



**University of Victoria, Faculty of Social Sciences, Department of Psychology
PSYCHOLOGY 351D (A01)
Biopsychology**

Term: Fall 2026
CRN: 13053, **Units:** 1.5
Lecture Times:
Room:

Instructor: Dr. Chad Williams (He/Him)
Email:
Office:
Office Hours:
See the communications and support section

Teaching Assistant(s):
TA Email:

TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge and respect the Łək'wəḡən (Songhees and X̱sepsəm/Esquimalt) Peoples on whose territory the university stands, and the Łək'wəḡən and W̱SÁNEĆ Peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

LEARNING GOALS

BY THE END OF THE COURSE, STUDENTS SHOULD BE ABLE TO...
EXPLAIN THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF NEUROPHYSIOLOGY AND NEUROANATOMY, INCLUDING THE HUMAN NERVOUS SYSTEM'S STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION.
USE NEUROBIOLOGICAL CONCEPTS TO INTERPRET AND EXPLAIN BEHAVIORAL PHENOMENA IN BIOPSYCHOLOGY.
CRITICALLY ANALYZE AND COMPARE DIFFERENT NEURAL SYSTEMS AND EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCH DESIGNS.
ASSESS THE VALIDITY AND RELIABILITY OF BIOPSYCHOLOGY RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DRAW EVIDENCE-BASED CONCLUSIONS.
CLEARLY SUMMARIZE SCIENTIFIC ARTICLES AND EFFECTIVELY COMMUNICATE BIOPSYCHOLOGY CONCEPTS AND RESEARCH RESULTS.

FOSTERING A SUPPORTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

In my classroom, there are a few policies meant to help support you and your mental health. These are outlined in this section – please make sure to read these policies carefully.

WELLNESS STATEMENT

Please always put your health first. I understand that there is a lot of pressure on university students, and I want you to always remember that you need to consider your physical and mental well-being with the highest regard. I am here to support you in this class and offer that you may reach out to me if you are struggling with mental health to potentially adapt the course to your needs (e.g., flexible deadlines). If you need support, the University of Victoria has resources that you may want to take advantage of (see the UVic Support and Resources Section below). Please, take care.

FLEXIBLE DEADLINES

This policy is an initiative that I've seen reduce stress and help students perform at their best. I understand that things don't always go as planned, and managing deadlines can be difficult. If you need an extension, just fill out the form on Brightspace – no personal disclosure required (see Privacy Policy below). You must fill out the form before the assignment deadline. Assignments can be extended to a maximum of 1 week. If you miss this window, then you will not be able to submit the assignment. Extensions are meant to support you, not replace good time management. If you ask for one, take it as an opportunity to reflect on your habits and adjust so that you can better stay on track.

PRIVACY POLICY

You are never required to disclose any personal information about yourself to me for any reason. Students often feel that to receive special accommodation, such as rescheduling an assignment, they must share details about their personal lives. Although you may need to provide general reasoning (e.g., illness) for some accommodations, specific details are not necessary. Your personal life is your own, and you have every right to keep it private.

ONGOING FEEDBACK

I want this course to work well for all of you. To help with that, I'll provide an anonymous feedback form (see Brightspace) where you can share suggestions or concerns throughout the semester. When possible, I'll make adjustments based on your input – this process has been incredibly helpful in past courses for both students and myself. I may not be able to address every issue, but I'll always do my best. I just ask that feedback remains respectful – this helps me maintain my own well-being while supporting yours.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION STATEMENT

The University of Victoria embraces an inclusive learning community that respects and recognizes that we are enriched and strengthened by diversity including, but not limited to, ethnicity and national origins, language, gender and gender identity, sexuality, ability, age, socioeconomic status, and spirituality. We are committed to increasing the participation of people who have been historically and systemically excluded from higher education and welcome all who share this aspiration. We are committed to answering the Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. We are a campus that educates for and encourages respect, acceptance of others, inclusion and diversity, with one principal limit: acts that incite hatred, espouse or encourage bigotry, either implied or explicit, will not be tolerated. Please also consult the **UVic equity policy**: www.uvic.ca/equity/index.php.

COURSE DETAILS

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Emphasizes the study of the biological basis of behavior at the molecular, cellular, and neural systems level. Covers the fundamentals of neurophysiology and neuroanatomy from a functional perspective, with an emphasis on the anatomy of the human nervous system. Examines the physiological basis of behaviours through review of contemporary research in areas such as sleep, reproduction, aggression, ingestion, learning and memory, motivation, and mental disorders.

