



PSYC-270 – Environmental Psychology

University Arts and Science

Effective Term & Year: Fall 2022

Course Outline Review Date: 2023-04-01

Program Area: Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

Description:

Psychological theory is used to explore how the environment affects our daily lives and how we, in turn, shape and influence the environment. Topics may include wayfinding, personal space, learning and work environments, crowding, territoriality, and serious environmental problems. A greater understanding and appreciation of built and natural environments are the primary objectives.

Program Information:

This course is intended for University Studies and Business Management diploma and degree students. It can also be used as an elective for BMGT diplomas and the Bachelor in Business Administration (Sustainable Business Practices) degree.

Delivery Methods: Online

Credit Type: College of the Rockies Credits

Credits: 3

Course type/s: Social Sciences

Instructional Activity and Hours:

Activity	Hours
Classroom, Directed Studies or Online Instruction	45
Seminar/Tutorials	
Laboratory/Studio	

Practicum/Field Experience

Co-op/Work Experience

Other

Total 45

Course Requisites:

- Earned a minimum grade of C- (55%) in each of the following:
 - PSYC101 – Introduction to Psychology 1 (3)
 - PSYC102 – Introduction to Psychology 2 (3)

Flexible Assessment: Yes

In some cases students may be able to apply for recognition of prior learning outside the classroom. This flexible assessment process provides equivalent course credit. It is a rigorous process that may include external evaluation, worksite assessment, demonstration, standardized test, self-assessment, interview, products/portfolio, and challenge exam, or other measures as appropriate. Tuition fees apply. Contact an education advisor for more information.

Course Transfer Credit:

For information about receiving transfer credit for courses taken at other BC institutions, please see <http://www.bctransferguide.ca>. All requests for course transfer credit from institutions in BC or elsewhere should go to the College of the Rockies Enrollment Services office.

Textbook Resources:

Textbook selection varies by instructor and may change from year to year. At the Course Outline Effective Date the following textbooks were in use:

Gifford, R. (2007). *Environmental Psychology: Principles and Practice*. (4th ed.). Washington: Optimal Books.

Please see the instructor's syllabus or check COTR's online text calculator <https://textbook.cotr.bc.ca/> for a complete list of the currently required textbooks.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- discuss knowledgeably the major theories, concepts, and topics in environmental psychology
- think critically about research methods and findings in environmental psychology
- analyze physical environments for functioning and environmental impact
- apply course principles to environmental problems and affect positive change
- use the Internet as a resource for finding information and answering questions
- use online communication skills effectively and respectfully
- think clearly, fusing experience, knowledge, and reasoning into considered judgment
- identify, interpret, and solve problems, effectively implementing and evaluating proposed strategies

Course Topics:

- Foundations of environmental psychology
- Environmental perception and cognition
- The ambient environment
- Environmental stress
- Personal space and territoriality
- High density and crowding
- Work environments
- Learning environments
- The natural environment
- Environmental problems and behavioural solutions

See instructor's syllabus for the detailed outline of weekly readings, activities and assignments.

Evaluation and Assessments

Assessment Type: Online

Assessment Type	% of Total Grade
Assignments	40%
Discussion Postings	20%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%
Total	100%

Grade Scheme

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
>=90	89-85	84-80	79-76	75-72	71-68	67-64	63-60	59-55	54-50	<50

Pass requirements: None

Evaluation Notes: A grade of “D” grants credit, but may not be sufficient as a prerequisite for sequential courses.

Evaluation Notes Comments:

Please see the instructor’s syllabus for specific classroom policies related to this course, such as details of evaluation, penalties for late assignments, and use of electronic aids.

Exam Attendance:

Students must attend all scheduled exams at the appointed time and place. Instructors may approve an alternate exam to accommodate an illness or personal crisis. Department heads will consider other written requests. Any student who misses a scheduled exam without prior approval will receive a “0” on the exam.

Academic Policies:

College of the Rockies policies related to courses can be found at <https://cotr.bc.ca/about-us/college-policies/> and include the following:

- Policy 2.4.3 Students with Documented Disabilities
- Policy 2.4.4 Student Conduct (plagiarism, other cheating, behavioral misconduct)
- Policy 2.5.8 Academic Performance
- Policy 2.5.3 Grade Appeal
- Policy 2.4.9 Student Concerns Re Faculty

Equivalent Course(s) and Course Code Changes

Prior Course Code: PSYC 170

Date changed: September 2007

Course Changes:

The College of the Rockies updates course outlines regularly to meet changing educational, employment and marketing needs. The instructor will notify students in writing of any updates to

this outline during the semester. The instructor reserves the right to revise, add or delete material while meeting the learning outcomes of this course outline.