



Learning (Psyc 375) Section 1 (online) Spring 2024 Syllabus

Professor:	Dr. Jody Lewis
Office:	SCI D233
In person availability:	Office hours Thurs 1-2pm or by appointment
Online availability:	M-F 9am – 5pm (please see schedule posted in Canvas)
Ways to contact me:	my office, on campus, e-mail, Canvas message, Zoom
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The goals of this course are to:

1. understand and practice identifying the principles of learning
2. help you to develop the skills needed to study behavior as a science
3. illustrate how studying animal behavior can benefit the understanding of human behavior
4. recognize how the knowledge obtained in the lab can be applied to understanding, and controlling behavior outside the laboratory

Teaching philosophy and classroom expectations:

- I do not make judgments about a student's character based on their grades/performance in my classes.
- I do care very much about my teaching, how I run a classroom, and will do anything I can to help you get the best possible grade in this course.
- My goal in life is NOT to give busy work, torture students, and make their lives miserable –really, I have better things to do with my time.
- I consider all students adults, which means that I believe that students are able to make decisions for themselves, have a life outside the classroom, and if students need help, they will come to me (I do not chase students around and I don't monitor their attendance closely).
- I think students learn more and get more out of a class when they read the book and participate in class.
- I expect that students will ask questions in class if they need me to repeat something, clarify what I said, and/or are curious about something
- Learning should be fun and relaxing, but difficult. Very few of us have sponge-like brains, so if you want to learn something you have to work hard.

Class Materials

Text: Powell, Symbaluk, and MacDonald (2017) Introduction to Learning and Behavior 5th Edition. You may read the assigned reading in the book before or after lecture. I would highly suggest both.

Internet Sources: This class is a 100% online asynchronous class offered through Canvas. All lectures will be prerecorded so students are able to complete the materials when it is most convenient to them as long as they meet the deadlines.

Course requirements

Quizzes: In order to test students over the lecture and reading material, you will be expected to take 13 quizzes (one quiz per module) over the course of the semester. Each quiz will consist of 10 multiple choice questions (each question is worth 2 points). Students will have 15 minutes to complete each quiz. In order to discourage cheating, quiz answers will not be revealed to students after the quiz is finished. Please contact your professor if you want to know what questions you missed.

Assignments:

Research assignments: In order to have exposure to how research is conducted in learning, students will be expected to read 3 research articles over the course of the semester and answer a series of questions about each article. In order to reduce workload and increase performance, students will collaborate with another student on these assignments.

Application assignments: In order to help students understand how learning can be used in practice, they will be assigned 8 short application assignments over the course of the semester. For each application assignment, you will type a short essay (5 pts each) to a posed question related to the material. There is no word minimum or maximum for these assignments. They should be as long as it takes to answer the question. Assignment lengths tend to vary between 1/4 - 3/4 of a page (single spaced).

Ungraded practice activities. There will be ungraded practice activities offered throughout the semester. The purpose is to help you practice the concepts before you are tested over the material. These activities are optional but are highly, highly, recommended.

Late work policies:

- Late assignments will lose 10% of the possible points per day that the assignment is late (these points are automatically deducted in Canvas).
- Blank or incorrect documents uploaded to Canvas assignments will be considered missing and/or is subject to standard late penalties. Whenever you upload a document to Canvas, check to make sure it is the document you intended to upload.
- If you have extenuating circumstances during the semester which make it difficult for you to complete the work on time (e.g. health issues, family emergencies, deployment, etc.) please contact me right away so we can come up with a plan of action for you so you can finish the semester successfully. I do not allow students to make up missed work several weeks or months after an assignment is due.

Extra credit and redo's: I do not allow students to redo assignments or retake quizzes and I do not offer extra credit assignments. If you are struggling with material, please ask me for help before the assignment is due.

Grading:

Your grade is based on the number of points earned in the class.

Point distribution:

Quizzes (20 pts x 13)	260pts	72%
Research assign (20pts x 3)	60pts	17%
<u>Application assign (5pts x 8)</u>	<u>40pts</u>	<u>11%</u>
Total	360pts	100%

Letter grade cutoffs:	
A	93%-100%
A-	90%-92%
B+	87%-89%
B	83%-86%
B-	80%-82%
C+	77%-79%
C	73%-76%
C-	70%-72%
D+	67%-69%
D	60%-66%
F	<60%

Additional course information

Attendance: Attendance is expected in this class. For an online class, attendance means logging into Canvas on a regular basis and completing assignments on time. If you have extenuating circumstances during the semester which make it difficult for you to complete the work on time (e.g. health issues, family emergencies, deployment, etc.) please contact me right away so we can come up with a plan of action for you so you can finish the semester successfully. Do not wait until several weeks or months after an assignment is due to contact me.

