

**Psychology 391- A01: How the Mind Makes Meaning  
Section 13009**

**Meeting times:** Monday and Thursday; 1 pm - 2:30 pm

**Venue:** Cornett Building B143

**Instructor:** Professor Daniel Bub. email: [dbub@uvic.ca](mailto:dbub@uvic.ca)

**Office:** Cornett A185

**TA:** Oliver Choquette email: [oliverchoquette@uvic.ca](mailto:oliverchoquette@uvic.ca)

**Prerequisites:** *Complete all of:*

[PSYC201](#) - Research Methods in Psychology (1.5)

**Office Hours:** By appointment. Please note that office hours will be conducted via Zoom unless you prefer to meet in person.

Text: *Selected readings can be downloaded from Brightspace*

**Objectives:**

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

**The course readings are also an essential part of this course.** *It is not possible, in general, to do well either by simply covering the assigned readings and skipping classes, or just by attending class. A successful and rewarding experience requires: (i) diligence in carrying out every reading assignment before class, and (ii) attending lectures on a regular basis.*

Lectures will be an opportunity to explore and refine your understanding of the ideas in the text, although some mastery of the course content will depend on completing the background reading assignments.

If you miss classes for a **valid** reason, there are resources available to help you keep up with the course material. You will not be penalized for any legitimate

absences. All lecture slides will be posted on Brightspace in pdf format. Additional material will be available when possible.

During the semester, we will cover the following topics:

**The hub-and-spoke model of meaning**

**What we know about how the meaning of words is represented in the brain**

**Action words**

**Words referring to space: The meaning of *up***

**Objects and their affordances: What is a cup?**

**Motor Actions and human intentions**

**Vision and language**

**Meaning and conscious experience**

**Class Participation:** During the lecture, which builds on the reading assignment(s), **five** multiple choice questions will be posed at various points, some of them covering the assigned background reading material, others dealing with the content of the lecture. A correct answer is worth 2 points (no points are allocated for an incorrect answer), giving a possible total of 10 points. There are 20 such classroom exercises (a total of 200 points). Your performance on these exercises will count for 25% of your final grade.

To answer these questions, you will need to purchase an **Iclicker** that will allow me to receive remote input via the Iclicker base station.

The Iclicker model you will need is either: **Iclicker 2 or Iclicker +**

*Please note that previous Iclicker versions are now outdated and will not allow you to sign in to the course as an Iclicker Student (previously named Iclicker Reef).*

*Do remember to register your Iclicker at:*

<https://www.iclicker.com/register-a-remote/>

**The webpage will ask:**

**1) Which software will your instructor use in class?**

*Answer: Iclicker Cloud (formerly, Reef Education)*

**2) Which Learning Management System does your institution use?**

*Answer: Brightspace/D2L*

*If you miss three classes for a valid reason you will not be penalized for your absence during a classroom exercise. Simply email our TA ([oliverchoquette@uvic.ca](mailto:oliverchoquette@uvic.ca)) the reason for your absence. Your missing score will be **prorated** as follows: We will compute your average on all the sessions you completed. Then for the missing day, we will calculate your score relative to the overall class average. For example, if the class average was 75% on the day you missed class (again, for a valid reason), and your average over the rest of the semester was 5% above the overall class average, your missing score will be prorated to 80%.*

***What should you do if you miss more than three classes for a valid reason?***

*Answer: Every Friday, 10 questions will be available as an exercise on Brightspace at 10 am. This exercise will be active until Friday at 5 pm. If you complete these questions, your score will be substituted for any classes missed during the classes held that week. Note again, that you can miss three classes without penalty, and for those classes you do not need to attempt the exercise posted on Brightspace. If you do choose to complete the exercise for any of the three classes you can miss without penalty, your score for that week will replace the missed classroom exercise (i.e. the five questions held in class).*

**Midterms:** There will be three midterm tests, each lasting for 1 hour and 15 minutes. These tests will include both multiple choice and if possible, short answer formats. *Exams will be held during class time via Brightspace and will be open book. We will **not** be meeting in class for any midterm. In other words, you need not be on campus in order to complete the exam.*

*If you have trouble logging on during the exam you should inform me or our TA immediately. We cannot respond to difficulties communicated after the*

day of the exam. It is also not possible to take any exam after the scheduled date unless you provide a *valid* reason *ahead of time* for missing the test.

