

Conditioning and Learning (830:311) Spring 2015 Dr. Tomie
MW (3:20 PM - 4:40 PM) Beck Hall Auditorium

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Dr. Tomie's Office: Room 103-A, Center of Alcohol Studies (next to Wright Chemistry)
Office Hours: Wednesday 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM, or by appointment.
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Dr. Tomie's Webpage: <http://www.rci.rutgers.edu/~tomie>

Janell Fetterolf's Office: Room 629, Tillett Hall, Livingston Campus
Office Hours: Monday 2 PM - 3 PM, or by appointment.
E-Mail: jfetter@rci.rutgers.edu

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

Domjan, M. (2010). *The Principles of Learning and Behavior* (7th Edition). Cengage Learning, ISBN: 978128588563. Available for a discounted price by buying directly from the publisher at course-specific Cengage Learning site: <http://www.cengagebrain.com/course/1-1X4NXSG>. Also available at New Jersey Books and Rutgers (Barnes and Noble) Bookstore.

Zito, B., and Tomie, A. (2014). *The Tail of the Raccoon: Secrets of Addiction*. This book is available either as a:

Kindle e-Book: ASIN: B0013TNYJY (<http://www.amazon.com/dp/B0013TNYJY>), or as a

Paperback book: ISBN: 9870991349531. The book is in stock at New Jersey Books or at the Rutgers (Barnes and Noble) Bookstore.

Or the paperback book may be ordered online from Createspace (http://www.amazon.com/The-Tail-Raccoon-Secrets-addiction/dp/0991349539/ref=tmm_pap_title_0).

Zito, B., and Tomie, A. (2015). *The Tail of the Raccoon: Touching the Invisible*. This book is scheduled for release in February 2015, after which time, this book will be available as a Kindle e-Book and as a paperback book.

Other Required Readings:

<http://tailoftheraccoon.com/>. This is an educational website that has been developed to support the scientific short stories by providing additional information about sign-tracking and the relationship between sign-tracking and drug addiction. At times during the semester, you will receive an announcement via Sakai directing you to read materials on this website.

<https://www.facebook.com/tailoftheraccoon>. This is a Facebook page that has been developed to disseminate recent addiction-related news, particularly addiction news relevant to New Jersey and Rutgers University. Several times during the semester, we will ask you to visit this Facebook page and "like" a recently posted news article. See below for more information about Attendance Extra Credit.

EXAMS: There will be five exams. All exams are cumulative in the sense that lecture material necessarily builds on previous knowledge, but each exam will emphasize materials assigned and presented since the last exam. All exams will consist of 30 multiple choice questions.

Three of the exams are Online Hourly Exams given during the regularly scheduled class period (on Monday, Feb 9; on Wednesday, Feb 25; and on Monday, Apr 13). All Online Hourly Exams are open book and open notes.

Two of the exams are In-Class Exams. The In-Class Midterm Exam will be given on Wednesday, Mar 25. The In-Class Final Exam will be given in accordance with the University's Final Exam Schedule, on Wednesday, May 13. All In-Class Exams are closed book and closed notes.

GRADING:

1. Your In-Class Final Exam grade will account for 25% of your course grade. Your In-Class Midterm Exam grade will account for 25% of your course grade.
2. The remaining 50% of your course grade will be based on your two best scores on the three Online Hourly exams. Your lowest Online Hourly score will be dropped. There will be no make-ups given for missing an Online Hourly exam, regardless of cause.
3. A note from a Dean or a doctor is required to make up, without penalty, the In-Class Midterm Exam or the In-Class Final Exam. For those unable to provide the note, a 15% penalty will be assessed. An additional 15% penalty will be assessed for missing the make-up exam, which will be scheduled at the convenience of the TA.
4. Your average score on the 4 exams will determine your course grade. If your average score is 27.00 or above (out of 30), then your course grade is an "A". For all course grades, we do not average up, so an average score of 26.75 is not an "A". If your average score is in the range of 26.75 to 25.50 (out of 30), then your course grade is a "B+". If your average score is in the range of 25.25 to 24.00, then your course grade is a "B". If your average score is in the range of 23.75 to 22.50, then your course grade is a "C+". If your average score is in the range of 22.25 to 21.00, then your course grade is a "C". If your average score is in the range of 20.75 to 18.00, then your course grade is a "D". If your average score is 17.75 or below, then your course grade is an "F".
4. Attendance Extra Credit. Attendance will be taken occasionally, and extra credit attendance points will be considered in the event of a borderline grade. In addition to in-class attendance credits, at times, you will be asked to "like" a news article posted to the Facebook Page (<https://www.facebook.com/tailoftheraccoon>), then e-mail the TA (jfetter@rci.rutgers.edu), who will record your completion of this assignment as meeting part of requirement for the Attendance Extra Credit.

Last semester there were 5 attendance events. Those students who received credit for 4 out of the 5 attendance events had their semester average boosted by one point. For example, a student with a course average of 26.00, who earned the Attendance Extra Credit, had their course average boosted to 27.00, and their course grade was an "A". Those students with a course average of 26.75, who did not receive credit for 4 out of the 5 attendance events, received a course grade of "B+".

WEEK OF READING ASSIGNMENT
MONDAY

Jan 19 Chapter 1: Introduction.

Jan 26 Chapter 1: Introduction.

Feb 2 Chapter 2: Elicited Behavior, Habituation and Sensitization.

Feb 9 Chapter 2: Classical Conditioning: Foundations.

ONLINE HOURLY EXAM #1: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Feb 16 Chapter 3: Classical Conditioning: Foundations.

The Tail of the Raccoon: Secrets of Addiction.

Feb 23 Chapter 4: Classical Conditioning: Mechanisms.

ONLINE HOURLY EXAM #2: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Mar 2 Chapter 5: Instrumental Conditioning: Foundations.

Mar 9 Chapter 6: Schedules of Reinforcement and Choice Behavior.

Mar 23 Chapter 7: Instrumental Conditioning: Motivational Mechanisms.

IN-CLASS MIDTERM EXAM: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

Mar 30 Chapter 8: Stimulus Control of Behavior.

Apr 6 Chapter 9: Extinction of Conditioned Behavior.

Apr 13 Chapter 10: Aversive Control: Avoidance and Punishment.

ONLINE HOURLY EXAM #3: MONDAY, APRIL 13

Apr 20 Chapter 11: Comparative Cognition I: Memory Mechanisms.

Apr 27 Chapter 12: Comparative Cognition II: Special Topics.

The Tail of the Raccoon: Touching the Invisible.

May 4 Chapter 12: Comparative Cognition II: Special Topics.

**IN-CLASS FINAL EXAM
IN ACCORDANCE WITH UNIVERSITY'S FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE:
WEDNESDAY, MAY 13 (12:00 NOON - 1:30 PM)**