CLASS STRUCTURE

Each week will include 2 lectures, lasting 80 minutes, where we will focus on course content. Please note that students are expected to attend lectures and that lecture slides are not an adequate substitute for attending class.

PREREQUISITES AND REGISTRATION

PSYC 201 and PSYC 251. Students who remain in courses for which they do not have the prerequisites do so at their own risk. Those who complete courses without prerequisites are not exempt from having to complete the prerequisite course(s) at some later date if such courses are required for the degree program. Students are responsible for checking their registration status by the add/drop deadline.

INSTRUCTOR EXPECTATIONS

I feel it is necessary to outline what you may expect of me. In the *Fostering a Supportive Learning Environment* statements above, I briefly describe that I strive to provide a safe and positive environment for all students. Thus, you may expect me to treat everyone with respect. In addition, I will ensure that I am always timely with class as well as with scheduled office hours and meetings. You may also expect me to provide you with examples and rubrics for your exams and assignments with ample time so that you may not only prepare yourself adequately but also keep these in mind as we progress through class. Finally, I will do my best to promptly provide you with feedback on your exams and assignments to ensure that we have enough time to discuss my comments if needed.

TEXTBOOK AND EQUIPMENT

OPTIONAL TEXTBOOK (BUT HIGHLY SUGGESTED)

Behavioral Neuroscience (10e) by Breedlove and Watson. You can purchase a physical or digital copy of this textbook from the UVic bookstore.

BRIGHTSPACE

All material for this course, and student evaluations, will be through [Brightspace](#). This will include materials such as lecture resources, assignments, exam rubrics, and more.

IClicker

Both the first and second-generation iClickers can be used. See the assessment section below for more information about how we will use iClickers and how to register yours for this class.

SCHEDULE

<u>WK.</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>CHAPTER</u>	<u>SUMMARIES</u> DUE AT 11:59PM
1	THU	SEP 10	INTRODUCTION		
2	MON	SEP 14	SUMMARIZING AN ARTICLE		
2	THU	SEP 17	1.1. NEUROPHYSIOLOGY	3	
3	MON	SEP 21	1.2. NEUROTRANSMITTERS	4	
3	THU	SEP 24	1.3. HORMONES	5	
4	MON	SEP 28	1.3. HORMONES	5	SUMMARY 1
4	THU	OCT 1	1.4. BRAIN DEVELOPMENT	7	
5	MON	OCT 5	1.4. BRAIN DEVELOPMENT	7	
5	THU	OCT 8	REVIEW		
6	MON	OCT 12	NO CLASS (THANKSGIVING)		
6	THU	OCT 15	EXAM 1		
7	MON	OCT 19	2.1. SENSATION & PERCEPTION	8-10*	
7	THU	OCT 22	2.1. SENSATION & PERCEPTION	8-10*	
8	MON	OCT 26	2.2. MOTOR CONTROL	11	
8	THU	OCT 29	2.2. MOTOR CONTROL	11	SUMMARY 2
9	MON	NOV 2	2.3. EMOTION	15	
9	THU	NOV 5	2.3. EMOTION	15	
10	MON	NOV 9	NO CLASS (READING BREAK)		
10	THU	NOV 12	NO CLASS (INDEPENDENT STUDY DAY)		
11	MON	NOV 16	REVIEW		
11	THU	NOV 19	EXAM 2		
12	MON	NOV 23	3.1. LEARNING & MEMORY	17	
12	THU	NOV 26	3.1. LEARNING & MEMORY	17	
13	MON	NOV 30	3.2. ATTENTION & EXECUTIVE CONTROL	18	SUMMARY 3
13	THU	DEC 3	3.2. ATTENTION & EXECUTIVE CONTROL	18	
14	MON	DEC 7	REVIEW		
	FORMAL EXAM PERIOD		EXAM RE-WRITE + EXAM 3		

*ONLY SECTIONS 8.1, 8.2, 9.1, 9.2, 9.7, 9.8, 10.1, 10.2, 10.3

ASSIGNMENTS AND EVALUATION

COURSE EVALUATION

EXAMS: 45%	ARTICLE SUMMARY: 45%	PARTICIPATION: 2%
EXAM 1: 15%	SUMMARY 1: 15%	IClicker: 2%
EXAM 2: 15%	SUMMARY 2: 15%	
EXAM 3: 15%	SUMMARY 3: 15%	BONUS (OPTIONAL): +3%
		IClicker: +1%
STRENGTH ALLOCATION: 8%		SONA: +2%

COURSE COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

You must complete at least 2 exams (re-writes do not qualify to fulfill this requirement) and 2 article summaries. Failure to complete one or more of these requirements will result in a grade of “N”, which is a failing grade and factors into a 0 GPA value. In accordance with the University’s policy on academic concessions, “A student who completes all course requirements is not eligible for an academic concession”. Consequently, students can only request deferrals for the completion of required course components and not for non-essential course components.