The dates of these midterms are as follows:

**First midterm — 12th October, 2023. Second midterm — 16th November, 2023. Third midterm — 4th December, 2023.**

The first two of these quizzes (12th October and 16th November) will each count for 30% of the final grade. The final quiz (30th November) is worth 15% of the final grade.

*The content of each midterm will be confined to particular sections of the course. There is no final exam.*

Exam Protocol:

Grades will be allocated according to university guidelines.

1) The usual rules of the university apply to attending examinations. No allowance can be made for busy schedules or other reasons not sanctioned by the UVic administration.

2) When you write any of the exams, it is assumed that you are mentally and physically able to write the exam. Once you complete an exam, it is not possible to change the outcome on the basis of claims that you were not in a suitable condition to write it.

3) *It is not possible to obtain additional marks in this course by asking for special dispensation privately arranged on an individual basis* (for example, a request from a student to produce an essay or review for additional marks beyond the marks assigned to exams and classroom participation). In other words, your final grade is based completely on: Three midterms counting together for 75% of your final grade, and 25% assigned to classroom Iclicker performance. There are no other options available for adding to your final grade.

Failure to complete *any* of the the three midterm exams and the section based on questions posed during class will result in a grade of “N” regardless of the cumulative percentage of all other elements of the course. N is a failing grade

and factors into GPA as a value of 0.

In accordance with the University's policy on academic concessions, "A student who completes all course requirements is not eligible for an academic concession". Consequently, students can only request deferrals for the completion of required course components and not for non-essential course components.

Some requests:

Please arrive for lectures on time.

Because cellphones are distracting, these devices should not be used in class unless you are using them for lecture notes or recording purposes.

Please do not talk in class unless you have questions or remarks you wish to share with everyone. Please do not leave before the end of the class.

Grades are assigned according to university policy.

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. Students are responsible for checking their registration status before the end of the course add period. Students will not be added to the course after that date.

Contacting the Course Instructor or TA:

We respond to emails during working hours only. We cannot respond expediently to emails on weekends or after 5 pm.

We acknowledge and respect the lək'wəŋən peoples on whose territory the university stands and the Songhees, Esquimalt and WSÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

## 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](http://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: [svpcoordinator@uvic.ca](mailto:svpcoordinator@uvic.ca)

Web: [www.uvic.ca/svp](http://www.uvic.ca/svp)

# BE WELL



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/undergraduate/housing-student-life/student-life/index.php>

## ***Counselling Services:***

The Student Wellness Centre can help you make the most of your university experience. They offer free professional, confidential, inclusive support to currently registered UVic students. <https://www.uvic.ca/student-wellness/contacts/student-wellness-team/index.php#ipn-counsellors>

## ***Health Services:***

The Student Wellness Centre also provides a full service primary health clinic for students. <https://www.uvic.ca/student-wellness/contacts/student-wellness-team/index.php#ipn-physicians>

## ***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/](http://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/](http://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: <https://www.uvic.ca/student-wellness/wellness-resources/mental-health/>

# UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

## Department of Psychology Important Course Policy Information Fall Session 2023

### **Accessible Learning**

The University of Victoria is committed to creating a learning experience that is as accessible as possible. If you are registered with the [Centre for Accessible Learning](#) and anticipate or experience any barriers to learning in this course, please feel welcome to discuss your concerns with me. If you are a student with a disability or chronic health condition, you can meet with a CAL advisor to discuss access and accommodations.

### **Attendance and Absences**

**Attendance is important.** Students are expected to attend all classes in which they are enrolled. Students may be assigned a final grade of N or debarred from writing final examinations if they fail to satisfy a minimum attendance requirement set by the instructor for lectures, laboratories, online course discussions or learning activities, tutorials, or other learning activities set out in the course outline.

Medical documentation for short-term absences is **not required** (approved by Senate). Students who cannot attend due to illness are asked to notify their instructors immediately. If illness, accident, or family affliction causes a student to miss the final exam or to fail to complete any required assignment/assessment by the end of the term students are required to submit a request for academic concession (see below).

### **Children and Pets**

If you need to bring your children or pet to class, please do not hesitate to do so. It is understood that sometimes this is necessary due to care circumstances. However, please aim to have minimal class disturbance so that student learning is not impacted.

