

## Course Syllabus

1:830:311:02 LEARNING PROCESSES

Monday 1:40 PM - 3:00 PM

BUS HLL-114

Wednesday 1:40 PM - 3:00 PM

BUS HLL-114

### Prof. Phan's Office Hours and email:

Monday 10:40am - 11:40am and by appointment.

Rm331/Rm224 Psychology Building Busch

[mimi.phan@rutgers.edu](mailto:mimi.phan@rutgers.edu)



### Required Textbook

The Principles of Learning and Behavior, 7th Edition

AUTHORS: Domjan, Michael P.

ISBN-10: 1-285-08856-5

ISBN-13: 978-1-285-08856-3

<http://www.cengagebrain.com/course/site.html?id=1-24VCOTO>

(note: will say Ackroff, but link will send you to the right place)

**Welcome to LEARNING PROCESSES.** This course is as a survey of the processes that underlie the acquisition, storage, and expression of learning in animals - including humans. Below outlines guidelines and expectations. Major themes to be investigated in this class include elicited behavior, habituation, sensitization, foundations and mechanisms of classical conditioning, foundations and motivational mechanisms of operant conditioning, schedules of reinforcement, choice behavior, stimulus control of behavior, extinction, avoidance, punishment, and memory.

### Questions

I encourage you to ask questions during class. If something is unclear, or if you have a question related to the material being discussed, please ask your question then. Chances are that some of your classmates would also like some additional discussion of the topic.

**University e-mail accounts and SAKAI announcements** should be checked at least daily by the student because this will be the primary means for sending information to the class or contacting individual students. Failure to monitor your e-mail effectively is not an excuse for not having course information or for not following up on course issues in a timely manner. I will try to answer email promptly. Having said that, PLEASE use a Subject that gives me some idea what you are writing about. If you ask a question whose answer is on the course web page or Syllabus, the reply is likely to say that. If you ask a question about your standing in the course, please include your name and which course and section you are enrolled in. Please re-read the section on "Questions" above. We realize that there are times when you are reviewing notes after class and/or before an exam when you will discover that you have a question. But it is in everyone's best interest for you to ask your questions in class, rather than after the fact, if you have a question while class is in session. You are responsible for any announcements, etc., sent to the class via email.

### Attendance

You should attend all meetings of all of your classes. Lectures are based on the material in the assigned readings, but may also cover material not discussed in the readings. You are responsible for all of this material. If you arrive late or must leave before class is over, please sit near a door and try to be as inconspicuous as possible. It is distracting to everyone to have people walking in and out of the classroom during class. Classes are held according to the schedule below as long as the University is open. If the weather appears to be threatening, you can check the Campus Operating Status ( <http://newbrunswick.rutgers.edu/about/operating-status> ). *Students are expected to attend all classes; if you expect to miss one or two classes, please use the University absence reporting website <https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/> to indicate the date and reason for your absence. An email is automatically sent to me.*

## Accommodations

Appropriate accommodations are available for students with disabilities. Please see web site of the [Office of Disability Services for Students \(https://ods.rutgers.edu/\)](https://ods.rutgers.edu/) for more information.

Disability Services (848) 445-6800 / Lucy Stone Hall, Suite A145, Livingston Campus, 54 Joyce Kilmer Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08854

Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines>. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form>.

## Academic Integrity

The policies found in the [Rutgers Academic Integrity Policy \(http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/\)](http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/) apply to this course.

Cheating and Plagiarism (Copied from the spring 2010 syllabus for Andy Egan's 01:730: 252 Eating Right: The Ethics of Food Choices and Food Policies.)

Short version: Don't cheat. Don't plagiarize.

Longer version: Cheating on tests or plagiarizing materials in your papers deprives you of the educational benefits of preparing these materials appropriately. It is personally dishonest to cheat on a test or to hand in a paper based on unacknowledged words or ideas that someone else originated. It is also unfair, since it gives you an undeserved advantage over your fellow students who are graded on the basis of their own work. In this class we will take cheating very seriously. All suspected cases of cheating and plagiarism will be automatically referred to the Office of Judicial Affairs, and we will recommend penalties appropriate to the gravity of the infraction. The university's policy on Academic Integrity is available at <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy>. I strongly advise you to familiarize yourself with this document, both for this class and for your other classes and future work. To help protect you, and future students, from plagiarism, we require all papers to be submitted through Turnitin.com.

Since what counts as plagiarism is not always clear, I quote the definition given in Rutgers' policy:

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is the use of another person's words, ideas, or results without giving that person appropriate credit. To avoid plagiarism, every direct quotation must be identified by quotation marks or appropriate indentation and both direct quotation and paraphrasing must be cited properly according to the accepted format for the particular discipline or as required by the instructor in a course. Some common examples of plagiarism are:

- Copying word for word (i.e. quoting directly) from an oral, printed, or electronic source without proper attribution.
- Paraphrasing without proper attribution, i.e., presenting in one's own words another person's written words or ideas as if they were one's own.
- Submitting a purchased or downloaded term paper or other materials to satisfy a course requirement.
- Incorporating into one's work graphs, drawings, photographs, diagrams, tables, spreadsheets, computer programs, or other nontextual material from other sources without proper attribution.

A SPECIAL NOTE: Students often assume that because information is available on the Web it is public information, does not need to be formally referenced, and can be used without attribution. This is a mistake. All information and ideas that you derive from other sources, whether written, spoken, or electronic, must be attributed to their original source. Such sources include not just written or electronic materials, but people with whom you may discuss your ideas, such as your roommate, friends, or family members. They deserve credit for their contributions too!