EXAMS

All exams will be composed of multiple choice questions, fill in the blanks, and short answer questions. These exams will contain questions from the lectures. They will be written in-person and will last 50 minutes (except exam 3 will last 100 minutes, see the Missed Exams and Redoing Exams section below). The first two exams will take place during regular class time and the last exam will take place in the formal exam period. These are non-cumulative exams.

MISSSED EXAMS AND REDOING EXAMS

It is the student’s responsibility to attend exams as scheduled. If you miss an exam due to **illness, accident, or family affliction**, let me know at your earliest convenience (preferably before the exam) with the general reason as to why you are missing it. Exam re-writes will take place at the same time as Exam 3. During this session, you may choose to redo **one** earlier exam (either Exam 1 or Exam 2). The re-write can be either an exam you missed or one you wish to attempt again. This session will run for 100 minutes, giving you enough time to complete both the new exam and your selected re-write within the same period. Your final grade for that exam will be the higher of the two attempts, so redoing an exam cannot lower your grade in this course.

ARTICLE SUMMARIES

You will select three articles and write a summary for each. For each summary, I will provide you with a list of two articles on Brightspace, from which you will choose one to focus on. All summaries will be completed using the Article Summary Template, which is available on Brightspace. This template is designed to guide your reading and help you extract the most relevant information from the article. See the template on Brightspace for instructions.

MISSSED ARTICLE SUMMARIES

There are no re-writes for the article summaries, however, you can request an extension on an article summary. To do so, you must fill out the form on Brightspace before the assignment deadline. Assignments can be extended to a maximum of 1 week. If you miss this window, then you will not be able to submit the assignment. You must fill out the form before the assignment deadline to take advantage of the extension.

THE USE OF AI IN ARTICLE SUMMARIES

WHAT YOU CAN DO WITH AI IN THIS COURSE

I am allowing the use of large language models (LLMs) such as [ChatGPT](#), [Claude](#), etc. to help in your understanding of an article. Please note that you can opt for not using AI at all as well to complete all the course's assignments successfully. The articles you will summarize in this course can get quite dense and technical, and so it can be beneficial to get aid from LLMs to better understand the context of an article. This can be especially useful in sections that you are less familiar with, such as results sections if you haven't taken statistics or methodology sections if you are unfamiliar with the measurement techniques.

For all article summaries, you must include an extra resource section. For this, you are also allowed to use [Elicit](#) to find appropriate articles (you can use LLMs instead, but they are notorious for creating fake references, so I suggest avoiding them). This tool automatically finds articles relevant to your research question and summarizes each found article for you. This is a great way to vet a range of articles to see if they contain research you are interested in including in your summary. Only use this tool to find articles to include and then extract the relevant details yourself.

Although the course allows the use of AI, please be aware of the following flaws when using the tools:

- AI does not fact check
- AI may provide bias and inaccurate answers
- AI hallucinates and may provide false and/or made up information
- AI does not critically analyze content

WHAT YOU CAN'T DO WITH AI IN THIS COURSE

It is against [UVic policy](#) to use any AI tools to write for you or to directly support your writing – submitting AI-generated content, in whole or in part, as your own original work is plagiarism. In this course, you may not use AI to generate, re-write, paraphrase, or substantially edit work that you submit, except for the uses specifically permitted above. This includes prompting the tool to complete your assignment goals and then paraphrasing what it provides. So, do not use AI writing features from any of these tools. Using AI writing features will detract from building the skills that these assignments are meant to develop. Remember, these assignments are designed to help you develop your ability to read academic articles and take effective notes on them. These are essential skills in any field that involves working with literature, and it is important that you build them through your own practice.

