

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
Division of Social Science
SOSC1960 Discovering Mind and Behavior
Course Syllabus
Summer Semester 2021

Lecturer	Teaching Assistants
Beatrice LAI Office: Room 2387 Email: beatricelai@ust.hk Phone: 2358 7817 Consultation: By appointment	Vivien PONG, Kayee WONG, Alison YOUNG Email: sosc1960ta@ust.hk Consultation: By appointment

Lecture Time: Mon, Wed, Fri HKT 9:00am – 11:50am
Zoom Meeting ID: 947 9784 8735

Course Description

The aim of this course is to introduce the research methods and the fundamental concepts and theories in various areas in psychology. This course is suitable for students who want to acquire a basic understanding of psychology, and prerequisite for students who want to take further courses in psychology.

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)

After taking this course, you should be able to:

1. explain how psychological research is conducted and how psychologists observe human behavior scientifically.
2. demonstrate a fundamental knowledge of key psychology concepts and theories
3. analyze daily experiences with reference to psychological concepts and theories
4. develop appreciation of the scientific basis of psychology

Assessment

Quizzes	30%
Assignment 1	25%
Assignment 2	25%
Video	10%
Research experience	10%

1. Quizzes (30%) ILOs #1, #2, #3

- There are two quizzes to test your understanding of course materials. The quiz is an open-book, open-note quiz with a combination of multiple-choice questions and true or false questions. The quizzes cover all materials in lectures and required readings.
- No make-up quiz will be given to students who are absent from the quiz unless there are validated medical reasons. You must present a written note from your doctor attesting to the fact that you were too ill to attend the quiz. This note must be presented to me to arrange for a make-up quiz. The make-up quiz will be in the form of essay questions.

2. Assignment 1 and 2 (50%) ILOs #1, #2, #3

- Task: You are required to complete two assignments. The first assignment is about Memory and the second one is about Social Psychology. For each assignment, you have to write a maximum of 500 words to demonstrate your understanding of the topic.
- The guidelines for the assignments will be uploaded on Canvas in due course. Please read and follow the instructions carefully.
- Deadline: Assignment 1 is due on **July 8, 2021** and Assignment 2 is due on **July 15, 2021**.

3. Video (10%) ILOs #1, #2, #3

- Make a video to illustrate how you can apply a theory/concept from one of the topics to your personal experience.
- The guidelines will be uploaded on Canvas in due course. Please read and follow the instructions carefully.
- Deadline: **July 26, 2021**

4. Research Experience (10%) ILOs #1, #4

- The science of human mind and behavior advances through empirical research. There are opportunities for you to observe how such research is conducted. You will complete two tasks:
 - i. *Research study*: Complete a real research study online as a participant and learn firsthand how it is conducted. Write a thought piece (within 100 to 300 words) about your experience.
 - ii. *Research exercise*: Watch a video about a research study. Write a thought piece (within 100 to 300 words) about the study.
- Your writings will be graded on a pass/fail basis (for failed cases, students will receive comments and have a chance to rewrite and resubmit with a one-point deduction).
- **Only the submitted file will be graded**, even if you claim to have submitted a wrong file, a wrong assignment, an incomplete assignment, or a corrupted file. It is your responsibility to make sure that your submitted file is correct and free of problems. If the file is wrong/incomplete/corrupted, you will receive a zero mark. No resubmission is allowed.
- Submission deadline: **July 5, 2021**.

Required Textbook

Feldman, R. S. (2019). Understanding Psychology (14th ed.). New York: McGraw-Hill. ISBN 9781260194524.

Academic Integrity

I expect all of you to observe the University's policies regarding academic integrity (<https://acadreg.ust.hk/generalreg.html#b>). Academic dishonesty such as plagiarism and cheating usually results in a reduced or failing grade in eth course. Please consult me if you are not clear about the guidelines.

Course Communication Platform

All lecture materials and announcements will be posted on CANVAS. Be sure to check CANVAS frequently for any updated news. You should configure your Canvas setting to enable email notification of announcements and new materials uploaded. Interaction between the lecturer and the students is one of the key ingredients to an optimal learning experience. You can share any thoughts relevant to the course by email or talk to the lecturer in person. These can be things you come across in your everyday life which are related to what you have learned in class.

Your Feedback

Your opinions about the course are very valuable in helping me to better improve the course. A course evaluation will be held at the end of the course. You are also very much welcome to talk to me anytime.

Teaching Schedule

Lecture	Date	Topic	Readings
1.	June 21	Introduction	Ch. 1
2.	June 23	Research Methods	Ch. 2
3.	June 25	Memory	Ch. 7
4.	June 28	Learning	Ch. 6
5.	June 30	Social Psychology	Ch. 17
6.	July 2	Quiz 1 Dry Run/ States of Consciousness	Ch. 5
7.	July 5	Quiz 1/ Research Experience	-
8.	July 7	Sensation and Perception	Ch. 4
9.	July 9	Intelligence	Ch. 9
10.	July 12	Personality	Ch. 13
11.	July 14	Development	Ch. 12
12.	July 16	Health Psychology	Ch. 14
13.	July 19	Psychological Disorders	Ch. 15 & 16
14.	July 21	Quiz 2	-

Important Dates

Assessment Due

July 5	Quiz 1 / Research Experience
July 8	Assignment 1 (Memory)
July 15	Assignment 2 (Social Psychology)
July 21	Quiz 2
July 26	Video