

# PSY4009-1 FA23 - Psychology Of Cognition And Learning

[Jump to Today](#)

 [Edit](#)

## PSY4009 Psychology of Cognition and Learning



### Department of Psychology

*Fall 2023*

4 Units

### Key Course Information

Course Element	Key Information
Instructor	Max Butterfield, PhD
Teaching Assistant	Sophie Murray
Contact Information	<p>TA Email: <a href="mailto:smurray0020@pointloma.edu">smurray0020@pointloma.edu</a>  <a href="mailto:smurray0020@pointloma.edu">(mailto:smurray0020@pointloma.edu)</a></p> <p>Instructor Email: <a href="mailto:mutter@pointloma.edu">mutter@pointloma.edu</a>  <a href="mailto:smurray0020@pointloma.edu">(mailto:smurray0020@pointloma.edu)</a></p> <p>Phone: (619) 849 - 2405</p>
Office Information	<p>Location: Culbertson 105</p> <p>Hours and Appointments: <a href="https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0/appointments/schedules/AcZssZ045a5Lk9g4-R3nyLnPxxOx0Azh4jLfwio0GI56bH847Wg8C5vQ8Gto7o3U9Yj7fVbncHQcZMQ">Click here</a>  <a href="https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0/appointments/schedules/AcZssZ045a5Lk9g4-R3nyLnPxxOx0Azh4jLfwio0GI56bH847Wg8C5vQ8Gto7o3U9Yj7fVbncHQcZMQ">https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0/appointments/schedules/AcZssZ045a5Lk9g4-R3nyLnPxxOx0Azh4jLfwio0GI56bH847Wg8C5vQ8Gto7o3U9Yj7fVbncHQcZMQ</a></p>
Class Information	<p>Class Meetings: Mondays 2:45 PM - 5:15 PM</p> <p>Class Location: Ryan Learning Center 103</p>

Course Reference List	<p><b>Required Texts: None</b></p> <p>References</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Thinking, Fast and Slow</i> by Daniel Kahneman</li> <li>2. <i>Learning and Memory: From Brain to Behavior</i> (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.) by Gluck, Mercado, and Myers</li> </ol>
Final Exam	<p><a href="https://www.pointloma.edu/offices/records/traditional-undergraduate-records">Check the final exam calendar here (https://www.pointloma.edu/offices/records/traditional-undergraduate-records)</a></p> 

## PLNU Mission

### To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

## Course Description

In this course, we'll explore the ways in which our lives are shaped by two of the most powerful influences on human behavior: The architecture of our brains, and the scope of our past experiences. We will cover a variety of important topics such as classical and operant conditioning, memory, attention, language, judgment, and decision making. We will not approach this content as merely a collection of facts, figures, and theory to be memorized. Instead, this course will provide a rich framework for understanding why people behave the way that they do, and it will help you apply these lessons to improve your daily life and your future vocation. Classroom activities will focus on lecture, discussion, and hands-on experiences, and you will be evaluated based on your engagement with the material, your knowledge of it, and your ability to apply it to real-world problems and situations. When all is said and done, you will understand the ways in which the fields of cognition and learning provide useful, engaging, and widely applicable lessons for individuals with a wide variety of interests and goals.

From the catalog: "A study of the major theories and empirical findings in the fields of cognition and learning, as well as practical applications to human behavior. Laboratory activities may be included. Prerequisite(s): PSY 1003 and PSY 3090 or consent of instructor."

# Program and Course Learning Outcomes

You will be able to...

- Evaluate classic theories and contemporary empirical research in the fields of cognition and learning.
- Explore philosophical and empirical approaches to understanding human nature and individual differences.
- Develop a greater capacity for self-awareness and critical thinking.
- Develop professionalism by coming to class prepared, working collaboratively as a member of a team, and treating others with kindness, empathy, and respect.
- Develop a variety of applied skills, such as podcasting, experiment design, graphic design, project management, public speaking, and video editing.



