



Western University
Faculty of Health Sciences
School of Kinesiology



Western
HealthSciences

**KIN 1080B - Introduction to Psychomotor Behaviour
Winter 2025**

<p>Instructor: Dr. Matthew Heath Email: mheath2@uwo.ca Office Hours: Wednesday: 12:30 – 2:30, TH 4177</p> <p>Lead Teaching Assistant: Denait Haile: dhaile3@uwo.ca</p>	<p>Instruction Mode: Hybrid (in-person and online asynchronous)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday and Wednesday: in-person (see Office of the Registrar for time and location). Friday: online, asynchronous with lecture posted to OWL.
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All course material will be posted to OWL Brightspace: <https://westernu.brightspace.com/>. If students need assistance with OWL Brightspace, they can seek support on the [OWL Brightspace Help](#) page. Alternatively, they can contact the [Western Technology Services Helpdesk](#) online or by phone at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800 for technical support. Current versions of all popular browsers (e.g., Safari, Chrome, Edge, Firefox) are supported with OWL Brightspace; what is most important is that you update your browser frequently to ensure it is current. All JavaScript and cookies should be enabled.

Calendar Course Description (including prerequisites/anti-requisites):

Fundamental concepts and theories related to movement neuroscience will be introduced. The material will address many of the factors impacting the production of voluntary movement. Students will learn about the basis for movement skill and variables that can be used to improve level of skill.

Prerequisite(s): None.

Extra Information: 3 lecture hours per week (in-person and online).

You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course pre-requisites, and that you have not taken an anti-requisite course.

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Course Description:

To provide an overview of the neural control of human movement and how cognition and sensory feedback influence normative and pathological movement states.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

- Identify and understand central nervous system structure and function – emphasis on relevant motor system structures.
- Understand relevant issues associated with measurement and evaluation in the human movement neurosciences.
- Describe the cognitive and sensorimotor factors influencing purposeful movement.
- Define and describe the sensory systems associated with the regulation of skilled movement (e.g., vision, proprioception).
- Describe the neuromuscular factors influencing skilled movement.
- Write succinctly yet comprehensively.

Course Content and Schedule:

The schedule is tentative and subject to change(s) pending lecture flow.

Week	Dates	Topic
1	Jan 6-10	History of movement neuroscience
2	Jan 13-17	CNS structures and movement
3	Jan 20-24	CNS structures and movement
4	Jan 27-31	Test 1 Week
5	Feb 3-7	CNS structures and movement
6	Feb 10-14	Scientific Method and spinal cord
-	Feb 17-21	Reading Week
7	Feb 24-28	Taxonomies and techniques
8	March 3-7	Test 2 Week
9	March 10-14	Neuroimaging and information processing
10	March 17-21	Attention and memory
11	March 24-28	Closed-loop control
12	March 31 – April 4	Closed- and open-loop control

Required Course Material/Text:

All course materials are available via OWL BrightSpace. There is no textbook for this course.

Distribution of Student Load:

In-person lectures:	~100 min/wk
Friday online lectures:	~40 min/wk
Private study and discussion assignments:	~60 min/wk

Communication:

Office hours & appointments: If you have questions about course material or would like to discuss issues related to the course in more detail the preferred means is to discuss during instructor office hours or discuss before or after in-person lectures. It is also possible to email the instructor regarding a question; however, sending a question via email does not ensure a prompt response.

Email Policy:

Who to contact for your concerns or questions: If you have a question, please first consult this syllabus and the course website; there is a good chance your question can be answered through

these resources, especially regarding course logistics or content (e.g., deadlines, assignments, and course materials). You are also encouraged to use the forum on OWL BrightSpace to post questions to your peers and check to see if your question has already been answered. If you cannot find an answer to your question on the syllabus or course website, you may contact the instructor; however, and as indicated above, the preferred means of contact is via office hours.

Email inquiries to instructor: For all email responses, please permit a minimum of 24 hours before a response can be expected (i.e., you are unlikely to receive a response the night before a quiz/assignment and will not receive a timely response to an email sent on the weekend or holiday). It is encouraged that you view any email as your chance to practice professionalism. Consider that your communication style is a direct reflection of you as a person. Hence, when sending an email include appropriate salutation and valediction and ensure proper syntax, grammar and punctuation.

