

KINS7360 - Motor Learning and Control
FALL 2007
Phillip Tomporowski, Ph.D.

I. Course Information

- A. Location - Room 225 Ramsey
- B. Class Days & Time: Tuesday-Thursday 12:30-1:45
Laboratory sections: Room 106
Monday laboratory session: 3:30-5:30
Tuesday laboratory session: 3:30-6:15

II. Instructor Information

Instructor: Phillip D. Tomporowski, Ph.D.
Office Location: Room 357
Office Hours: Tue & Thursday 11:00-12:00
AND by appointment
Office Phone: 542-4183
e-mail: ptomporo@uga.edu
Graduate Assistant: Kate Lambourne
Office Location: Room 106B
Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday 9:00 - 10:00
e-mail: katel@uga.edu

III. Course Objectives

1. To describe the neurophysiology of memory and learning
2. To describe motor learning and motor control in terms of the dynamic interaction between physiological processes and psychological processes.
3. To describe, compare, and contrast current theoretical perspectives of motor learning and motor control.
4. To describe methodological approaches taken to study motor learning and motor control.
5. To apply basic principles of human movement to complex behavior.
6. To demonstrate basic knowledge of key content areas of motor learning.

IV. Course Content:

Lecture presentations:

Class presentations will augment material presented in assigned readings. Several themes, which are central to the class, will be emphasized throughout the semester. These core themes include:

1. Scientific methods used to understand and evaluate learning and performance.
2. Information-processing approaches to the study of skilled behavior
3. Neuropsychology of skilled behavior
4. Theories of motor learning.
5. Individual and age-related differences in skill acquisition.
6. Basic and applied research in motor behavior.

Motor learning and control laboratory:

Students will engage in laboratory experiences that demonstrate fundamental principles of motor control and motor learning. Experiences are designed to familiarize the student to methodological procedures and behavioral assessment. They provide an opportunity to perform demonstration projects that reinforce concepts presented in class. Also, several chapters in the text will not be presented in class; they will be reserved for presentation and discussion during laboratory class meetings.

The laboratory experiences consist of a series of demonstrations that parallel lecture units. Laboratory activities will be done typically in small groups (3-4 students) with a graduate assistant available for guidance. Some of the laboratory sessions will include demonstrations of research methodologies that will be led by a graduate student. It is your responsibility to come to the laboratory prepared to conduct the assigned demonstration projects. Data will be collected, summarized, and reported during each laboratory session. Each student's laboratory performance will be monitored and evaluated. Because of the hands on nature of the laboratory is a critical part of your experience, attendance will be considered mandatory.

Outlines for each laboratory will be made available on WebCT.

V. Reading Materials

A. Text:

Schmidt, R. A., & Lee, T. D. (2004). Motor control and learning: A behavioral emphasis (4th ed.). Champaign, IL: Human Kinetics. (Off Campus Book store - 696 Baxter -548-9376)

B. Readings: Bel-Jean - 163 East Broad (548-3648)

C. WebCT: Laboratory Lessons

VI. Evaluation Procedures:

Exams: Three exams will be given. Material on these exams will come from information provided in class, laboratory, and from readings. All exams will follow a short-essay format.

Grading. Percent correct on exams will be converted to letters (A 93-100; A- 90-21; B+ 87-89; B 83-86; B- 80-82; C+ 77-79; C = 73-76; C- 70-72; D+ 67-69; D 63-66; D- 60-62; F < 59. The percent correct on the three exams will be weighted equally and when averaged will constitute 90% of the student's final grade. Laboratory performance will constitute 10% of the student's final grade.

Test Dates:

Test #1: Tuesday, September 25

Test #2: Tuesday, November 6

Test #3: Thursday, December 13 12:00-3:00 (Final exam - Non-cumulative).

Laboratory Performance: Laboratory assignments will be evaluated on a pass/fail basis. Each passed laboratory assignment will contribute 1 percent to the student's final grade.

No Class:

September 3 - Labor Day

November 22 - Thanksgiving

Tentative Schedule of Topics: The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.

Week	Topic
	Section I: Motor Control & Learning: A Physiological Emphasis
1	Introduction to the course
2	Packet - Chapter 3: Basics
3	Packet - Chapter 8: Control of Movement
4-5	Packet - Chapter 13: Learning and Memory
	Test #1 Tuesday, September 25
	Section II: Motor Control: A Behavioral Emphasis
	Schmidt & Lee
6	Chapter 3- Information processing
7	Chapter 4- Attention & Performance
8	Chapter 5- Role of sensory systems
9	Chapter 6- Role of central systems
10	Chapter 8- Coordination
11	Chapter 9- Individual Differences
	Test #2 Tuesday, November 6
	Section III: Motor Learning: A Behavioral Emphasis
12	Chapter 10 - Performance Vs. Learning
13	Chapter 11- Conditions of Practice
14	Chapter 12- Feedback
15	Chapter 13- The learning process
16	Chapter 14- Transfer & Retention
	Test #3 Thursday, December 13 12:00-3:00 (Final exam - Non-cumulative)

Instructor's Policy

1. Students are expected to attend classes regularly.
2. "Incomplete" grades will not be given unless there are circumstances beyond the student's control which prevent the completion of course requirements (e.g., documented illness, serious family emergencies).
3. "Incomplete" grades will not be given without the student's having made prior arrangements for completing course work.
4. Grades will not be changed as a result of additional work done by a student unless all students registered for the course are given the opportunity to do similar, additional work.
5. A grade will be changed upon a written statement by the instructor that the grade was a factual error. All grade changes are subject to approval by the instructor's department head and the Dean's Office.
6. Exams will not be administered early and will be administered late only for personal emergencies. Zero credit will be given on exams missed for other reasons (e.g., working at a part time job, travel, or other university associated responsibilities, such as athletics) unless approved at least three weeks in advance of the test by the instructor. The instructor may change the format of a make-up examination (e.g., essay type exam).
7. All academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty." **Each student is responsible to inform themselves about those standards before performing any academic work.**

Student-Faculty Communication Sheet
KINS 7360
FALL 2007

Please read the five statements below. After each statement write your initials on the line to indicate that you have read the statement. At the bottom sign and date the form. You will not be permitted to take the first exam until you have turned this page into your instructor.

1. Daily attendance is not required and does not factor directly into my grade, however, I recognize that failing to attend may negatively impact on my course grade because much of the exam material is only covered during lectures. _____

2. I am required to take three exams on the scheduled dates at the scheduled times. I understand that exams will not be administered early and will be administered late only for personal emergencies. I will receive zero credit on exams missed for other reasons (e.g., working at a part time job, travel, or other university associated responsibilities, such as athletics) unless approved at least three weeks in advance of the test by the instructor. I understand that the instructor may change the format of a make-up examination. _____

3. I have reviewed my schedule for the semester and found no current or pending conflicts that would prevent me from taking the exams on the scheduled dates at the scheduled times.

4. I recognize that all work completed for this course must be performed by me without unauthorized assistance from others. Examples of unauthorized assistance include copying from another student or allowing another person to copy from me. Another example is completing work for another or allowing another to complete work for me. As a member of the academic community I recognize that I have a responsibility for knowing the policy and procedures on academic honesty. These procedures can be obtained from the Vice President for Academic Affairs or viewed at the following web site:
http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/academic_honesty/culture_honesty.htm _____

5. I am aware that Dr. Tomporowski has office hours Tuesday and Thursday 11:00 - 12:00 and that I can get assistance from him regarding the course during these hours or at other times by making an appointment with him. _____

I have read and agree to the above policies: _____
Print Name

Signature

Date