Psychology 391 A Section A01.

How the Mind Makes Meaning

September 10th - December 3rd 2020

Monday and Thursday 10 am - 11:20 pm

Instructor: Daniel Bub

Email: dbub@uvic.ca

Office Hours: Friday 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Text: Selected readings per week. These will be provided in the form of pdf files that are made available via Brightspace to all students in the course.

Objectives: The purpose of this course is to introduce a variety of different approaches to the question of how we derive the meaning of words, objects and human intentions. The course is based on experimental evidence from cognitive psychology and neuroscience.

Lectures: Each reading will be accompanied by a lecture (also available on Brightspace), as well as a study guide. The lecture will clarify the details of the reading for the week, and will be made available on a Monday. A lecture will usually be divided into 2-3 parts, each lasting about 20 minutes. This part of the course does not require attending a virtual classroom. The lecture may be viewed any time after it has been posted, but it would be essential to view and understand the content before coming together on Thursday.

Group Interactions: Every Thursday, we will interact via Zoom to display and fine-tune our understanding of a particular topic. There are 70 students registered in this course. We will divide into 10 groups of 7 members, and each group will be posed a question about the weekly reading. We will allow ten minutes for in-group discussion before we call on each group to provide us with an answer to their question. One person will be chosen at random to present the answer. Anyone in the group who would like to add to or improve on the answer will be given an opportunity to contribute.
The answers for each group will be marked for (a) accuracy and (b) completeness. There will ten such group exercises. This part of the course will count for 20% of your final grade. In other words, each of these group exercises is worth 2% of your final grade.

At the end of this interactive session, I will summarise the main points of what we have learned.

We will end each session on Thursday with 10 multiple-choice questions dealing with the material we have covered for the week. Questions will be presented on Zoom. Each of these exercises (there will be ten of them) will count 2% towards your final grade, for a total of 20% of your final grade.

**Midterm Examinations:** There will two exams, each held on a Thursday using Brightspace.

The exams will be open-book and will consist exclusively of multiple choice questions.

Each exam will occupy 1 hour and 20 minutes, and each will count for 30% of your final grade.

The dates are scheduled for October 15th and November 19th.

**Office Hours:** Every Friday from 10 am until 11 am. Meetings will be conducted via Zoom.

**Topics:**

One: A computational approach to meaning.

Two: Neuropsychological evidence.

Three: Language and Action.

Four: The meaning of “up” versus

Five: Naming everyday objects.

Six: Actions on everyday objects.
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 September 2020.

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.

Commitment to Inclusivity and Diversity

The University of Victoria is committed to promoting, providing and protecting a positive and supportive and safe learning and working environment for all its members.

In the Event of Illness, Accident or Family Affliction

• What to do if you miss the final exam scheduled during the last day of classes

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.

OR, you can download the Request for Academic Concession form here: http://www.uvic.ca/registrar/assets/docs/record-forms/rac.pdf

• What to do if you miss an exam other than one scheduled during the last day of classes

Do not apply at Records Services for a “Request for Academic Concession”. Instead submit documentation of the illness, accident or family affliction directly to your course instructor (or designated teaching assistant).

• What to do if you require additional time to complete course requirements

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 (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.

OR, you can download the Request for Academic Concession form here: http://www.uvic.ca/registrar/assets/docs/record-forms/rac.pdf

Policy on Academic Integrity including Plagiarism and Cheating
The Department of Psychology fully endorses and intends to enforce rigorously the Senate Policy on Academic integrity. It is of utmost importance that students who do their work honestly be protected from those who do not. Because this policy is in place to ensure that students carry out and benefit from the learning activities assigned in each course, it is expected that students will cooperate in its implementation.

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 someone else’s. 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.** The use of an editor is prohibited unless the instructor grants explicit written authorization.

3. **Multiple Submission.** 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 Assignments, 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. **Being an Accessory to Offences.** This means that helping another student to cheat (for instance, by showing or communicating to them answers to an assignment, or by allowing them to view answers on an exam) is an academic offence.

Instructors are expected to make every effort 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 tools and procedures to check for Internet and electronic media-based cheating. In instances of suspected or actual plagiarism or cheating, instructors, following prescribed procedures, are authorized to take steps consistent with the degree of the offence. These measures will range from a zero on the test or assignment or a failing grade for the course, probation within a program to temporary or even permanent suspension from the University.

Rights of Appeal are described in the Policy on Academic Integrity in the University calendar September 2020.

The definitive source for information on Academic Integrity is the University Calendar. Other useful resources on Plagiarism and Cheating include:

1. The Study Solutions Office: [https://www.uvic.ca/services/counselling/success/study/index.php](https://www.uvic.ca/services/counselling/success/study/index.php)
2. The Ombudsperson’s office: [https://uvicombudsperson.ca/tips/plagiarism/](https://uvicombudsperson.ca/tips/plagiarism/)
   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.
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/mentalhealth/undergraduate/connecting/index.php

**Counselling Services:**
Counselling Services can help you make the most of your university experience. They offer free professional, confidential, inclusive support to currently registered UVic students.  www.uvic.ca/services/counselling/

**Health Services:**
University Health Services (UHS) provides a full service primary health clinic for students, and coordinates healthy student and campus initiatives.  
www.uvic.ca/services/health/

**Centre for Accessible Learning:**
The CAL staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations www.uvic.ca/services/cal/. 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: www.uvic.ca/mentalhealth/undergraduate/
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: Sexualized violence resource office in EQHR, Sedgewick C119

Phone: 250.721.8021

Email: sypcoordinator@uvic.ca

Web: www.uvic.ca/svp