Assessments and Evaluation:

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| 1. Test 1 (January 29: 8:30 am EST) | 25% |
| 2. Test 2 (March 5: 8:30 am EST) | 25% |
| 3. Final Exam (date: TBA) | 30% |
| 4. Discussion Assignments (see below for details) | 20% |

Test 1 and 2 will be completed online during normal lecture time. You may begin the test (via BrightSpace) at any point after the 8:30 am (London, ON time zone) start time and will have 40-min to complete. The test site closes at 9:10 am (London, ON time zone). Thus, if you chose to start the test at 9:00 am (London, ON time zone) you will have only 10-min to complete the assessment. Test 1 and 2 will be completed in your home residence or dorm room (or other quiet personal space). Test 1 and 2 – as well as the Final Exam – are not cumulative. For students with a documented Accessible Education accommodation, additional time will be built into your Test 1 and 2 writing times.

Discussion Question assignments are due as stated below (and as indicated in the WEEKLY LECTURE PLAN provided on BrightSpace). Assignments will not be accepted late except under medical or other compassionate circumstances. Submitting a late assignment without appropriate documentation will result in a grade of zero. A missed test, without appropriate documentation will result in a grade of zero. See below, **Academic Policies and Statements > Absence from Course Commitments**.

There are not make-up dates for Test 1 or 2. If you miss a test and have a documented accommodation/consideration then your final grade will be re-weighted without the 25% assignment for the missed test. For example, if you miss Test 1, then your performance on Test 2 (worth 25 points), Final Exam (worth 30 points) and Discussion Assignments (worth 20 points)) will be used to derive your grade (i.e., your percentage grade would be determined based on a point total out of 75 instead of 100).

Discussion Question Assignments:

This component of the course contributes 20% to your final grade. Completed assignments are to be uploaded to BrightSpace prior to 4:30 pm (London, ON, local time zone) on the due date. Discussions Assignments submitted after the due date without a documented consideration (see details below) will receive a grade of zero.

There are five Discussion Question assignments, and you are required to complete four. You can complete all five assignments, and in such a case the four assignments with the highest grade will be used to derive your grade.

Discussion Question assignments are predicated on reading original research or theory-based articles and answering article-specific questions. For example, for your first discussion assignment you will read a research article involving concussion in sport and answer questions related to the article. For this, and subsequent assignments, you will upload your answers to BrightSpace. The goal of this course component is to: think critically; synthesize information; write efficiently and effectively; and critique the work of others.

For Discussion Question assignments, each assignment question will be evaluated out of 5 points. When submitting your assignment, only “in-line” responses are permitted (i.e., copy and paste your answers to the BrightSpace text board).

The breakdown of the 5-point evaluation for each article question is:

- 2 points awarded based on writing efficiency and effectiveness (i.e., writing quality),
- 3 points awarded based on the answer content and/or synthesis (i.e., did you answer the question correctly?)

Assignment #	Article	Due Date
1	Webb et al. (2018: J Neurotrauma)	January 17
2	Driver & Mattingley (1998: Nature Neurosci)	January 27
3	Azouvi et al. (1993: J Neurol)	February 7
4	Glover (2011: Neurosurg Clin N Am)	March 7
5	Breveglieri et al. (2004: Brain Struc Fun)	March 24

Grades:

Where possible, assignment objectives and rubrics will be posted on BrightSpace. Generally, students can expect some form of feedback on their performance in a course before the drop date.

- November 13th, 2024 (for first term half-courses)
- November 30th, 2024 (for full-year courses)
- March 7th, 2025 (for second term half-courses)

A+	90-100	<i>One could scarcely expect better from a student at this</i>
A	80-89	<i>Superior work that is clearly above average</i>
B	70-79	<i>Good work, meeting all requirements and eminently satisfactory</i>
C	60-69	<i>Competent work, meeting requirements</i>
D	50-59	<i>Fair work, minimally acceptable.</i>
F	below 50	<i>Fail</i>

Rounding of Grades (for example, bumping a 79 to 80%):

This is a practice some students request. The final grade documented is the grade that you have achieved. There is no rounding to the next grade level, or ‘giving away’ of marks. Please do not ask me to do this for you; the response will be, “Please review the course outline where this is presented”.

INC (Incomplete Standing):

If a student has been approved by the Academic Advising Office (in consultation with the instructor/department) to complete term work at a later date, an INC will be assigned. Students with INC will have their course load in subsequent terms reduced to allow them to complete outstanding course work. Students may request permission from Academic Advising to carry a full course load for the term the incomplete course work is scheduled.

SPC (Special examination):

If a student has been approved by the Academic Advising Office to write a Special Examination and the final exam is the only outstanding course component, an SPC will be assigned. If the class has a makeup exam, the student is expected to write the makeup exam. If the class does not have a makeup exam or the student misses the makeup exam for reasons approved by the Academic Advising Office, the student will write the exam the next time the course is offered. Outstanding

SPCs will reduce the course load for the term the exam is deferred as outlined in [Types of Examinations](#) policy.

