
Rationale / Description of Psychology 102: The purpose of Psychology 102 is to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with the major subfields within psychology. They also will build an understanding of behavior from the psychophysiological, cognitive, social, and clinical perspectives; important issues, methods, and findings in the study of the psychological process.

Objectives:
1. Students will be introduced to the fascinating discipline of psychology; the scientific study of behavior and mental processes.
2. Students will be able to understand psychological principles and be able to apply them to their lives and to the world.
3. Students will develop critical thinking skills, encouraging careful analysis of media claims, research results, etc.
4. Students will develop study skills focusing on note-taking, study strategies, and time management.

Supplemental Readings: Many short readings are drawn from various other textbooks, books, magazines, newspapers and journals to enrich material and cover items not included in the course text.


Other Resources:
“Discovering Psychology: Updated Edition” Annenberg/CPB

You will be graded on the following requirements:
• Classroom Assignments- These may include worksheets, charts, graphs, article reactions, in class experiments, journal and essay writing, etc. An emphasis will be placed on writing.
• Experiments- there will be small experiments in class that you will be responsible for collecting data, writing up a reaction, and making charts and/or graphs.
• Writing assignments- You will be asked to do several writing assignments. Some will involve reading and some will involve doing research. They are to be written in APA format unless otherwise noted.
• Unit exams- at the end of each unit an exam will be given.
• Semester exams- a cumulative exam will be given at the end of each semester. Information will continue to build toward culmination with final exam in May.
• Reading quizzes- there will be reading quizzes per chapter. The lowest per chapter will be “thrown out.”
• Quarter project- each quarter there is a designated project that will be due. These are done on students’ own time. See descriptions below.
**How to be successful in Psychology 102**

You must take responsibility for your own success! If you work hard and come prepared for class, you will be successful. Here are some tips to guide you:

- Don’t miss class! If you do or know you’re going to see me immediately
- Take complete notes, keep them organized and save them for the entire year and review them periodically.
- Do not procrastinate on assignments and readings. Plan to read daily.
- Manage your time effectively. Plan to set aside at least 1 hour daily for this class.
- Make flashcards with vocabulary, theories and psychologists on them for each unit and review them each day.
- Use your classmates and myself as resources. Form study groups and ask questions!
- Feel free to express personal views, but you must also be willing to listen to others.
- Don’t cheat! The consequences will be severe!

This course will be taught at a rapid pace and with college level expectations. Do your best to keep up and don’t hesitate to get help with anything that you may feel you need help with. I don’t give grades, you earn them. I will do everything I can to provide you with the information you will need to succeed, what you do with this information is up to you!

**Late Work:** I expect that you will turn your work in the day it is due. Work turned in late will receive a reduction of half credit if turned in within one week of date due. After one week, the work will not be accepted.

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarized work (work copied from another source without giving due credit) will earn a grade of 0 and will not be allowed to be redone as this is a college class and UWGB and other colleges do not allow plagiarism (can often lead to removal from class with a withdrawal F)

**Class Materials:** it is recommended that you have a binder 1-2” thick. Everything I give you is to end up in this binder. I recommend taking notes on loose-leaf paper and keeping them together in this binder. Class notes must be handwritten.

**Quarter Projects:** Each quarter we will be completing projects related to Psychology. Each will be worth 100 points

- Quarter 1: “Forty Studies That Changed Psychology” reading/analysis
- Quarter 2: Independent Research experiments
- Quarter 3: Movie Review
- Quarter 4: “Influence” chapter analysis and presentation

Course will be graded following grading scales

**OFHS Grading Scale**

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**UWGB Grading Scale**

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**Excellence** 4.0  **Excellent**

**Very Good** 3.5  **Good** 3.0  **Above Avg.** 2.5  **Average** 2.0  **Below Avg.** 1.5  **Poor** 1.0  **Unacceptable** 0.0
Course Sequence & Unit Objectives
All timeframes are approximate and are subject to change.

A. History and Scope of Psychology Myres Prologue (1 week)
Objectives: 1. To describe how psychology’s predecessors pondered and debated human nature.
2. To trace the history of psychology as a discipline.
3. To identify psychology’s most important issues.
4. To describe the different perspectives from which psychologists examine behavior and mental processes.