Academic honesty: I do not tolerate violations of academic honesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and copying/buying papers off the internet. You are responsible for understanding and abiding by the university academic standards. Instances of academic dishonesty may result in the failure of the course. Please see Chapter 14, *Student Academic Standards and Disciplinary Procedures* of the *UWSP Community Rights and Responsibilities*. This can be found at <http://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Documents/CommunityRights.pdf>. And the Academic Misconduct Webpage can be found at <http://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Pages/Academic-Misconduct.aspx>

Disability accommodation: Please contact me and Disability Services during the first two weeks of the semester if you are in need of any additional accommodations at 346-3365 or <http://www.uwp.edu/disability>

Religious accommodation: Religious beliefs will be accommodated according to UWS 22.03 as long as you notify me within the first three weeks of the beginning of class of the specific dates on which you will request relief.

Tutoring-Learning Center: The center provides assistance such as group and individual tutoring, help with computer skills, and help with writing papers. They are located in 018 LRC (346-3568). They can also be found at <http://www.uwsp.edu/tlc/>

Withdrawal policy: If you decide you no longer want to take the course you must follow the university procedures for officially dropping the course. If you stop attending and do not officially drop the course you will receive an F in the course. See the Registration and Records webpage for information about when the last day is to drop a course (click on Registration Dates and Information). <http://www.uwsp.edu/reg-rec/>

Legal actions I am required to report: According to federal and state laws, and university guidelines I am required to report acts of criminal or offensive nature that occur both within and outside of class. This includes acts of sexual harassment and assault, bias and hate crimes, illicit drug use, and acts of violence. Any disclosure or description of these incidents – both current and in the past – may be reported to the Dean of Students office (<http://www.uwsp.edu/dos/>) or the local authorities.

Equality, fairness, and respect: I do everything in my power to treat everyone equally, fairly, and with respect regardless of their race, ethnic group, socioeconomic status, gender, sexual preference, sexual identity, religion, age, weight, political ideology and opinions, profession, and anything else under the sun.

Lecture copyright. Lecture materials and recordings are protected intellectual property at UW-Stevens Point. Students in this course may use the materials and recordings for their personal use related to participation in this class. Students may also take notes solely for their personal use. Students may not copy or share lecture materials and recordings outside of class, including posting on internet sites or selling to commercial entities. Unauthorized use of these copyrighted lecture materials and recordings constitutes copyright infringement and may be addressed under the university's policies, UWS Chapters 14 and 17, governing student academic and non-academic misconduct.

Outline of scheduled material

Dates	Topic	Graded material	Points	When the module opens	Due dates
Unit 1: Classical conditioning					
Jan 22-26	Introductions and syllabus				
Jan 29-Feb 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 1: Definitions, research, and history of learning	Quiz 1	20	Jan 22	Fri Feb 2 by 5pm
Feb 5-9	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 2: Non-associative learning and Classical conditioning basics	AA 1 Quiz 2	5 20	Jan 26	Fri Feb 9 by 5pm
Feb 12-16	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 3: Research in classical conditioning	Quiz 3	20	Feb 2	Fri Feb 16 by 5pm
Feb 19-23	Meet your partner and work on the first research assignment	RA 1	20	Feb 9	Fri Feb 23 by 5pm
Feb 26-Mar 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 4: Applications of classical conditioning	AA 2 Quiz 4	5 20	Feb 16	Fri March 1 by 5pm
Unit 2: Operant conditioning					
March 4-8	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 5: Basics of operant conditioning and Factors that influence operant conditioning	AA 3 Quiz 5	5 20	Feb 23	Fri March 8 by 5pm
March 11-15	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 6: Research in operant conditioning	RA 2 Quiz 6	20 20	March 1	Fri March 15 by 5pm
March 18-22	SPRING BREAK				
March 25-29	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 7: Schedules of reinforcement basics	AA 4 Quiz 7	5 20	March 15	Fri March 29 by 5pm
April 1-5	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 8: Advanced schedules of reinforcement	Quiz 8	20	March 22	Fri April 5 by 5pm
Unit 3: Complex conditioning					
April 8-12	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 9: Theories of reinforcement	AA 5 Quiz 9	5 20	March 29	Fri April 12 by 5pm
April 15-19	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 10: Stimulus control	AA 6 Quiz 10	5 20	April 5	Fri April 19 by 5pm
April 22-26	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 11: Punishment	AA 7 Quiz 11	5 20	April 12	Fri April 26 by 5pm
April 29 - May 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 12: Classical/operant interactions and biological context	AA 8 Quiz 12	5 20	April 19	Fri May 3 by 5pm
May 6-10	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 13: Social and observational learning	RA 3 Quiz 13	20 20	April 26	Fri May 10 by 5pm
May 13-17	Finals week				