Instructor-Specific Policies:

For this large first-year course there are a number of instructor-specific policies and procedures that you must follow during in-person lectures:

- Ensure your electronic device(s) are on silent mode when a lecture is in progress.
- Eating and drinking in class is not permitted.
- Entering class late. In-person lectures begin at 8:30 am. You should be in your seat and prepared for lecture before 8:30 am. If you enter late make sure you sit, or will sit, in an aisle seat near the back of the classroom. Do not make this a habit. Repeated offences will be reported to the appropriate Director's/Dean's Office for academic sanction(s).
- Leaving class early. In-person lectures end at 9:20 am. Hence, it is expected that you remain in the classroom until that time and do not begin packing away your belongings before the specified end of class. Such behaviour is disruptive to other students. Do not make this a habit. Repeated offences will be reported to the appropriate Director's/Dean's Office for academic sanction(s).
- Talking to your neighbour(s) during lectures. This is a big class, and the instructor requires that you refrain from this activity. Sound travels very well in the lecture hall and as a result this behaviour is disruptive to other students and to the instructor. Without a doubt the instructor will not tolerate this behavior and repeated offences will be reported to the appropriate Director's/Dean's Office for academic sanction(s).

Academic Policies and Statements

Support Services

There are various support services around campus and these include, but are not limited to:

1. Academic Support and Engagement - <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca>
2. Wellness and Well-being - <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>
3. Registrar's Office -- <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/>
4. Ombuds Office -- <http://www.uwo.ca/ombuds/>

The website for Student Support & Case Management
(https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/index.html)

The website for Learning Development and Success: <https://learning.uwo.ca/>

The website for USC services: <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western (<https://www.uwo.ca/health/>) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Statement on Gender-Based and Sexual Violence

Western is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at:

https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html.

Student Code of Conduct

The purpose of the Code of Student Conduct is to define the general standard of conduct expected of students registered at Western University, provide examples of behaviour that constitutes a breach of this standard of conduct, provide examples of sanctions that may be imposed and set out the disciplinary procedures that the University will follow. For more information, visit <https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/board/code.pdf>

Absence from Course Commitments

Students must familiarize themselves with the Policy on [Academic Consideration – Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs](#)

Students missing course work for medical, compassionate, or extenuating circumstances can request academic consideration by completing a request at the [central academic consideration portal](#). Students are permitted one academic consideration request per course per term **without** supporting documentation. Note that supporting documentation is **always** required for academic consideration requests for examinations scheduled by the office of the registrar (e.g., December and April exams) and for practical laboratory and performance tests (typically scheduled during the last week of the term).

Students should also note that the instructor may **designate** one assessment per course per term that requires supporting documentation. This designated assessment is described elsewhere in this document. Academic consideration requests may be denied when flexibility in assessment has already been included. Examples of flexibility in assessment include when there are assessments not required for calculation of the final grade (e.g., 8 out of 10 quizzes), when there

is flexibility in the submission timeframe (e.g., 72 hour no late penalty period), or when timed assessments (e.g., quizzes) are available over an extended period of time (e.g., when you are given a 72 hour time period to start – and finish – the assessment).

Please note that any academic considerations granted in this course will be determined by the instructor of this course, in consultation with the academic advisors in your Faculty of Registration, in accordance with information presented in this course syllabus. Supporting documentation for academic considerations for absences due to illness should use the [Student Medical Certificate](#) or, where that is not possible, equivalent documentation by a health care practitioner.

Accommodation for Religious Holidays

Students should review the policy for [Accommodation for Religious Holidays](#). Where a student will be unable to write examinations and term tests due to a conflicting religious holiday, they should inform their instructors as soon as possible but not later than two weeks prior to writing the examination/term test. In the case of conflict with a midterm test, students should inform their instructor as soon as possible but not later than one week prior to the midterm.

Special Examinations

A Special Examination is any examination other than the regular examination, and it may be offered only with the permission of the Dean of the Faculty in which the student is registered, in consultation with the instructor and Department Chair. Permission to write a Special Examination may be given on the basis of compassionate or medical grounds with appropriate supporting documents. To provide an opportunity for students to recover from the circumstances resulting in a Special Examination, the University has implemented Special Examination dates. The Faculty of Health Sciences has set School-specific dates for these Special Examinations. Please speak with your instructor about the date on which the Special Examination for this course will be held.

Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf.

Plagiarism

Student work is expected to be original. Plagiarism is a serious academic offence and could lead to a zero on the assignment in question, a zero in this course, or your expulsion from the university. You are plagiarizing if you insert a phrase, sentence or paragraph taken directly from another author without acknowledging that the work belongs to them. Similarly, you are plagiarizing if you paraphrase or summarize another author's ideas without acknowledging that the ideas belong to someone else. All papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between Western University and Turnitin.com (www.turnitin.com).

Use of Artificial Intelligence for the Completion of Course Work

Within this course, you may only use artificial intelligence tools (e.g., “ChatGPT”) in ways that are specifically authorized by the course instructor. All submitted work must reflect your own thoughts and independent written work.

Re-submission of Previously Graded Material

Without the explicit written permission of the instructor, you may not submit any academic work for which credit has been obtained previously, or for which credit is being sought, in another course or program of study in the University or elsewhere.

Use of Statistical Pattern Recognition on Multiple Choice Exams

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

Accessibility Statement

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Accessible Education (AE) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation or review [The policy on Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#)

Correspondence Statement

The centrally administered e-mail account provided to students will be considered the individual’s official university e-mail address. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that e-mail received from the University at their official university address is attended to in a timely manner. Students are further expected to attend to announcements presented through Brightspace, and to read emails generated in this way.

Use of Electronic Devices

During Exams

Unless you have medical accommodations that require you to do so, or explicit permission from the instructor of the course, you may not use any electronic devices (e.g., cell phones, tablets, cameras, smart glass, smart watches, or iPods) during ANY tests, quizzes, midterms, examinations, or other in-class evaluations. **These devices MUST either be left at home or with your belongings at the front of the room. They MUST NOT be at your test/exam desk or in your pocket. Any student found with a prohibited device will receive an automatic grade of zero on the test or exam.**

During Lectures and Tutorials

Although you are welcome to use a computer during lecture and tutorial periods, you are expected to use the computer for scholastic purposes only, and refrain from engaging in any activities that may distract other students from learning. From time to time, your professor may ask the class to turn off all computers, to facilitate learning or discussion of the material presented in a particular class.

Copyright and Audio/Video Recording Statement

Course material produced by faculty is copyrighted and to reproduce this material for any purposes other than your own educational use contravenes Canadian Copyright Laws. Unless

explicitly noted otherwise, you may not make audio or video recordings of lectures – nor may you edit, re-use, distribute, or re-broadcast any of the material posted to the course website.

Contingency Plan for an In-Person Class Pivoting to 100% Online Learning

In the event of a situation that requires this course to pivot to online content delivery, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on Brightspace for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will **not** change. Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.

Note that disruptive behaviour of any type during online classes, including inappropriate use of the chat function, is unacceptable. Students found guilty of Zoom-bombing a class or of other serious online offenses may be subject to disciplinary measures under the Code of Student Conduct.

Online Proctoring

Tests and examinations in this course may be conducted using a remote proctoring service. By taking this course, you are consenting to the use of this software and acknowledge that you will be required to provide **personal information** (including some biometric data) and the session will be **recorded**. Completion of this course will require you to have a reliable internet connection and a device that meets the technical requirements for this service. More information about this remote proctoring service, including technical requirements, is available on Western's Remote Proctoring website at: <https://remoteproctoring.uwo.ca>.

Appealing a Grade Within this Course

You have the right to appeal any grade within this course. The grounds for a grade appeal may be one or more of: medical or compassionate circumstances, extenuating circumstances beyond the student's control, bias, inaccuracy, or unfairness. All grounds advanced in a request for relief must be supported by a clear and detailed explanation of the reasons for the request together with all supporting documentation.

Appeals generally proceed in this order:

1. Course instructor (informal consultation)
2. Department Chair (submission of written request)
3. The Dean of the Faculty (submission of written request)

In the case of perceived procedural unfairness, steps 2 and 3 are carried out within the Department and Faculty offering the course. In the case of extenuating medical or compassionate circumstances that impact on a grade, steps 2 and 3 are carried out within a student's Home Department and Faculty.

A request for relief against a mark or grade must be initiated with the instructor as soon as possible after the mark is issued. In the event that the instructor is not available to the student, or fails to act, or if the matter is not resolved satisfactorily with the instructor, a written request for relief must be submitted to the Chair of the Department within three weeks of the date that the mark was issued. In the case of a final grade in a course, the written request for relief must be submitted to the Chair of the department by January 31st (for first-term half courses) or June 30th (for second-term half courses or full-year courses).