

# T5303 Assignment 1 Guidelines

This assignment involves constructing a poster as if it were part of a "Science Fair". Specifically your aim is to present a poster that will explain:

- Different psychological theories of learning.
- The impact on designing and presenting educational material as a consequence of these learning theories.

As well as the information you've given above you will be assessed on the quality of the 'poster' that you've designed.

## Background Information

Pretend that you have been asked by your head of department to prepare a poster that will explain to your visitors of an open day to your school what the main learning theories are in psychology and how they are actively used in the school's pedagogical approach. You're target audience is at it's 'lowest' for a 15 year old teenager who is not knowledgeable but nevertheless of normal intelligence. That means that the text has to be engaging and interesting but not so 'dumbed down' that it is patronising and superficial.

There are five theories you have to inform the public about in this poster:

- S-R Theory
- Operant Conditioning
- Social Learning Theories
- Cognitive Theories
- Social Cognitive Learning Theories.

## Instructions

### The Physical Poster

The poster that would be displayed would be something that would sit on a board that is 2m wide by 1m tall. That does not mean that the poster would be covered in pictures or text, but it does mean that you need to have (at the very least) 10 paragraphs, one for each of the theories and another to show and/or explain how it is used in the classroom.

You do **NOT** need to actually print up such a poster - but you certainly may do so.

You can either write up, or print out A4 or A3 sheets that would be placed around the board. You would have to also provide a small diagram to explain how the different pages would be placed on the 2m x 1m poster. Remember that the text has to be readable from someone who is standing perhaps a meter or so away from the poster. Any headings have to be able to attract attention.

I would suggest that you definitely use diagrams, colours, drawings, photos etc. Remember an 'intelligent 15 year old' is still a teenager and they are not attracted to simply 'boring text'. They can be taken off the web BUT please provide an acknowledgement from where you found the diagram, photo etc. This would include the whole URL (web address) and the date it was accessed.

If you want to play 'safe' you'd make the poster a huge table with 10 cells: 5 of the cells would explain the theory, the other 5 how they are used. But how zzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzz!!!!!! Have fun - but remember it has to be understandable.

I will accept electronic submissions (for those of you that are techno-wizards), ie it could be printed out but instead you give it to me over email - as long as I can read the contents and also see how the whole poster would look. Unfortunately there's only one way to guarantee that the way that you design and format your poster will be read on my computer, is to publish it in a 'pdf' format. Just so you know, I don't run any Microsoft products on my (Macintosh) computer which means that you're unlikely to run the software that I use. So 'pdf' is the only way to go.

### **Due Date**

The assignment is due at the end of week 3 which is the 5th of March. But I don't mind if you hand it in on Monday the 8th. I'd advise you to try for the Friday so that you can enjoy your weekend 😊!

## **Assignment Guidelines**

Prepare all your material before hand (start today?). For the actual exam, you have something like 15-20 minutes to set up your poster on a board that measures something like 2.5m x 1.5m. We will supply the pins to put up your poster. When you're finished, just stand/sit next to the poster whilst the audience/examiners come around to read your poster. Please don't talk to anyone except your audience/examiner.

The table given below is a guide to how you will be assessed. Since the information that you put into the poster is necessarily limited, you may also be asked to provide some of this technical information by the audience/examiner, verbally. Don't fret this part too much, just answer the best that you can. The audience just wants further detail, this does NOT detract from the information that you put in the poster, it can only ADD to the quality of your poster. You may want to print out fine detail or extra information on a separate sheet, so that you can refer to this precisely if your asked.

### **Aims of this Assignment**

- To demonstrate understanding of 5 main learning theories in psychological theory.
- To consider how this is used in teaching practice.
- To present this knowledge in an engaging (interesting) manner.

### **Assignment Assessment**

Your assessment is as follows:

- |                       |       |
|-----------------------|-------|
| ● Factual Correctness | - 45% |
| ● Accessible          | - 45% |
| ● Engaging display    | - 10% |

This assignment is worth 10% of your total course marks.