



PSYC-270 – Environmental Psychology

University Arts and Science

Effective Term & Year: Fall 2023
Course Outline Review Date: 2028-04-01

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 can be used as an elective in several University Studies Programs. It can also be used as an elective within the General Business Management diploma and the Bachelor in Business Administration (BBA). Refer to the College Program Guide for additional information.

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 either British Columbia or Alberta institutions, please see <https://www.bctransferguide.ca/> or <https://transferalberta.alberta.ca> . For more transfer credit information, please visit <https://www.cotr.bc.ca/Transfer>

All requests for course transfer credit from institutions in British Columbia or elsewhere should go to the College of the Rockies Enrolment 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:

Currently, this course has no textbook. Students are assigned selected readings, videos, and podcasts.

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 the major theories, concepts, and topics in environmental psychology
- critically assess research methods and findings in environmental psychology
- analyze physical environments for functioning and environmental impact
- relate concepts of environmental psychology to your own life
- apply course principles to environmental problems and affect positive change
- engage in discussions about environmental psychology employing methods appropriate to message, context, and audience.
- inquire into diverse perspectives on concepts related to environmental psychology

Course Topics:

- Nature and scope of environmental psychology
- Environmental perception and spatial cognition
- Environmental attitudes, appraisals, and assessments
- Personal space, territoriality, and crowding
- Residential environments
- Workplace environments
- Educational environments
- Natural environments
- Environmental problems, sustainability, 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 (2 @ 20%)	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.

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.