Note that the use of AI is against UVic policy unless explicitly authorized by your instructor. I am here authorizing the use of different AI tools as described above, but do not expect to be able to use these tools in other courses without permission. For these assignments the free version of all AI tools is sufficient – please do not pay for these tools for this course.

CITING AI USE

It is important to cite AI when you have used it. As such, please cite any AI tools used in [APA format](#) within the relevant section of the template.

STRENGTH ALLOCATION

Students vary in how they learn and perform across different assessments – some may prefer and do better on exams, while others excel in article summaries. To account for this, the 8% strength allocation grade will be used to re-weight the component (exams or summaries) in which you performed best. Specifically, this 8% will be proportional to the average across all three exams or all three summaries (effectively increasing each of their worths by 2.67%), depending on which area reflects your strongest performance. For example, if you earn 80% on the exams and 75% on the assignments, the strength allocation will be based on your exam performance. You would receive 80% of the 8%, which is 6.4% ($0.80 \times 8\% = 6.4\%$).

IClickERS

To help me assess whether the material is coming through clearly, our live lectures will include iClicker questions to gauge your understanding. If the majority of the class answers a question correctly, we'll move forward. If not, we'll pause to revisit the concept and clarify any confusion. Participation is worth 2% of your final grade, with an opportunity to earn up to 3% total (i.e., a 1% bonus). iClickers are based on participation, not accuracy, and will be evenly distributed across all lectures (except for the introduction and exam days). To receive the bonus for a given lecture, you must respond to at least half of the iClicker questions during that session. You can miss up to two iClicker days and still receive full credit (including the bonus).

You will need an iClicker Personal Response System. You can choose to purchase the iClicker device (new or used) or the iClicker Student app subscription or at the bookstore.

IClicker Device: Both the first and second-generation iClickers can be used. In order to earn participation points, you must register your iClicker using the following steps:

1. Log into the UVic portal (<http://www.uvic.ca/>)
2. Click on: My page
3. Student Services
4. Scroll down to Tools and Forms
5. Select iClicker
6. Enter your iClicker's serial number
7. Click submit

Note that iClicker serial numbers do not contain letter O's, only number 0's. For FAQ about the iClicker, see: <http://elearning.uvic.ca/iclicker/students>.

IClicker Student App: Here are the steps to acquiring the app and registering for the course:

1. Create an account (<https://student.iclicker.com/#/login>) with your campus email address and enter your correct V-number to the profile section.
2. Download the iClicker Student app iOS or Android app from your iTunes or Play Store.
3. Enter your access code (received when you purchase an iClicker Student app subscription from the store).
4. Log into your iClicker account using a web browser (access codes cannot be entered via smartphone or tablet apps). If you are using a smartphone or tablet, simply use the web browser on your device to follow the registration guidelines.

To continue onto registration: click the "Menu" icon in the upper left corner, select "Subscriptions", click "Polling", click "Enter Access Code", type in the code, and click "Submit".

SONA PARTICIPATION (OPTIONAL)

Students in this course may earn up to 2% extra credit toward their final grade by participating in approved research studies conducted by the Department of Psychology. One (1) hour of participation earns one (1) SONA credit, and credits are awarded in 0.5 increments. One (1) credit corresponds to a 1% increase in the student's final grade. There is also a one (1) SONA bonus credit for in-person experiments, regardless of total participation time. For details on participating in research studies, visit the Department of Psychology website: <https://www.uvic.ca/socialsciences/psychology/research/participants/>.

Be sure to assign your credits to this course (and this section) no later than the last day of class; otherwise, you will not receive extra credit. If you do not wish to participate in research but want to earn equivalent extra credit, please contact your course instructor to arrange an alternative option involving written assignments.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

In general, it's always best to start by looking through this syllabus and Brightspace to find the answer to your questions.

PERSONAL QUESTIONS

Questions of a personal nature (e.g., extensions, accessibility) should be directed to me via email. Be sure to read my privacy policy in the Fostering a Supportive Learning Environment section to know my expectations.

QUESTIONS TIMELINES

It's important that you ask your questions as early as possible. I will outline a few methods to ask questions in order of fastest to slowest response times. However, questions being asked right before due dates and such are unlikely to be answered in the timeline you need.

DURING CLASS TIME (IMMEDIATE RESPONSES)

You're encouraged to ask questions during lectures and labs – chances are, others have the same question. If something is unclear and no one asks, I won't know to clarify it, which can leave you and your classmates behind. If time allows, feel free to come speak with me before or after class, or during our mid-class break.

