

Course Syllabus
Learning Processes (01:830:311 Sec 90/91)
Spring 2022 Dr. Tomie

CONTACT INFO: DR. TOMIE

Office Hours: Thursday, 12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM, by ZOOM appointment, or at another time, by arrangement.

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TEACHING ASSISTANT: STACY DUARTE

Office Hours: Zoom, by appointment only.

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REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

Domjan, M. (2018). *The Essentials of Conditioning and Learning, 4th Edition*, Washington D.C.: American Psychological Association. ISBN: 9781433827785, 275 pages.

Tomie, A. (2020). *Blindsided by Addiction: The Science of the Loss of Self-Control*. Princeton, NJ: ZT Enterprises, LLC. ISBN: 9798667169802, 224 pages. Also available as Kindle E-Book (Amazon.com) and Kindle Unlimited (Amazon.com).

ABOUT THIS COURSE: This is an Asynchronous Remote Learning course (there are no class meetings or in-class exams). The course syllabus and core syllabus are available at Home @ Canvas, at Syllabus @ Canvas, and at Assignments @ Canvas. I will videotape each lecture, using (Kaltura screen capture) in conjunction with PowerPoint lecture slides (uploaded to Files @ Canvas). Each videotaped lecture will be made available to you by uploading the

video recording to Media Gallery @ Canvas. In this way, you can print hard copies of any of the lecture PowerPoint slides at Files @ Canvas, so that you have them with you when you open the recorded Kaltura video recording of the lecture related to that slide deck at Media Gallery @ Canvas.

Each week, I will record two videos, one video for each of the two lectures for the week, and then, early in the week, typically on Monday upload the two video recordings to Media Gallery. You will receive an Announcement indicating that the uploaded videos are available for viewing. The recorded videos are for you to view at your convenience, but I recommend that you do so before the next scheduled lecture, so as not to fall behind.

ZOOM MEETINGS: On some Thursday afternoons, (1:30-2:30 PM), I will Zoom with the class to allow students the opportunity for more detailed discussion of lecture materials, textbook assignments, exams, and student GRP projects. All students enrolled in Sec 90 or Sec 91 will receive an invitation to attend the Zoom class meeting, which will be recorded to the Cloud, where you can view them at any time. During Zoom meetings, I will answer questions and provide detailed guidance to students on how to go about forming their research group (4-6 students), choose a sub-topic, and develop the PowerPoint slide show of their specific research sub-topic.

Have questions about materials covered in lecture or in the textbooks? My preferred method of contact is via an exchange of e-mails (tomie@psych.rutgers.edu), or, you may request a Zoom meeting. I prefer to Zoom during my regularly scheduled office hours (Thursdays, 12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM), but if that doesn't work for you, then suggest other times and I will look for a match.

Remote learning can certainly present many substantial challenges. For assistance with learning how to address these challenges, please consult the resources available here: https://rlc.rutgers.edu/remote_instruction.

EXAMS: Your course grade will be based on your exam scores and on the quality of your PowerPoint presentation of your research sub-topic. During the semester, there will be 4 online exams, each 80 min long. Exam #1, #2, and #3 will be posted at Quizzes @ Canvas at approximately 1:00 PM on the day of the scheduled exam and will be available to the class for 24 hours. Each of the 4 exams will consist of 30 multiple choice questions. All 4 exams will be open book, open

notes, and none of the 4 exams, including the Final Exam (Exam #4) are cumulative. All 4 exams will be given online, administered, timed, and graded through Canvas. The Online Final Exam will be given in accordance with the University's Final Exam Schedule (TBD).

GROUP RESEARCH PROJECT (GRP): During the first couple of weeks of the semester, students will form Research Groups consisting of 4-6 students per group. A Research Group may include students from either or both sections (90/91). Each Research Group will focus on a specific topic related to the general topic of “Learning” by exploring the published scientific literature on the topic and developing a PowerPoint slide show presentation of their Group Research Project (GRP).

How will the GRPs be formed? If you have a suitable research topic in mind, you may run your suggested topic by either Dr. Tomie or Stacy for approval. If your suggestion is approved, then you are the Group Leader, and the topic will be posted to the Google Drive, where other interested students may ask Dr. Tomie or Stacy for permission to become a member of the GRP. If you have a topic in mind but you do not want to be the Group Leader, then talk someone else into suggesting the topic, then join the GRP as a member. Remember, each GRP is limited to 4-6 students, including the Group Leader.

The newly-formed GRP has the responsibility to explore a broad and general learning-relevant topic which can be further divided, and each member of the GRP will take ownership of their own specific part of the more general topic. In this way, each member will be assigned their individual, specific sub-topic. Each student will explore the scientific literature to find at least two peer-reviewed publications relevant to their specific sub-topic. These publications must come from the scientific database using the library's database resources (PubMed, Medline, PsychInfo, etc). Students are expected to download and read the publications, and then summarize their findings by developing a PowerPoint slide show presentation that they will create and make available to the class.

