

Learning & Motivation

Psych. 2610-001

~~Spring 2013~~  
Fall, 2014

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

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Class Location: University Hall, Rm. 4440

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

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

Appetitive and aversive conditioning

Chapter 10

Stimulus control of behavior, including generalization, discrimination, contrast effects, etc.

Chapter 2

Effects on learning of various biological factors

Chapter 11

Cognitive influences on learning, including some applications to phobias, depression, etc.

Chapter 12

Memory and forgetting

In addition to the above, readings in journal articles and other material may be assigned.

**University Policies:**

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assistance from a trained advocate. In-person, walk-in appointments are also available Monday-

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