DISCUSSION BOARD (FAST RESPONSES)

Outside of class, the first place to ask questions is our Brightspace discussion board. These boards are incredibly useful because answers are posted – so if someone else has the same question, they can find the answer easily. They also give you the opportunity to help one another, which is a scientifically supported way to reinforce your own understanding. While participation is not required, contributing to the discussion is highly encouraged. I monitor the board closely and will respond when I can. If another student answers your question, I'll follow up to confirm the accuracy of their response. While I'm always happy to meet with students, I believe that fostering an active online community is one of the most effective ways for everyone to learn. Plus, it allows me to respond asynchronously and dedicate more time to creating resources to support your learning.

OFFICE HOURS (MEDIUM RESPONSES)

You are welcome to join me at office hours to discuss your questions. If appropriate, I still urge you to ask your questions on the discussion board first. Office hours are in-person and first-come-first-serve. Office hours will take place in my office (Cornett A183).

EMAIL AND APPOINTMENTS (SLOW RESPONSES)

Finally, if the discussion board and office hours do not work to answer your questions, you can contact me via email to ask asynchronously, or else to schedule an appointment outside of office hours. This can be the slowest way to get an answer (it can take days to get a response), depending on the complexity of the question and how busy I am. When emailing me, please include the course in the subject line (i.e., Psyc 351D), and use your UVic email (or else the email may go to spam).

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

Department of Psychology Important Course Policy Information Fall Session 2026

Accessible Learning

The University of Victoria is committed to creating a learning experience that is as [accessible as possible](#). If you are registered with the [Centre for Accessible Learning](#) and anticipate or experience any barriers to learning in this course, please feel welcome to discuss your concerns with me. If you are a student with a disability or chronic health condition, you can meet with a CAL advisor to discuss access and accommodations.

Attendance and Absences

Attendance is important. Students who do not attend their classes during the first two weeks (and do not inform the instructor of valid circumstances that prevent their attendance) may be dropped from both class registration and the waitlist.

Students are expected to attend all classes in which they are enrolled. Students may be assigned a final grade of N or debarred from writing final examinations if they fail to satisfy a minimum attendance requirement set by the instructor for lectures, laboratories, online course discussions or learning activities, tutorials, or other learning activities set out in the course outline.

Medical documentation for short-term absences is **not required** (approved by Senate). Students who cannot attend due to illness are asked to notify their instructors immediately. If illness, accident, or family affliction causes a student to miss the final exam or to fail to complete any required assignment/assessment by the end of the term students are required to submit a request for academic concession (see below).

Children and Pets

If you need to bring your children or pet to class, please do not hesitate to do so. It is understood that sometimes this is necessary due to care circumstances. However, please aim to have minimal class disturbance so that student learning is not impacted.

Class Recording and Auto-Captioning Statement

The instructor may record class sessions and those recordings may be made available to all students in the class via Brightspace. If you have questions or concerns regarding class recording and privacy, please contact privacyinfo@uvic.ca

Auto-generated captioning may be enabled in this course. Auto-captioning is highly error-prone, especially for specialized terminology and proper names. Students are asked to refer to the audio feed for clarification of any errors. If you find captioning errors that are offensive, please contact your instructor and/or teaching assistant so that they are aware. If you require captions as part of an academic accommodation, please contact [CAL](#).

Commitment to Inclusivity, Diversity, and Respectful Environments in the Classroom and Online

The University of Victoria is committed to providing a positive and supportive and safe learning and working environment for all its members. All members of the university community have the right to this experience and the responsibility to help *create* such an environment. The University will not tolerate racism, sexualized violence, or any form of discrimination, bullying, or harassment.

Please be advised that, by logging into UVic's learning systems or interacting with online resources and course-related communication platforms, you are engaging in a University activity.

All interactions within this environment are subject to the university expectations and policies. Any concerns about student conduct may be reviewed and responded to in accordance with the appropriate university policy.

To report concerns about online student conduct: onlineconduct@uvic.ca

Copyright

All course content and materials are made available by instructors for educational purposes and for the exclusive use of students registered in their class¹. The material is protected under copyright law, even if not marked with ©. Any further use or distribution of materials to others requires the written permission of the instructor, except under fair dealing or another exception in the Copyright Act. Violations may result in disciplinary action under the [Resolution of Non-Academic Misconduct Allegations policy \(AC1300\)](#) or the [Academic Integrity Policy](#), whichever is more appropriate for the situation.

