

PSY –205: Experimental Psychology (2+1 CHs)

Course Pre-requisite: None

Course Description

1. This course aims at introducing student some of the concepts, procedures and issues of the experimental method of studying human behavior and mental processes.

Course Objectives

2. The course objective is to help students learn how psychologists study various psychological processes such as sensation, perception, cognition, learning, memory by designing and conducting experiments and naturalistic observations. These topics will be discussed and demonstrated in lecture and laboratory activities.

Course Learning outcomes

3. By the end of courses students should be able to
- Understand and describe the components and rationale for the experimental methodologies used to acquire psychological knowledge.
 - Identify the difficulties inherent in psychological research and conduct thoughtful critiques of select studies.
 - Apply psychological concepts to the study of neuroscience, sensation, perception, learning, memory and cognitive processes.

4. **Course contents**

Intro to Psychology and Psychological Research
Biological Bases of Behavior
Sensation & Perception
Cognitive processes/ Thinking
Learning and Conditioning
Memory
Motivation
Designing an Experiment

5. **Text Book**

- Pashler, H., & Yantis, S. (2002). Stevens' handbook of experimental psychology. *Experimental Psychology formerly Zeitschrift für*, 4.

6. **Reference Books**

- Baron, R. A. & Misra, G. (2014). *Psychology: Indian Subcontinent Edition (5th ed.)*. Delhi: Pearson.
- Boring, E. (2007). History of experimental psychology. India: Cosmo Publications
- Chance, P. (2003). Learning and behavior (5th ed.). Belmont, CA: Thomson Wadsworth.
- Postman, L. & Egan, J.P. (2007). Experimental psychology: An introduction. India: CBS Publishers & Distributors
- McGuigan, F. J. (2001). Experimental Psychology-Methods of Research: (7th Edition). Prentice Hall. UK.
- Kerlinger, F. N. (2008). Foundations of Behavioral Research. New York University Press.

Lab Curriculum (1 CH)

6. The lab for this course will comprise of activities to strengthen the student's knowledge and skills to make use of experimental approach to the study various psychological processes such as sensation, perception, learning, memory and cognitive processes. Computer based experiments will be conducted as part of the course.