

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

Mahzarin Banaji, Head Tutor
Laura Chivers, Advising Administrator
Rebecca Stoodley, Undergraduate Coordinator

PSYCHOLOGY UNDERGRADUATE OFFICE
WILLIAM JAMES HALL 218-222
33 KIRKLAND STREET
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138

Dear Psychology Concentrator,

Welcome to the 2009-2010 academic year! We are excited to work with you to help you have the best experience possible in your concentration. Please read each section below for fall semester updates.

Updates and Announcements for 2009-2010:

- The first day of classes, Wednesday, Sept. 2nd, will be following a Monday course schedule. Courses that meet on Mondays, will meet on Sept. 2nd at their Monday times, in the Monday rooms. Courses that meet only on Wednesdays will generally have their first meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 9th.
- Several courses have special “first meetings” that differ from their regular meeting times or rooms. These “first meetings” DO NOT automatically show up on the course website or shopping tool, so be sure to check if courses you want to shop are on the “First Meetings Report” at:
http://webdocs.registrar.fas.harvard.edu/general_docs/first_meetings.pdf
- The MBB track been renamed “Cognitive Science” to better reflect the interdisciplinary nature of courses taken across the cognitive sciences in the MBB track. This is a change in name only; requirements have not changed.
- PSY 1 and SCI B-62 have been replaced by the General Education course, Science of Living Systems 20: Psychological Science. PSY 1 and SCI B-62 will continue to meet the Tier 1 requirement for those students who have already taken these courses in Spring 2009 or earlier.
- The course schedule has been revamped to help you find courses by areas of psychology. See:
<http://wjh.harvard.edu/psych/ug/requirements/charts/course.schedule.html>
- The Study-out-of-Residence application deadline for Spring 2010 study abroad is October 1st. Visit our SOR webpage for more information about the application process:
<http://www.wjh.harvard.edu/psych/ug/requirements/charts/sor/index.html>

Psychology Course Announcements:

- PSY 1901: Students interested in taking PSY 1901 need to attend the first class meeting of the section they plan to take on Wednesday, Sept. 2nd. Enrollment in each section is limited; therefore students may be moved between sections if the enrollment in the sections is skewed.
- Some MIT and Graduate School of Education (GSE) courses are now available to take as Departmental electives, via cross-registration. Students should contact the course professors to verify they have the sufficient background for the course. MIT courses start Wednesday, Sept. 9th, so you should shop a class at Harvard as your 4th class in case you decide not take or are not admitted to an MIT course. GSE courses start Wednesday, Sept. 2nd, with the first Wednesday following a Monday schedule. Instructions for cross-registration can be found at:
http://webdocs.registrar.fas.harvard.edu/ugrad_handbook/current/chapter2/crossreg.html. Please note that instead of the Psychology Head Tutor’s signature, you *should bring your cross-registration form to the Psychology Undergraduate Office, WJH 218, for a signature*. The deadline for cross-registration petitions submitted to the department for approval is *Wednesday, September 9th at 4pm*.
- Several new additions have been made to non-departmental elective list, the related life science course list and the MBB seminar list. Find these updates by clicking on the appropriate links at:
<http://www.wjh.harvard.edu/psych/ug/requirements/charts/index.html>
- Due to a combination of visiting lecturers, curriculum reviews, and the current financial situation, many Tier 3 courses will be offered for this year only. Students who are particularly interested in a course should plan on taking it this year if possible. For an explanation of Tier 3 courses, please see:
<http://www.wjh.harvard.edu/psych/ug/requirements/charts/electives.departmental.html>

Update to Non-Thesis Honors:

- Beginning this fall, candidates for Non-Thesis Honors will need a 3.85 concentration GPA only. The grade requirements in specific courses have been eliminated. Please see the full set of rules at: <http://www.wjh.harvard.edu/psych/ug/requirements/honors/index.html>

Study Cards and Advising:

- Study Cards will be signed by your Concentration Adviser (CA). The adviser for your house may have changed, so please consult <http://www.wjh.harvard.edu/psych/ug/advising/CA.html> to see who your adviser will be for the academic year and to find out about open advising hours.
- Please look out for emails from your adviser regarding advising hours, arrangements to give you your progress-in-concentration memo, and Study Card signatures. Please respond to these emails promptly. Remember, your advisers are students too and may not be available on short notice.

Email:

- You are responsible for all of the information contained in emails from the Psychology Undergraduate Staff and your advisers, and not receiving the email will not be considered an acceptable excuse for missing deadlines or information. Check your spam folders daily and add all concentration email addressed to your address books contacts and/or filters (in Gmail, click settings and choose filters): psychology@wjh, ugradoff@wjh, lchivers@wjh, stoodley@wjh, and the addresses of your Adviser and any professors, TA/TFs, etc. General emails from the Undergraduate Office will also be posted at <http://www.wjh.harvard.edu/psych/ug/Announcements.html>

Core and Gen Ed information:

- PSY 1, SCI B-62, and the new Science of Living Systems 20 now all meet both the SCI B core requirement and the Science of Living Systems General Education requirement.

Faculty Dinners:

- The Faculty Mentor program has been replaced with the new Faculty Dinner program that was piloted this past spring. Students will have the opportunity to have dinner in a small group with a faculty member and discuss research, careers, and psychology as a whole. Look for an email at the start of the semester to see the Faculty Dinners for the fall and to sign up for the dinner that interests you the most. These dinners will be limited to ten students.

Faculty Information for Fall:

- New Faculty for the 2009-2010 academic year :
 - Professor Felix Warneken studies the developmental, social and evolutionary aspects of cooperation. Learn more about his research on his lab website at: <http://www.wjh.harvard.edu/~lds/warneken.html>
- Professors on leave this year are:
 - Prof. Joshua Green (fall term)
 - Prof. Christine Hooker
 - Prof. Jill Hooley (spring term)
 - Prof. Ellen Langer (spring term)
 - Prof. Wendy Mendes
 - Prof. Jason Mitchell
 - Prof. Steven Pinker (spring term)
 - Prof. Daniel Schacter (fall term)
 - Prof. Elizabeth Spelke (spring term)
 - Prof. Daniel Wegner (spring term)

Sincerely yours,

Mahzarin Banaji
Head Tutor
Richard Clarke Cabot Professor of Social Ethics

Laura Chivers
Advising Administrator

Rebecca Stoodley
Undergraduate Coordinator