

**PSYCH 248 – Psychology of Learning and Memory,
Fall, 2011**

Instructor: Gary Dell; gdell@illinois.edu

2117 Beckman, 244-1294

Office Hour: 9:45-10:30, Tuesday, in Psychology Bldg. 833

(Note: Office hours are in Psychology, not Beckman. If you make an appointment to see the instructor outside of office hours it may be in Beckman or Psychology. So, please take note of the place.)

Class Meeting: Tu, Th, 11:00 – 12:15, Temple Hoyne Buell 134

Requirements: Reading assignments, 3 examinations

Text: *Learning and Memory*, by Schwartz & Reisberg (Norton, 1991)

TA: Pamela Glosson (glosson2@illinois.edu)

Office Hour: Thursday 9:30-10:30, 837 Psychology Bldg.

Website for Powerpoint slides: <http://www.psychology.illinois.edu/~gdell>

Grade information is available on compass.

Unit 1

Aug 23 – Sep 22

Basic Principles of Learning & Memory

Chapters 1-2, 3, 89-101, 4 & 7, 12, 454-455

Aug 23 Introduction

Aug 25 Learning vs. memory Ch 1, 1-34

Aug 30 Pavlovian conditioning Ch 2, 3, 89-101

Sep 1 Operant conditioning Ch 4

Sep 6 Methods of studying memory Ch 1, 34-38

Sep 8 Classic theory of memory Ch 7, 251-265; Ch 12, 454-455

Sep 13 Short vs. long-term store I Ch 7, 266-271

Sep 15 Short vs. long-term store II

Sep 20 Levels of processing Ch 7, 273-287

Sep 22 EXAM 1

Unit 2

Sep 27 – Oct 27

The Structure of Long-Term Store and Memory for Meaning

Ch 9, 10, 11, Ch 12, 488-490, 13, 495-510, 8, 297-323

Sep 27 What causes forgetting? Ch 13, 495-510
Sep 29 Do we ever really forget? Ch 9, 349-361
Oct 4 Meaning in memory Ch 10
Oct 6 Semantic Memory
Oct 11 Implicit Memory Ch 8, 297-323, Ch 12, 488-490
Oct 13 Propositional networks Ch 11
Oct 18 NO CLASS. TA provides office hour
Oct 20 Memory for Meaning, Ch. 9, 328-348
Oct 25 Inferences and schemas
Oct 27 EXAM 2

Unit 3

Nov 1 – Dec 6

Memory Dissociation and Other Phenomena

Ch 12, 14, 13, 511-533; 8, 288-297; 319

Nov 1 Organic amnesia I Ch 7, 271-273
Nov 3 NO CLASS
Nov 8 Organic amnesia II Ch 8, 319
Nov 10 Hypnotic enhancement and amnesia
Nov 15 Repression; Dream Recall Ch 13, 511-517
Nov 17 Sleep enhancement
Nov 29 State dependence Ch 8, 288-297
Dec 1 Memory and aging Ch 13, 523-533
Dec 6 EXAM 3 (Note: you are responsible for Chapters 12 and 14)
Dec 9 OPTIONAL FINAL EXAM – Fri, Dec. 9, 1:30 p.m. in classroom

Extra-credit option: Learning and memory is heavily based on experimentation, and participating in experiments can provide a hands-on sense of what the research process is like. Thus, you may choose to participate in psychology department research for extra-credit in this class, using exactly the same enrollment methods that you used in introductory psychology. (To enroll, go to <http://uiuc.sona-systems.com/>) Experiments range in length from 1-3 hours, and you can do up to three hours worth of experiments to get the extra credit (e.g. one 3-hour experiment, three 1-hour experiments, and so on). If you complete the three hours, you will get 3 extra points on your grade; if you complete two hours, you get 2 extra points; and if you complete one hour, you get 1 extra point. A point corresponds to a single question on the multiple-choice exams. Typically, the total number of questions for the three required exams is 90 to 100—30-33 points per exam. So, the amount of extra credit isn't very large. It will only raise your

grade if you are right near the border. And please keep in mind that *you won't know whether your grade is at the border until the 3rd exam on the last day of class, and there is sometimes no possibility of participating in an experiment that late in the semester.* So, you can't wait to see whether you are at the border and then go for the extra credit then. If you would like to earn extra-credit but prefer not to participate in experiments, you may instead write a term paper related to course topics for the same 3 points of extra credit. Please see Dr. Dell to make these arrangements; *you must have the topic for the paper approved by October 15, 2008 to exercise this extra-credit option.* So, for this paper option, too, you cannot decide at the end of the class to do it.

If you find that you are right below a grade border after the required three exams and you have not chosen any extra-credit option, you have one more chance. You may take the optional final exam. This exam will then count as much as each exam did. So, instead of each exam counting one-third of your grade, the four exams (regular exams plus final) will each count for one-quarter. *Please note: The final will not replace any of your other exams. It is just averaged in with them.* Typically, about a third of the students who take the optional final raise their grade. The details of how this works will be explained in class.