Psychology (PSYC) 387

Learning (Revision 7)

Status:	Replaced with new revision, see the **course listing** ⤴ for the current revision ✖
Delivery mode:	**Individualized study online** ⤴ with **eText** ⤴
Credits:	3
Areas of study:	Arts, Science, or Social Science
Prerequisites:	**PSYC 289** or professor approval.
Precluded:	None
Challenge:	PSYC 387 has a challenge for credit option.
Faculty:	**Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences** ⤴

Overview

PSYC 387 introduces students to the principles of learning and how those principles can be used to modify human behaviour. The course emphasizes the application of learning theories and principles to solve behavioural problems as they exist in oneself; one's family; schools; the workplace; and in larger social, economic, and political groups.

Topics include reinforcement, extinction, punishment, schedules of reinforcement, stimulus discrimination, fading, stimulus-response chaining, generalization, modelling, problem-solving, Pavlovian conditioning, forgetting, and concept learning.

Outline

- Unit 1: Introduction

- Unit 2: Pavlovian Conditioning and Its Applications

- Unit 3: Operant Reinforcement

- Unit 4: Schedules of Reinforcement

- Unit 5: Operant Learning: Punishment and Operant Applications

- Unit 6: Observational Learning and Generalization, Discrimination, and Stimulus Control

- Unit 7: Remembering and Forgetting and the Limits of Learning

Evaluation

To **receive credit** ⧉ for PSYC 387, you must achieve a mark of at least 50 percent on the examination and obtain a course composite grade of at least **D (50 percent)** ⧉ . You must also complete the course assignment, to the satisfaction of your tutor, and the seven unit quizzes. The weighting of activities for credit is as follows:

Activity	Weight
Seven Unit Quizzes (6% each)	42%

Activity	Weight
Tutor-Marked Assignment	18%
Final Exam	40%
Total	**100%**

The **final examination** for this course must be requested in advance and written under the supervision of an AU-approved exam invigilator. Invigilators include either ProctorU or an approved in-person invigilation centre that can accommodate online exams. Students are responsible for payment of any invigilation fees. Students are responsible for payment of any invigilation fees. Information on exam request deadlines, invigilators, and other exam-related questions, can be found at the **Exams and grades** ☑ section of the Calendar.

To learn more about assignments and examinations, please refer to Athabasca University's **online Calendar** ☑ .

Materials

Chance, P. (2014). *Learning and behavior* (7th ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Cengage Learning. 📖 (eText)

eText

Registration in this course includes an electronic textbook. For more information on **electronic textbooks** ☑ , please refer to our **eText Initiative site** ☑ .

Other Materials

The rest of the course materials are available online and include a Course Information and a Study Guide.

Challenge for credit

Overview

The challenge for credit process allows you to demonstrate that you have acquired a command of the general subject matter, knowledge, intellectual and/or other skills that would normally be found in a university-level course.

Full information about **challenge for credit** ⬈ can be found in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Evaluation

To **receive credit** ⬈ for the PSYC 387 challenge registration, you must write an invigilated examination, worth 100% of your final grade, and you must achieve a grade of at least **D (50 percent** ⬈**)** on the examination.

🗎 **Challenge for credit course registration form**

Important links

> **Academic advising** ⬈

> **Program planning** ⬈

> **Request assistance** ⬈

> **Support services** ⬈

Opened in Revision 7, February 4, 2020

Updated August 14, 2023

View **previous revision** ⬈