Student Experience of Learning (SEL) Survey

I value your feedback on this course. Toward the end of term, you will have the opportunity to complete a confidential Student Experience of Learning (SEL) survey regarding your learning experience. The survey is vital to providing feedback to the instructor regarding the course and their teaching, as well as to help the department improve the overall program for students in the future. When it is time for you to complete the survey, you will receive an email inviting you to do so. If you do not receive an email invitation, you can go directly to <http://sel.uvic.ca>. You will need to use your UVic NetLink ID to access the survey, which can be done on your laptop, tablet or mobile device. You will be reminded nearer the time, but please be thinking about this important activity, especially the following three questions, during the course.

1. What strengths did your instructor demonstrate that helped you learn in this course?
2. Please provide specific suggestions as to how the instructor could have helped you learn more effectively.
3. Please provide specific suggestions as to how this course could be improved.

Disclaimer

The schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.

Grading

In classes that are based on a percentage grading scheme, the following [Undergraduate Grading Scale](#) is used

Grade	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	D	F
Percentage	90-100	85-89	80-84	77-79	73-76	70-72	65-69	60-64	51-59	< 50
GP Value	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0

Rounding is only applied to the final grade and is rounded up at the 0.5% level (e.g., 84.49% is rounded to 84% and 84.50% is rounded to 85%).

Medical Documentation for absences

No medical documentation for short-term absences is required (Approved by Senate).

If you are seeking a Withdrawal Extenuating Circumstances or an Aegrotat grade, medical documentation may be required if relevant.

Ombudsperson and Academic Concerns

From the course calendar: *Depending on the nature of the academic matter of concern to the student, the order in which the student should normally try to resolve the matter is: first, the course instructor; second, the Chair of the department; third, the Dean of the faculty; and finally, the Senate.*

If you have an academic concern or problem that cannot be resolved with your instructor or the Department Associate Chair, you may wish to consult with the Office of the Ombudsperson (<https://uvicombudsperson.ca>). Current contact information for the office can be found here <https://uvicombudsperson.ca/contact/>.

Policy on Academic Integrity including Plagiarism and Cheating

The Department of Psychology fully endorses and intends to adhere to the [Senate Policy on Academic Integrity](#).

¹ Syllabi belong to the department through which the course is administered.

As per the student academic integrity [website](#):

“Academic integrity is built on honesty, respect, and fairness. Students, faculty, and staff at UVic are members of an intellectual community. As such, it’s expected that we’ll adhere to ethical values in all our learning, teaching, and research.”

This policy is in place to ensure that students’ work is being evaluated fairly and that students carry out and benefit from the learning activities assigned in each course.

The offences defined by the policy can be summarized briefly as follows:

1. **Plagiarism.** You must make sure that the work you submit is your work and not another person or a Content Generator. There are proper procedures for [citing the works of others](#). The student is responsible for being aware of and using these procedures.
2. **Unauthorized Use of an Editor or Content Generator.** The use of an Editor or Content Generator is prohibited unless the instructor grants explicit written authorization.
3. **Multiple Submission without Prior Permission.** Only under exceptional circumstances may a work submitted to fulfill an academic requirement be used to satisfy another similar requirement. The student is responsible for clarifying this with the instructor(s) involved.
4. **Falsifying Materials Subject to Academic Evaluation.** This includes falsification of data, use of commercially prepared essays, using information from the Internet without proper citation, citing sources from which material is not actually obtained, etc.
5. **Cheating on Work, Tests, and Examinations.** You may not copy the work of others in or out of class; you may not give your work to others for the purpose of copying; you may not use unauthorized material or equipment during examinations or tests; and you may not impersonate or allow yourself to be impersonated by another at an examination. The Department of Psychology has a policy of not making old examinations available for study purposes. Therefore, use of old exams without the express written permission of the instructor constitutes cheating by the user, and abetting of cheating by the person who provided the exam.
6. **Aiding Others.** It is a violation to help others or attempt to help others to engage in any of the conduct described above.

The use of a generative artificial intelligence (AI) is strictly prohibited in any submitted work (unless expressly endorsed by the instructor as part of an assignment).

