Self-Control: Ch. 10  
  
6-20  | *Behavioral Economics: Hursh et al. (2005) |
| 4    | 6-25        | #Exam 3 on all material since Exam 2  
*Elicited Behaviors & Classical Conditioning: Ch. 3  
*Classical Conditioning: Basic Phenomena and Various Complexities: Ch. 4  
  
6-27  | *Classical Conditioning: Practical Applications: Ch. 5  
*Verbal Behavior: notes only |
| 5    | 7-02        | #Exam 4  
#Paper 2 due  
  
7-04  | NO CLASS |

Psyc 155, Human Learning, Summer 2012

Page 10 of 10