

## Learning & Motivation

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Psych. 2610-001

Fall 2019

### SYLLABUS

Instructor: Dr. Harvard L. Armus

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Office hours: M-F, 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. and by appointment and by chance

Office Location: University Hall, Rm. 1120

Telephone: 419-530-2714

Class Location: University Hall, Rm. 3800

Class Time: Tues. & Thurs, 11:10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Catalog Description: Extended treatment of learning, conditioning, and motivation, including operant learning, reinforcement schedules, symbolic reward, generalization and related areas and theoretical developments.

Student Learning Outcomes: Adequate familiarity with the topics noted above, as assessed by examinations, reports, and classroom participation. In addition, I hope that students will be able to critique both published journal articles and research proposals and will be able to suggest further lines of research.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of PSY 1010 or equivalent.

Required Textbook: \_\_\_\_\_, Schwartz, Wasserman and Robbins, W.W. Norton & Co., ISBN 0-393-97591-6

Additional Material: Handouts from published and other works.

Missed Classes, Assignments, etc.: Students are expected to be on time for and attend all class meetings. Unexcused class absences may result in a substantially lower course grade. All assignments are to be submitted when they are due. Late submissions and emailed reports will not be accepted, and all reports must be typed.

Exams, etc.: There will be 3 non-cumulative exams, primarily of the essay variety, with each exam worth 25% of the final grade. Exams and assignments will be graded by a letter grade, A,B,C,D, or F, with + or – additions, if appropriate.

Except in the most unusual and unavoidable of circumstances, no make-up exams will be given, and a grade of F will be assigned for a missed exam.

Course Grades: Grades will be based on exams (75%) and on assignments and class performance (25%).0912 0 612 792 re

### Chapter 1

Introduction to Learning Definitions, some approaches to learning research and theory, ethical considerations

### Chapter 3

Aspects of innate behavior; ethology, sensitization and adaptation, basics of classical (Pavlovian) conditioning, learning in very simple organisms

### Chapters 4 & 5

Issues in conditioning and retention. Operant conditioning Law of effect, terminology, operant-classical distinction, behavioral units, contingency & contiguity, nature of associations, reinforcement, reinforcement relativity, conditioned reinforcement, token economy, introduction to reinforcement schedules, extinction, recovery, partial reinforcement extinction effect, generalization & discrimination, redundancy, peak shift, transposition, theories of reinforcement, behavioral economics, reinforcement schedules in detail, natural & artificial concepts, etc.

Chapters 6-8

Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Center for Student Advocacy and Wellness provides free and confidential advocacy and counseling services to students, faculty and staff. The YWCA H.O.P.E. Center also can be accessed as an off-campus confidential resource at 419.241.7273. Faculty, teaching assistants, and other university employees are mandated reporters of any incidents of sexual or gender-based violence or harassment. Thus, any disclosures of sexual or gender-based violence or harassment on or off campus made to faculty or teaching assistants, or other university employees must be forwarded to the Title IX Coordinator.