The Group Leader is not solely responsible for the GRP, but is nevertheless charged with many duties to keep things moving forward. If a Group Leader is not up to the task, the Group Leader will be replaced. The Group Leader must schedule and organize the first group meeting where each Member will take ownership of a specific sub-topic. Each sub-topic and the name of the student responsible for that sub-topic will be entered into the Group's Google Drive.

During the semester, the group will meet via Zoom at least two more times, where attendance will be taken by the Group Leader. At each meeting, each Member will present to the group their most recent peer-reviewed scientific publication relevant to their sub-topic, which they will add to the Group's Google Drive. By the end of the semester, each Group Member will have identified their two best published papers that will form the basis of their PowerPoint slide show on their specific sub-topic.

Each group will have a 3rd Zoom meeting toward the end-of-semester, where each Member will submit to the group their PowerPoint slide show of their sub-topic. While content may vary considerably depending on the specific sub-topic, a PowerPoint slide show of a sub-topic will typically consist of a total of approximately 20-25 individual slides describing their sub-topic and the two scientific publications. For each publication there should be 8-10 slides (Publication ID; Aims; Methods; Results; Discussion; Other Relevant Papers). At this meeting, the group will organize the 4-6 sub-topics into a coherent presentation of their overall research topic and then the Group Leader will upload their overall group project to Assignments @ Canvas. More details will be provided at ZOOM sessions on Thursdays, 1:30 – 2:30 PM.

To successfully complete the GRP you must attend the Group Meetings and contribute at least 2 scientific publications on your sub-topic, and then develop a PowerPoint slide show featuring those publications. Group Leaders will take attendance at each meeting and notify Dr. Tomie when any member has missed two meetings, regardless of cause.

GRADING:

Your course grade will be calculated as the average percentage score of your 4 exams plus 10 additional percentage points for those students who successfully complete the Group Research Project (GRP).

If your exam point total (sum of all four exam scores) is 108 (or higher), then your average exam score is at least $108/120 = 90\%$ + 10% for the GRP = 100%, which is an "A".

If your exam point total is 102 - 107, then your average percentage score is 85%-89% + 10% for the GRP = 95% - 99%, which is an "A".

If your exam point total is 96 -101, then your average percentage score is 80% - 84% + 10% for the GRP = 90% - 94%, which is an "A".

If your exam point total is 90 - 95, then your average percentage score is 75% - 79% + 10% for the GRP = 85% - 89%, which is a "B+".

If your exam point total is 84 - 89, then your average percentage score is 70% - 74% + 10% for the GRP = 80% - 84%, which is a "B".

If your exam point total is 78 - 83, then your average percentage score is 65% - 69% + 10% for the GRP = 75% - 79%, which is a "C+".

If your exam point total is 72 - 77, then your average percentage score is 60% - 64% + 10% for the GRP = 70% - 74%, which is a "C".

If your exam point total is 60 - 71, then your average percentage score is 50% - 59% + 10% for the GRP = 60% - 69%, which is a "D".

If your exam point total is 59 or lower, then your average percentage score is 49% or lower + 10% for the GRP = 59% or lower, which is an "F".

WEEK OF MONDAY**READING ASSIGNMENT**

Jan 17 Domjan, Chapter 1

Jan 24 Domjan, Chapters 2-3

Jan 31 Domjan, Chapters 4-5

Feb 7 Domjan, Chapters 6-7

Feb 14 Domjan, Chapters 8-9

EXAM #1: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14 (covering Domjan Ch 1-7)

Feb 21 Domjan, Chapters 10-11

Feb 28 Domjan, Chapters 12-13

Mar 7 Domjan, Chapter 14

**EXAM #2: AVAILABLE FROM FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 1 PM
THRU TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 1 PM (covering Domjan Ch 8-14).**

Mar 21 Tomie, Intro and Chapters 1-3 (pp.1-18)

Mar 28 Tomie, Chapters 4-6 (pp.19-37)

Apr 4 Tomie, Chapters 7-9 (pp. 38-72)

Apr 11 Tomie, Chapters 10-13 (pp. 73-104)

EXAM #3: MONDAY, APRIL 11 (Tomie, Intro + Ch 1-9)

Apr 18 Tomie, Chapters 14-16 (pp.105-141)

Apr 25 Tomie, Chapters 17-18 (pp. 142-181)

May 2 Tomie, Conclusion (pp. 182-184)

**ONLINE FINAL EXAM
TBD (Available 24 hours)
(Covering Tomie, Ch 10-18 + Conclusion)**