### **Class Recording and Auto-Captioning Statement**

The instructor may record class sessions and those recordings may be made available to all students in the class via Brightspace. If you have questions or concerns regarding class recording and privacy please contact [privacyinfo@uvic.ca](mailto:privacyinfo@uvic.ca)

Auto-generated captioning may be enabled in this course. Auto-captioning is highly error-prone, especially for specialized terminology and proper names. Students are asked to refer to the audio feed for clarification of any errors. If you find captioning errors that are offensive, please contact your instructor and/or teaching assistant so that they are aware. If you require captions as part of an academic accommodation, please contact [CAL](#).

### **Commitment to Inclusivity, Diversity, and Respectful Environments in the Classroom and Online**

The University of Victoria is committed to providing a positive and supportive and safe learning and working environment for all its members. All members of the university community have the right to this experience and the responsibility to help *create* such an environment. The University will not tolerate racism, sexualized violence, or any form of discrimination, bullying, or harassment.

Please be advised that, by logging into UVic's learning systems or interacting with online resources and course-related communication platforms, you are engaging in a University activity.

All interactions within this environment are subject to the university expectations and policies. Any concerns about student conduct may be reviewed and responded to in accordance with the appropriate university policy.

To report concerns about online student conduct: [onlineconduct@uvic.ca](mailto:onlineconduct@uvic.ca)

## Copyright

All course content and materials are made available by instructors for educational purposes and for the exclusive use of students registered in their class<sup>1</sup>. The material is protected under copyright law, even if not marked with ©. Any further use or distribution of materials to others requires the written permission of the instructor, except under fair dealing or another exception in the Copyright Act. Violations may result in disciplinary action under the [Resolution of Non-Academic Misconduct Allegations policy \(AC1300\)](#) or the [Academic Integrity Policy](#), whichever is more appropriate for the situation.

## Course Experience Survey (CES)

I value your feedback on this course. Toward the end of term, you will have the opportunity to complete a confidential course experience survey (CES) regarding your learning experience. The survey is vital to providing feedback to the instructor regarding the course and their teaching, as well as to help the department improve the overall program for students in the future. When it is time for you to complete the survey, you will receive an email inviting you to do so. If you do not receive an email invitation, you can go directly to <http://ces.uvic.ca>. You will need to use your UVic NetLink ID to access the survey, which can be done on your laptop, tablet or mobile device. You will be reminded nearer the time, but please be thinking about this important activity, especially the following three questions, during the course.

1. What strengths did your instructor demonstrate that helped you learn in this course?
2. Please provide specific suggestions as to how the instructor could have helped you learn more effectively.
3. Please provide specific suggestions as to how this course could be improved.

## Disclaimer

The above schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.

## Grading

In classes that are based on a percentage grading scheme, the following [Undergraduate Grading Scale](#) is used

Grade	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	D	F
Percentage	90-100	85-89	80-84	77-79	73-76	70-72	65-69	60-64	51-59	< 50
GP Value	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0

Rounding is only applied to the final grade and is rounded up at the 0.5% level (e.g., 84.49% is round to 84% and 84.50% is rounded to 85%).

## Medical Documentation for absences

No medical documentation for short-term absences is required (Approved by Senate).

If you are seeking a Withdrawal Extenuating Circumstances or an Aegrotat grade, medical documentation may be required if relevant.

## Ombudsperson and Academic Concerns

From the course calendar...

*Depending on the nature of the academic matter of concern to the student, the order in which the student should normally try to resolve the matter is: first, the course instructor; second, the Chair of the department; third, the Dean of the faculty; and finally, the Senate.*

If you are having an academic concern or problem that cannot be resolved with your instructor or the Department Associate Chair, you may wish to consult with the Office of the Ombudsperson (<https://uvicombudsperson.ca>). Current contact information for the office can be found here <https://uvicombudsperson.ca/contact/>.

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<sup>1</sup> Syllabi belong to the department through which the course is administered.

## 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. **Aiding Others to Cheat.** It is a violation to help others or attempt to help others to engage in any of the conduct described above.

**The use of a generative artificial intelligence (AI) is strictly prohibited in any submitted work (unless expressly endorsed by the instructor as part of an assignment). The Department reserves the right to use AI detectors.**

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 Fall 2023.

The definitive source for information on Academic Integrity is the University Calendar

**Other useful resources on Plagiarism and Cheating include:**

1. The Ombudsperson's office: <https://uvicombudsperson.ca/academic-integrity/>  
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](mailto:ombuddy@uvic.ca); Web: [uvicombudsperson.ca](http://uvicombudsperson.ca).
2. UVic Library Resources: <http://www.uvic.ca/library/research/citation/plagiarism/>
3. UVic Library Document on [Avoiding Plagiarism](#)

## 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](#).

## 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.

Students who do not attend classes must not assume that they have been dropped from a course by an academic unit or an instructor. Courses that are not formally dropped will be given a failing grade, students may be required to withdraw and will be required to pay the tuition fee for the course.

