



Faculty of Science  
School of Psychology

**PSYC3241**  
**Psychobiology of Memory and Motivation**  
Semester1, 2014

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**1. Information about the Course**

FACULTY	Science		
SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENT	Psychology		
COURSE CODE	PSYC3241		
COURSE NAME	Psychobiology of Memory and Motivation		
SEMESTER	Semester1	YEAR	2014
UNITS OF CREDIT	6	LEVEL OF COURSE	3 <sup>rd</sup> year

ASSUMED KNOWLEDGE,  
 PREREQUISITES OR  
 REQUISIT



	and interpret results.
3. Develop effective communication skills, including the ability to:	<p>3.1. Write effectively in a variety of formats (essays, research proposals) and for a variety of purposes (e.g., informing, arguing).</p> <p>3.2. Demonstrate effective oral communication skills in various formats (e.g., group discussion, debate, presentation).</p> <p>3.3. Demonstrate effective interpersonal communication skills including : listening accurately and actively; provide constructive feedback to others; adopt flexible techniques to communicate sensitively and effectively with diverse ethnic and cultural partners, including in the context of teamwork.</p>
4. A knowledge and understanding of psychology at an advanced level with regard to:	<p>4.1 The biological basis of behaviour, memory, and forgetting.</p> <p>4.2. Psychobiology of memory and motivation as a discipline and its major objectives.</p> <p>1.3. Major themes in the study of memory and forgetting from both the behavioural and neural perspectives.</p> <p>1.4. The ability to explain psychological phenomena using concepts, language and major theories drawn from psychobiology.</p>

6. Graduate Attributes		
School of Psychology Graduate Attributes	Level of Focus 0 = No focus 1 = Minimal 2 = Minor 3 = Major	Activities/Assessment
1. Core knowledge and understanding	3	Participation in lectures & tutorials- assessed in exam performance, which requires an advanced understanding of the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in multiple aspects of the psychobiology of memory and motivation; the development of a research proposal, which will require advanced understanding of a particular topic in the area assessed by written research proposal
2. Research methods in psychology	3	The development of a research proposal, which will consist of a novel experiment to explore some issue related to memory and motivation. In addition, active participation in tutorials (assessed by tutor), including various "hands-on" tutorials designed to illustrate basic behavioural procedures commonly used to study memory and motivation will provide multiple opportunities to experience and improve basic research methods in psychology
3. Critical thinking skills	3	Development of a literature review for research proposal showing use of critical and creative thinking, sceptical inquiry, and the scientific approach to solve problems related to memory and motivation, from a behavioural or neural perspective.
4. Values, research and professional ethics	3	Ongoing discussion of the ethical issues surrounding an experiment (assessed through tutorial participation) and the development of an experimental protocol to yield meaningful empirical evidence

		the search for greater understanding of behavior and the ability to act ethically in the development of experiments involving animals
5. Communication skills	3	Development of in-class presentations of research literature review and proposal will encourage you to communicate effectively in a variety of contexts, both as presenter and critical audience. Participation in demonstrative experiments will show collaboration in group work (assessed through tutorial participation)

6.

9. Course Schedule

Week	Lecture Topic & Lecturer	Tutorial/Lab Content	Suggested Readings
1	Introduction to memory and motivation; modulation of memory (Richardson)	<i>No labs</i>	

10. Assessment								
Assessment Task	Weight	Learning Outcomes Assessed	Graduate Attributes Assessed	Date of		Feedback		
				Release	Submission	Who	When	How
Mid-session exam	20			Week 5, lecture 1				

11. Expected Resources for Students	
TEXTBOOKS	none
COURSE MANUAL	none
REQUIRED READINGS	



students submit their work into Turnitin when they hand it in, but academics can also use it to check student's work when they are marking it. You can find out more about Turnitin here: <http://telt.unsw.edu.au/turnitin>.

What if plagiarism is found in my work?

If plagiarism is found in your work when you are in first year, your lecturer will offer you assistance to improve your academic skills. They may ask you to look at some online resources, attend the Learning Centre, and sometimes resubmit your work with the problem fixed. However more serious instances in first year, such as stealing another student's work or paying someone to do your work, may be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures.

Repeated plagiarism (even in first year), plagiarism after first year, or serious instances, may also be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures. The penalties under the procedures can include reduction in marks, failing a course or for the most serious matters (like plagiarism) suspension or expulsion.

#### 14. Administrative Matters

The *School of Psychology Student Guide*, available on <http://www.psy.unsw.edu.au/currentstudents/studentguide> contains School policies and procedures relevant for all students enrolled in undergraduate or Masters psychology courses such as:

- Attendance requirements;
- Assignment submissions and returns;
- Assessments;
- Special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- Student Code of Conduct;
- Student complaints and grievances;
- Student Equity and Disability Unit; and
- Occupational Health & Safety.

Students should familiarise themselves with the information contained in this *Guide*.