Judgments about plagiarism can be subtle. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask for guidance from your TA.

## Exams And Other Assessments

### Class Projects

Groups of students will each make an oral presentation of a published research article to the class or a topic covered in class. There will also be a written component to this exercise; each group of students will produce a PowerPoint "poster" to accompany their

presentation. (You will not be required to produce a physical poster; you will project it on the screen during your presentation.) All aspects of each presentation will count toward a grade of v, +, or -. Most presentations are expected to be good to excellent and will receive v. Unusually exceptional (+) or poor (-) presentations by a member of the group will increase or decrease that student's final course points by 5 points. If one member of the group is absent, then the other member will be responsible for the entire presentation, and the absent member's final grade will be reduced by 10%.

### Quizzes

There will be 5 quizzes which will consist of 20 questions each. You will have a set time to complete each quiz and will only have one chance to take the assessment. Please make sure not to miss the closing date as I will not be able to open the quiz once it has closed. These quizzes are voluntary and will constitute the "extra credit" contribution to your final grade.

### Examinations

Dates of these exams are listed on the class calendar. Exam questions will cover material reviewed during class, online and assigned reading. You are responsible for all material in the chapters assigned unless otherwise indicated. Make up exam policy: You need to provide both (1) advance notice of your absence to me (via email) AND (2) acceptable documentation for the absence (e.g., an excuse from a doctor, a death notice, obituary, or funeral notice, a police report, etc.). Unless both of these criteria are met, you will not be permitted to take a make-up. Make-up exams will be in essay format.

Evaluations are based on:

Your grade is based on your performance on the three exams in the course. Each exam is worth 100 points and contains a mixture of essay questions/ short answers/ multiple choice. Final exam schedules are listed here:

<https://finalexams.rutgers.edu/>

Course grades are based on 300 points:

Points	Grade
270	A
265	B+
240	B
235	C+
210	C
180	D

Extra credit: 100 points distributed across five quizzes. Quiz availability will be announced in class.

### Changing Grades:

Students sometimes ask professors to change final grades, usually based on the need to achieve a certain grade in order to, for example, get into the business school, retain a scholarship, or avoid academic probation. Although I wish all of you the best of success in your studies, you hopefully can understand how changing one student's grade is unfair to the other students in the class. Therefore, requests for test score or grade changes will not be entertained. However, I have built in a mechanism to earn extra credit. Your final grade will be based solely on the your scores on the course exams, as described above.

### Student-Wellness Services:

#### **Just In Case Web App**

<http://codu.co/cee05e>

Access helpful mental health information and resources for yourself or a friend in a mental health crisis on your smartphone or tablet and easily contact CAPS or RUPD.

#### Counseling, ADAP & Psychiatric Services (CAPS)

**(848) 932-7884 / 17 Senior Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901/ [www.rhscaps.rutgers.edu/](http://www.rhscaps.rutgers.edu/)**

CAPS is a University mental health support service that includes counseling, alcohol and other drug assistance, and psychiatric services staffed by a team of professional within Rutgers Health services to support students' efforts to succeed at Rutgers University. CAPS offers a variety of services that include: individual therapy, group therapy and workshops, crisis intervention, referral to specialists in the community and consultation and collaboration with campus partners.

Violence Prevention & Victim Assistance (VPVA)

**(848) 932-1181 / 3 Bartlett Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 / [www.vpva.rutgers.edu/](http://www.vpva.rutgers.edu/)**

The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance provides confidential crisis intervention, counseling and advocacy for victims of sexual and relationship violence and stalking to students, staff and faculty. To reach staff during office hours when the university is open or to reach an advocate after hours, call 848-932-1181.

Scarlet Listeners

**(732) 247-5555 / <http://www.scarletlisteners.com/>**

Free and confidential peer counseling and referral hotline, providing a comforting and supportive safe space.

**\*\*Schedule of Reading Assignments and Exams\*\***  
**\*\* (All dates are approximate and changes will be announced in class) \*\***

Learning Processes on MW4 (1:40-3) in HLL 114

1/18/2016	Ch 1 Background & Rationale	
1/25/2016	Ch 2 Elicited Behavior	
2/1/2016	Ch 3 Classical Conditioning: Foundations	
2/8/2016	Ch 4 Classical Conditioning: Mechanisms	
2/15/2016	Monday 2/15	Class Projects Preparation
	<b>Wednesday 2/17</b>	<b>Exam 1</b>
2/22/2016	Ch 5 Instrumental Conditioning: Foundations	
2/29/2016	Ch 6 Schedules of Reinforcement	
3/7/2016	Ch 7 Instrumental Conditioning: Motivational	
3/14/2016	Spring Break	
3/21/2016	Ch 8 Stimulus Control of Behavior	
<b>3/28/2016</b>	<b>Monday 3/28</b>	<b>Exam 2</b>
	Wednesday 3/30	Ch 9 Extinction of Conditioned Behavior
4/4/2016	Ch 10 Aversive Control	
4/11/2016	Ch 11 Comparative Cognition 1	
4/18/2016	Ch 11 Comparative Cognition 2	
4/25/2016	Monday 4/25	Class Projects Preparation
	Wednesday 4/27	Presentations
5/2/2016	Review & Presentations	Regular Classes End
<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>May 10, 2016: 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM</b>	<b>Exam 3</b>

