



**LEAD CITY UNIVERSITY**  
*Faculty of Social and Management Sciences*  
*Department of Sociology and Psychology*

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## **COURSE PARTICULARS**

**Course Code:** PSY 112  
**Course Title:** Learning Process  
**No. of Units:** 3  
**Status:** Compulsory

## **LECTURER DETAILS**

**Name:** Bamidele Emmanuel OSAMIKA  
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**Area of Specialization:** Clinical Psychology

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is structured for students to have an understanding on the basic introduction to behavioral psychology, covering such topics like concepts of learning, classical conditioning, operant conditioning, general principles of operant conditioning, schedule of reinforcement, applications of operant and, classical conditioning, learning theories, psychological principles and learning, human memory, thinking , language and speech development.

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

To introduce the students to some specific areas of behavioral psychology.

- Classical conditioning, operant conditioning , their principles and application
- Behavior modification and control, principles of learning theories.
- Human memory origin and basic process, thinking and language development

## **ASSESSMENT**

- Class Attendance                      5 marks
- Test and Assignment                25 marks

- Final Examination

70 marks

## LECTURE PLAN

<b>Week</b>	<b>Topics</b>
<b>Week 1</b>	<b>Concepts of Learning:</b> Introduction to learning, types of learning, theories of orientation to learning process
<b>Week 2</b>	<b>Classical Conditioning:</b> components of classical conditioning, classical conditioning processes, stimulus discrimination, applications of classical conditioning, simultaneous conditioning
<b>Week 3</b>	<b>Operant Conditioning:</b> Contributions of Edward L. Thorndike and B.F. Skinner to the development of operant conditioning, features of instrumental conditioning.
<b>Week 4</b>	<b>General Principles of Operant Conditioning:</b> shaping, extinction, reinforcement, escape, avoidance and punishment, the partial reinforcement effect.
<b>Week 5</b>	<b>Schedule of Reinforcement:</b> Fixed interval reinforcement, variable interval reinforcement fixed ratio reinforcement, variable ratio reinforcement
<b>Week 6</b>	<b>Applications of Operant and Classical Conditioning</b>
<b>Week 7</b>	<b>Learning Theories:</b> Social learning theory, contribution of Bandura to social learning theory, observational learning.
<b>Week 8</b>	<b>Learning Theories:</b> Latent Learning Theory, Tolman's latent learning theory, latent learning and manifest learning, insight learning theory, gestalt theory of insight learning.
<b>Week 9</b>	<b>Psychological Principles and Learning:</b> Learner characteristics, general factors, active versus passive approach in learning, primacy and recency effects.
<b>Week 10</b>	<b>Human Memory:</b> Origin and basic processes: memory evolution,
<b>Week 11</b>	<b>Thinking:</b> The thinking process, tools of thought, images and symbols, conceptual development.

<b>Week 12</b>	<b>Language and Speech Development:</b> Language and thinking skill, the role of language in intellectual development, egocentric speech, socialized speech. Then, Summary
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## READING LIST

1. Atherton, J.S. Learning and teaching: Behaviourism. Available at <http://www.dmu.ac.uk/jumesa/learningbehaviour.htm>.
2. Hilgard, E. R., Atkinson, R. L. and Atkinson, R.C. (1979). *Introduction to Psychology* (7th ed.). New York
3. Piaget, J. (1963). *The Intellectual Development of the Child*.
4. Udegbe, B.,Balogun, S.K., Osinowo, H& Sunmola, G.(eds.) (1999). *Psychology: Perspective in Human Behaviour* (Revised and Enlarged Edition) Ibadan, Kraftbooks.

## TUTORIAL QUESTIONS

1. (a) Explain the concept of learning as a relative permanent change in behaviour  
(b) With examples, discuss any three types of learning.  
(c) With reasonable illustrations describe learning process
2. (a) Describe classical conditioning as well as its components and processes  
(b) i. What is stimulus discrimination?  
ii. What is stimulus conditioning?
3. With references, discuss the contribution of Thorndike and Skinner to the development of Operant Conditioning
4. Write short notes on the following
  - 1) Shaping
  - 2) Extinction
  - 3) Reinforcement
  - 4) Avoidance
  - 5) Punishment
5. (a) With Examples, discuss Reinforcement.  
(b) Write short notes on the following Schedule of reinforcements
  1. Fixed Interval Reinforcement
  2. Variable Interval Reinforcement
  3. Fixed Ratio Reinforcement
  4. Variable Ratio Reinforcement
6. Briefly discuss the applications of Operant and Classical Conditioning
7. In detail, explain any **five theories** of learning.
8. (a) Explain any two characteristics of a learner  
(b) Discuss Active versus Passive Approach in Learning  
(c). highlights two factors associated with learning.

9. The origin and basic process of human memory is interesting. Elucidate
10. Human's thinking process entails tools of thought, images and symbols. With examples explain these.
11. Discuss the concept of development according to Jean Piaget
12. Write short notes on the following
  - 1) Language Development
  - 2) Speech Development
  - 3) Egocentric speech
  - 4) Socialized Speech