

Psy.5370 Syllabus,SS2,2019

Instructor: Dr. Theron Stimmel, email ds03@txstate.edu

Office: 250M UAC

Office Hours 3:45-4:30 Daily

Course Materials: all written materials either handed out in class or provided either by email or under Resources in TRACS

Course Goals

1. To teach the basic learning and memory issues that so much underlie cognition and motivation
2. To understand how nature and nurture underlies all of our behavior
3. To learn possible ways this course may be applied to changing behavior in areas such as work habits, teaching, dealing with drug problems, lack of motivation and harmful aggressive behavior.

A brief explanation of the course title. Most of our learning, motivation, and cognition arises from research on learning and memory. There are several innate factors in us that limit certain things to have problems with some kinds of both learning and cognition and we consider them in this course-one example is how rational numbers are so difficult to learn for so many people or why do we readily learn to fear males of a skin color different from our own .

I have a bias towards believing that changing behavior is usually more effective than trying to change minds but I am open to other views on that issue. We will

have some of the best articles I could find on changing behaviors and motivation but they will be examples that serve to widen your outlook but probably not directly use. Fields are changing so rapidly it is hard to decide what to cover but you will get classic articles that have stood the test of time and have laid the groundwork for current thinking but mostly you will read very current research and applications.

Grades: Explained most fully at end of Syllabus There will be 3 Quizzes- Final is one of these. Take homes are required and count as part of the grade. I will explain them in class . Generally a lot of the learning goes on in class so if you come to class having read the assigned articles and are ready to engage in an intellectual dialog where asking questions is vital then you will find this course to be worthwhile as most of my previous students have found this course to be both
Worthwhile and interesting

The Course Schedule follows. Each day there will be a topic and a list of articles you should have read before class and thought about what things you need to clarify with other students and the instructor.

Course Schedule

Date	Topic	
Jul 8	What's due versus tradition	Articles by authors last name Psychology
	SWAG in Education and Motivation	
July 9	Scientific Approach wins out	getTH2
July10	Why we still study the Old Russian and his drooling dogs!	TH2 Crombag, Navarrette

July 11 Applying respondent conditioning; Intro to operant conditioning

July 12 Skinner's Behaviorism behavior or mind? Skinner article in class
 Finish TH2 Monday get TH3 Eisenberger

TH1 due

July 15 Finish TH2- due the 12th Behavioral approach and motivation: Intro to
 Social Learning Theory Bandura, Beck

July 16 Self-efficacy, vicarious extinction Golkar

July 17 Summary of everything up to now 1hour quiz On THs 1-3 Hand in TH3
 Some of THs counts as part of quiz Get TH4

July 18 Heavy lecture on memory ,the center of the mind --do not miss this class
 Work on TH4 Siegler, Nairne, Gagne

July 19 Finish basic learning + kinds of learning Gagne

July 22 Finish TH4 Get TH5 Dynamics of memory? Finish TH4

July 23 Constructivist versus socio-cultural views of memory . Autobiographical
 memories Ross ,Foley Hand in TH4

July 24 Reliability of memory- False and recovered memories. Loftus, Shaw

July 25 Emotions and memory
 Ashcraft

July 26 Brief Quiz over memory THs4 and 5 Get TH6- lecture on cognitive
 motivation get TH5

July 29 Historical overview of major developments in motivation and social
 cognition Wiener

July 30 Attribution theory and learned helplessness Wiener, Dweck

July 31 Applications of new looks at motivation Yeager, Mueller

Aug 1 Putting it altogether ! teens and ageing
 Hand in TH6 Get TH 7

Aug 2 Casey, Casey and Caudle, Carstensen

Aug 5 More of above Self Regulation The big issue?
Carstensen, Wagner- really dig into Wagner Hand in TH6

Aug.6 Issues- aggression articles by Job, Denson

Issues with self-regulation don't always count on it Review as needed

Aug 7 Review and catchup

Aug 8 final at 5pm There will be a Take-home portion on the final

Grades THs 25% Th1 just a trial but grade counts

Quizzes 25% each You will become more of a mastery learner in this course so quizzes will reward you for studying, participating in class, and asking good questions

His course will be a good experience if I do my job and you do yours! Let's have some intellectual fun this summer. We can be somewhat flexible with the schedule. We may take a little more time for some things you may want to dwell upon and I leave a little wiggle room at the end!