Instructors can take actions to prevent cheating and plagiarism. This may include the assignment of seating for examinations, asking students to move during examinations, requests to see student identification cards, and other measures as appropriate. Instructors also have available to them a variety of university approved tools and procedures to check for Internet and electronic media-based cheating. In instances of suspected academic integrity violations, instructors will follow prescribed procedures for alleged academic dishonesty. If academic dishonesty is likely, instructors can take steps consistent with the degree of the offence (see the academic integrity section on [policy violations](#)).

Rights of Appeal are described in the Policy on Academic Integrity in the University calendar September 2026.

The definitive source for information on Academic Integrity is the University Calendar

Other useful resources on Plagiarism and Cheating include:

1. The student academic integrity website: <https://www.uvic.ca/students/academics/academic-integrity/>
2. The Ombudsperson’s office: <https://uvicombudsperson.ca/academic-integrity/>
The [Office of the Ombudsperson](#) is an independent and impartial resource to assist with the fair resolution of student issues. A confidential consultation can help you understand your rights and responsibilities. The Ombudsperson can also clarify information, help navigate procedures, assist with problem-solving, facilitate communication, provide feedback on an appeal, investigate and make recommendations. Phone: 250-721-8357; Email: ombuddy@uvic.ca; Web: uvicombudsperson.ca.

3. UVic Library Resources: <https://www.uvic.ca/library/research-learning/citation-help/academic-integrity/index.php>
4. UVic Library Document on [Avoiding Plagiarism](#)

Prerequisites

Students who remain in courses for which they do not have the prerequisites do so at their own risk. Students who complete courses without prerequisites ARE NOT exempt from having to complete the prerequisite course(s) if such courses are required for the degree program.

Program Requirements

For more information see the [UVic Calendar](#).

Registration Status

Students are responsible for verifying their registration status. Registration status may be verified using My Page, View Schedule. Course adds and drops will not be processed after the [deadlines](#) set out in the current UVic Calendar.

Students who do not attend classes must not assume that they have been dropped from a course by an academic unit or an instructor. Courses that are not formally dropped will be given a failing grade, students may be required to withdraw and will be required to pay the tuition fee for the course.

Request for [Academic Concessions](#)

Students can apply for [academic concessions](#) if their course requirements are affected by (i) unexpected and/or unavoidable circumstances (e.g., illness, family affliction, Indigenous cultural or community obligations, etc.), or (ii) conflicting responsibilities (e.g., service in the armed forces or first responder, representing the university).

- **Request an in-course extension**
If you require more time to complete a course requirement or miss a test or midterm exam, then you will need to complete the “[In-Course Extension Form](#)” and submit it directly to your course instructor. All course requirements must be completed prior to the submission of final grades.
- **What to do if you miss the final exam scheduled during the formal exam period**
Apply at Records Services for a “[Request for Academic Concession](#)”, normally within 10 working days of the date of the exam. Records Services will forward the form to the instructor. If the concession is granted, the instructor will determine how to deal with the situation (for example, a deferred exam). Where a concession is not applied for or where such application is denied, an N grade will be entered on the student’s academic record.
- **What to do if you require additional time to complete course requirements beyond the normal term.**
Apply at Records Services for a “[Request for Academic Concession](#)”, normally within 10 working days of the end of the course. Records Services will forward the form to the instructor. If the concession is granted, the instructor will determine how to deal with the situation. Where a concession is not applied for or where such application is denied, an N grade will be entered on the student’s academic record if the missing work has been deemed required. Note, only required course components may be deferred.

Research Participation Opportunities with the Department of Psychology

The Department of Psychology offers multiple opportunities to participate in research studies over the year. Students are encouraged to learn more about the field of psychology by volunteering in these studies. Information about studies can often be found posted on notice boards around the Department as well as through our Participant Pool webpage at <https://www.uvic.ca/socialsciences/psychology/research/participants/>.

Student Code of Conduct

The [Student Code of Conduct](#) explains how University policies regarding student behaviour are interpreted and applied within the Faculties of Humanities, Science and Social Sciences.

Student Support Services

[UVic LEARN](#) is the student support portal for a full range of student academic and support services. Other resources for students include: [Centre for Academic Communication](#), [Math & Stats Assistance Centre](#), [Student Wellness Centre](#), [Indigenous Student Services](#), [Library](#), [Community Engaged Learning](#), [Ombudsperson](#), and [Computer Help Desk](#)

This classroom is a trans-inclusive space

Please indicate if you have a preferred name and pronoun that you'd like to be used in the classroom. Please e-mail your instructor or your TA if you would like to discuss the climate of this classroom for trans students. Gender neutral bathrooms are available at UVic.

