Meeting times: Monday and Thursday; 10:00 -11:20 am.
Venue: David Turpin Building, Room A120
Date Range: September 7th, 2016-December 2nd, 2016.
Instructor: Professor Daniel Bub
Office: Cornett A185
Office Hours: Friday 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.

Text: The textbook for this course is free and can be downloaded from:

http://web.uvic.ca/~histpsyc/ConceptualFoundations/MainPage.html

Objectives:
The purpose of this course is to develop an understanding of contemporary theories based on the history of core ideas in psychology. To do well you will need to master a number of principles in eight different domains (see below). The course content forms part of the conceptual knowledge you will need for other psychology courses. The relationship between this course and other 2nd, 3rd and 4th-year courses will be explained on the first day of class.

The textbook is an essential part of this course, as are the lectures. It is not possible, in general, to do well by simply reading the textbook and skipping classes, or just by attending class. A successful and rewarding experience requires: (i) diligence in carrying out every reading assignment before class, and (ii) attending lectures on a regular basis.

Lectures will be an opportunity to explore and refine your understanding of the ideas in the text, although some mastery of the course content will depend on completing the background reading assignments.

During the semester, we will cover the following topics:

1) Philosophical Foundations of some core ideas in Psychology.
2) The relationship between mind and brain.
3) Experimental Methods.
4) Biological Bases of Mind.
5) Measurement of individual differences.
6) Psychoanalytic theories.
7) Development.
8) Computation.
Each topic (for example, the relationship between mind and brain) consists of a single chapter in the book, divided into two sections.

**Course requirements:**

Classroom attendance is crucial in this course if you wish to obtain a reasonable final grade.

Before each section of a chapter, a reading assignment will be posted on our website. This will include detailed instructions on how to approach the conceptual content of the chapter, what ideas to attend to, as well as a number of questions that allow you to evaluate your understanding of the section you are preparing in advance of each class.

During the lecture, which builds on the reading assignment, five multiple choice questions will be posed at various points, some of them covering the assigned background reading material, others dealing with the content of the lecture. A correct answer is worth 2 points (no points are allocated for an incorrect answer), giving a possible total of 10 points. There are 20 such classroom exercises (a total of 200 points). Your performance on these exercises will count for 20% of your final grade. So each exercise counts 1% towards your final grade.

You must complete all five questions in order to obtain credit for a particular classroom exercise.

To respond to classroom questions you will need an Iclicker. These can be purchased from the bookstore.

To find out more and to register your Iclicker consult:

http://elearning.uvic.ca/iclicker/students

*Make sure to always bring your Iclicker with you to every class; it is not possible to accept answers to classroom exercises in written form. Ensure that you have spare batteries in case your Iclicker runs out of power.*

Students may miss any three of the Iclicker exercises without penalty. For example, if you miss three exercises, your final grade on this section of the course will be computed out of a total of 170 points (17 exercises x 10 points = 170) rather than 200 points. These 170 points (instead of 200 points) will then count for 20% of your final grade. If you miss additional exercises, say you miss six classes, your cumulative score will continue to be out of a total of 170 points.

Midterms: There will be two midterm tests, each held in class and lasting for 1 hour. These tests will be multiple choice format and the questions will be distributed in printed form. Each of these quizzes will count for 25% of the final grade. The content of a midterm will be confined to particular sections of the course. The dates of these midterms are as follows:


A final examination covering the entire content of the course will count for 30% of the final grade, and will be scheduled by the administration.
Exam Protocol:

1) The usual rules of the university apply to attending examinations. No allowance can be made for busy schedules or other reasons not sanctioned by the UVic administration. For those students missing examinations (midterms) for valid reasons, a score based on the completed examinations will be calculated relative to the average scored by the rest of the class.

2) Students missing the final exam for a valid reason will have to request a deferred examination from Record Services.

3) When you enter the classroom to write any of the exams, it is assumed that you are mentally and physically able to write the exam. Once you complete an exam, it is not possible to change the outcome on the basis of claims that you were not in a suitable condition to write it.

4) It is not possible to obtain additional marks in this course by asking for special dispensation privately arranged on an individual basis (for example, a request from a student to produce an essay or review for additional marks beyond the marks assigned to exams and classroom participation). In other words, your final grade is based completely and only on: Two midterms counting together for 50% of your final grade, a final exam counting for 30% of your final grade and 20% assigned to classroom Iclicker performance. There are no other options available for adding to your final grade.

Some requests:

Please arrive for lectures on time.
Because cellphones are distracting, these devices should not be used in class unless you are using them for lecture notes or recording purposes.
Please do not talk in class unless you have questions or remarks you wish to share with everyone.
Please do not leave before the end of the class.

Grades are assigned according to university policy.
The University of Victoria is committed to promoting, providing and protecting a positive and supportive and safe learning and working environment for all its members. Students are responsible for checking their registration status before the end of the course add period.
Students will not be added to the course after that date.

Contacting the Course Instructor or TA:

We respond to emails during working hours only. We cannot respond expediently to emails on weekends or after 5 pm.