## Course Credit Hour Information

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a 4 unit class delivered over 15 weeks. It is anticipated that students will spend a minimum of 37.5 participation hours per credit hour on their coursework. For this course, students will spend an estimated 150 total hours meeting the course learning outcomes.

## Assessment and Grading

### Grading Scale

A	B	C	D	F
A 93-100	B+ 87-89	C+ 77-79	D+ 67-69	F < 60
A- 90-92	B 83-86	C 73-76	D 63-66	
	B- 80-82	C- 70-72	D- 60-62	

Your final letter grade will be determined by a variety of assessments of your engagement, knowledge, professionalism, and ability to apply what you have learned. These assessments, and the points associated with them, can be found in the assignments tab in Canvas. Although your base grade will be determined by the overall percentage of points at the end of the semester, your final letter grade will also be raised or lowered based on the course's professionalism rubric.

### Consummate Professional (letter grade increase)

- At least 90% attendance for in-person class meetings
- Always prepared for class
- Always familiar with course policies
- Always kind, respectful, and helpful to all people
- Always pays attention and is on-task during class and lecture
- Team player who demonstrably does more than their fair share of work

### **Professional (maintains letter grade)**

- At least 90% attendance for in-person class meetings
- Nearly always prepared for class
- Nearly always familiar with course policies
- Nearly always kind, respectful, and helpful to all people
- Nearly always pays attention and is on-task during class and lecture
- Team player who does their fair share of work



### **Unprofessional I (loss of one full letter grade)**

- Less than 90% attendance for in-person class meetings
- Sometimes unprepared for class
- Sometimes unfamiliar with course policies
- Sometimes unkind, disrespectful, or unhelpful to others
- Sometimes does not pay attention or work on-task during class or lecture
- Does less than their fair share of work

### **Unprofessional II (loss of two full letter grades)**

- Less than 80% attendance for in-person class meetings
- Repeatedly unprepared for class
- Repeatedly unfamiliar with course policies
- Repeatedly unkind, disrespectful, or unhelpful to others
- Repeatedly does not pay attention or work on-task during class or lecture
- Does significantly less than their fair share of work

## **Final Examination Policy**

Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination on its scheduled day. The final examination schedule is posted on the [Class Schedules \(http://www.pointloma.edu/experience/academics/class-schedules\)](http://www.pointloma.edu/experience/academics/class-schedules) site. If you find yourself scheduled for three (3) or more final examinations on the same day, you are authorized to contact each professor to arrange a different time for one of those exams. However, unless you have three (3) or more exams on the same day, no requests for alternative final examinations will be granted.

## Incompletes and Late Assignments

Late work is unprofessional, and it will not be accepted under any circumstances. Submissions are due in Canvas on or before the posted due date and time. Submissions will not be accepted by email. Canvas problems do occur, and it is your responsibility to ensure that your work has been correctly submitted by the due date and time. Please work ahead to avoid the problems created by last-minute Canvas problems, accidents, illness, or other unexpected delays. Incompletes for the course will only be assigned in extremely unusual circumstances.



## Spiritual Care

Please be aware PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as whole persons. To this end, we provide resources for our students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith.

If students have questions, a desire to meet with the chaplain or have prayer requests you can contact your professor or the [Office of Spiritual Life and Formation \(https://www.pointloma.edu/offices/student-life-formation\)](https://www.pointloma.edu/offices/student-life-formation).

## State Authorization

State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, Point Loma Nazarene University is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the program and/or course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student's responsibility to notify the institution of any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the map on [State Authorization \(https://www.pointloma.edu/offices/office-institutional-effectiveness-research/disclosures\)](https://www.pointloma.edu/offices/office-institutional-effectiveness-research/disclosures) to view which states allow online (distance education) outside of California.

## PLNU Copyright Policy

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

## PLNU Academic Honesty Policy

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or