University of Victoria Students' Society (UVSS)

The [UVSS](#) is a social justice based non-profit run by students, for students and is entirely separate from UVic. As an undergrad student, you are already a member! We work on issues affecting students such as affordability, public transit, sexualized violence, sustainability, student employment, and much more. We fund clubs and course unions, and have several advocacy groups. We also have a Food Bank and Free Store, a Peer Support Centre, and run your health and dental plan. We are here to support you, so please reach out to us at uvss.ca!

Academic Important Dates

Fall session – first term (September – December)

Wednesday, September 9 th	First term classes begin for all faculties
Tuesday, September 22 nd	Last day for 100% reduction of tuition fees for standard first term and full year courses. 50% of tuition fees will be assessed for courses dropped after this date.
Friday, September 25 th	Last day for adding courses that begin in the first term
Wednesday, September 30 th	Last day for paying first term fees without penalty
Wednesday, September 30 th	University Closed (National Day for Truth and Reconciliation)
Monday, October 12 th	University Closed (Thanksgiving Day)
Tuesday, October 13 th	Last day for 50% reduction of tuition fees for standard courses
Saturday, October 31 st	Last day for withdrawing from first term courses without penalty of failure
November 9 th - 11 th	Reading Break for all faculties
Wednesday, November 11 th	University Closed (Remembrance Day)
Monday, December 7 th	Last day of classes in first term for all faculties
Monday, December 7 th	National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women - (Classes and exams cancelled from 11:30am - 12:30pm)
Thursday, December 10 th	First term examinations begin for all faculties
Wednesday, December 23 rd	First term examinations end for all faculties
December 25 th - 31 st	University Closed (Winter Break)

Add and drop dates for standard 2026-2027 Winter Session courses

Term	Start Date	End Date	100% Fee Reduction	Add Deadline	50% Fee Reduction	Academic Drop no Fee Reduction
First term	Sep 9	Dec 7	Sep 22	Sep 25	Oct 13	Oct 31
Second term	Jan 6	Apr 7	Jan 19	Jan 22	Feb 9	Feb 28

Sexualized Violence Prevention and Response at UVic

UVic takes sexualized violence seriously, and has raised the bar for what is considered acceptable behaviour. We encourage students to learn more about how the university defines sexualized violence and its overall approach by visiting www.uvic.ca/svp. If you or someone you know has been impacted by sexualized violence and needs information, advice, and/or support please contact the sexualized violence resource office in Equity and Human Rights (EQHR). Whether or not you have been directly impacted, if you want to take part in the important prevention work taking place on campus, you can also reach out:

Where: Office of Equity and Human Rights, Sedgewick Building, Room C133

Phone: 250 721 8021

Email: eqhr01@uvic.ca

Web: <https://www.uvic.ca/sexualizedviolence/>

BE WELL



A note to remind you to take care of yourself. Do your best to maintain a healthy lifestyle this semester by eating well, exercising, getting enough sleep and taking some time to relax. This will help you achieve your goals and cope with stress. All of us benefit from support during times of struggle. You are not alone.

Social Life, Friends, & Community at UVic:

Having a social network is an extremely important foundation for positive mental health. There are lots of benefits to joining clubs, course unions, intramurals and teams on campus.

<https://www.uvic.ca/undergraduate/housing-student-life/student-life/index.php>

Counselling Services:

The Student Wellness Centre can help you make the most of your university experience. They offer free professional, confidential, inclusive support to currently registered UVic students. <https://www.uvic.ca/student-wellness/contacts/student-wellness-team/index.php#ipn-counsellors>

Health Services:

The Student Wellness Centre also provides a full service primary health clinic for students. <https://www.uvic.ca/student-wellness/contacts/student-wellness-team/index.php#ipn-physicians>

Centre for Accessible Learning:

The CAL staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations <https://www.uvic.ca/accessible-learning/index.php>. The sooner you let us know your needs, the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

Elders' Voices:

The Office of Indigenous Academic and Community Engagement (IACE) has the privilege of assembling a group of Elders from local communities to guide students, staff, faculty and administration in Indigenous ways of knowing and being. www.uvic.ca/services/indigenous/students/programming/elders/

Mental Health Supports and Services:

Mental health supports and services are available to students from all areas of the UVic community: <https://www.uvic.ca/student-wellness/wellness-resources/mental-health/>