## Request for Academic Concessions

Students can apply for [academic concessions](#) if their course requirements are affected by (i) unexpected and/or unavoidable circumstances (e.g., illness, family affliction, etc.), or (ii) conflicting responsibilities (e.g., service in the armed forces or first responder, representing the university).

- **Request an in-course extension**  
If you require more time to complete a course requirement or miss a test or midterm exam, then you will need to complete the "[In-Course Extension Form](#)" and submit it directly to your course instructor. All course requirements must be completed prior to the submission of final grades.
- **What to do if you miss the final exam scheduled during the formal exam period**  
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.
- **What to do if you require additional time to complete course requirements beyond the normal term.**  
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. 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 if the missing work has been deemed required. Note, only required course components may be deferred.

## Research Participation Opportunities with the Department of Psychology

The Department of Psychology offers multiple opportunities to participate in research studies over the year. Students are encouraged to learn more about the field of psychology by volunteering in these studies. Information about studies can often be found posted on notice boards around the Department as well as through our Participant Pool webpage at <https://www.uvic.ca/socialsciences/psychology/research/participants/>.

## Student Support Services

[Learn Anywhere](#) is the student support portal for a full range of student academic and support services. Services include: [Centre for Academic Communication](#), [Math & Stats Assistance Centre](#), [Counselling Services](#), [Health Services](#), [Library](#), [Ombudsperson](#), and [Computer Help Desk](#)

### **This classroom is a trans-inclusive space**

Please indicate if you have a preferred name and pronoun that you'd like to be used in the classroom. Please e-mail your instructor or your TA if you would like to discuss the climate of this classroom for trans students. Gender neutral bathrooms are available at UVic.

### **University of Victoria Students' Society (UVSS)**

The [UVSS](http://uvss.ca) is a social justice based non-profit run by students, for students and is entirely separate from UVic. As an undergrad student, you are already a member! We work on issues affecting students such as affordability, public transit, sexualized violence, sustainability, student employment, and much more. We fund clubs and course unions, and have several advocacy groups. We also have a Food Bank and Free Store, a Peer Support Centre, and run your health and dental plan. We are here to support you, so please reach out to us at [uvss.ca](http://uvss.ca)!

### **Academic Important Dates**

#### **Fall session – first term (September – December)**

Wednesday, September 6 <sup>th</sup>	First term classes begin for all faculties
Tuesday, September 19 <sup>th</sup>	Last day for 100% reduction of second term fees for standard courses 50% of tuition fees will be assessed for courses dropped after this date.
Friday, September 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Last day for adding courses that begin in the first term
Saturday, September 30 <sup>th</sup>	Last day for paying first term fees without penalty
Monday, October 2 <sup>nd</sup>	University Closed (National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, September 30 <sup>th</sup> )
Monday, October 9 <sup>th</sup>	University Closed (Thanksgiving Day)
Tuesday, October 10 <sup>th</sup>	Last day for 50% reduction of tuition fees for standard courses
Tuesday, October 31 <sup>st</sup>	Last day for withdrawing from first term courses without penalty of failure
Monday, November 13 <sup>th</sup>	University Closed (Remembrance Day, Nov 11 <sup>th</sup> )
November 13 <sup>th</sup> - 15 <sup>th</sup>	Reading Break for all faculties
Monday, December 4 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of classes in first term for all faculties
Monday, December 4 <sup>th</sup>	National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women - (Classes and exams cancelled from 11:30am - 12:30pm)
Thursday, December 7 <sup>th</sup>	First-term examinations begin for all faculties
Wednesday, December 20 <sup>th</sup>	First term examinations end for all faculties
December 25 <sup>th</sup> - 31 <sup>st</sup>	University Closed (Winter Break)

### **Add and drop dates for standard 2023-2024 Winter Session courses**

<b>Term</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>	<b>100% Fee Reduction</b>	<b>Add Deadline</b>	<b>50% Fee Reduction</b>	<b>Academic Drop no Fee Reduction</b>
<b>First term</b>	Sep 6	Dec 4	Sep 19	Sep 22	Oct 10	Oct 31
<b>Second term</b>	Jan 8	Apr 8	Jan 21	Jan 24	Feb 11	Feb 29