Topics:
- Psychology’s roots
  - Contemporary psychology- look at works of James, Wundt, etc.
  - Perspectives (group work- looking at events through various perspectives)
  - Psychology’s biggest questions
  - Psychology’s three main levels of analysis
- Subfields
- Careers

Assignments: Celebrity perspectives activity, and Dinner party with Dead psychologists

1. Research Strategies Myres chapter 1 (1 week)
Objectives: 1. To demonstrate the limits of everyday intuition and common sense.
2. To show how psychologists use three basic research methods: description, correlation and experimentation.
3. To explain how psychologists use statistics in their research.

Topics:
- The scientific attitude- critical thinking
- The scientific method
- Case studies
- Surveys
- Natural observation
- Correlations
  - Correlation and causation
  - Illusory correlation
  - Perceiving order
- Experimentation
- Statistical reasoning
  - Describing data
  - Measuring central tendency
  - Measuring variation
  - Making inferences
- ethics of research

Videos: “Standard Deviants- Research”
Assignments: Critical Thinking packet: History and Research Methods
Exam on chapter 1

2. Neuroscience and Behavior Myres Chapter 2
Objectives: 1. To describe the structure of neurons and explain how they communicate.
2. To discuss the nature of the nervous system.
3. To describe the major techniques for studying the brain.
4. To identify the lower level structures of the brain and discuss their functions.
5. To describe the complex functions of the cerebral cortex.

Topics:
- Neural and Hormonal Systems (1 week)
  - Intro to neural and hormonal systems
    - Phrenology
  - Neurons and neural impulses
    - Multiple sclerosis and Guillain- Barre syndrome
  - neural communication
3. States of Consciousness

Myers Chapter 3

Objectives:
1. To identify levels of information processing and the content and functions of daydreams.
2. To discuss the nature of biological rhythms, including the sleep cycle.
3. To describe the nature and functions of dreams.
4. To explore the truth about hypnosis.
5. To discuss theories about whether hypnosis is an altered state of consciousness.
6. To identify the effects of various drugs.
7. To describe the near death experience as compared to experiences while under the influence of drugs.
8. To explore possible reasons for drug use.

Topics
- **Waking and Sleeping Rhythms** (3-4 days)
  - Waking consciousness
    - Video: “Crash Course Psychology: Consciousness” #8
    - levels of information processing
      - automatic processing
    - Daydreams and Fantasies
  - sleep and dreams
    - biological rhythms
      - circadian rhythms
    - the rhythm of sleep
      - melatonin
      - EEG and Sleep stages
  - Sleep disorders
  - Dreams
    - Video: “Crash Course Psychology: Sleep and dreams” #9

Hypnosis (1 day)
- Attitudes toward hypnosis
- Is hypnosis an altered state of consciousness?

- **Drugs and Consciousness** (3-4 days)
  - Dependence and addiction
    - Video: “Crash Course Psychology: Altered States” #10
  - Psychoactive Drugs
  - Near death experiences
  - Influences on drug use

Assignments:
- “Asleep in the Fast lane” Writing assignment
- Drug Chart
- Exam on Chapters 3

4. Nature and Nurture of Behavior

Myers Chapter 4

Objectives:
1. To describe how evolutionary psychologists seek to explain our universal behaviors.
2. To explain how behavior geneticists weigh genetic and environmental contributions to our traits.
3. To discuss the role of prenatal environments, early experiences, peer influences and cultures.
4. To explore both the nature and nurture of gender.

Topics:
- **Genetic Influences on Behavior** (3-4 days)
  - Genes
    - Human cloning?
    - Genetic influences
  - Evolutionary psychology
    - Natural selection - works of Darwin
  - Behavior genetics: predicting individual differences
    - Twin studies
    - Adoption studies
    - Temperament studies
    - Heritability
  - Gene-environment interaction
  - Molecular genetics
    - Designer babies?

- **Environmental Influences on Behavior and Reflections on Nature vs. Nurture** (3-4 days)
  - How much credit/blame do parents deserve?
  - Peer influence
  - Culture
    - Geography of time
    - Difference in cultural norms
  - Nature and nurture of gender
    - Abnormal sex chromosome patterns
    - Who does the housework?

Videos: “The Secret Life of the Brain”

Assignments: Cloning Reading & Writing Assignment
Exam on Chapters 4

5. Developmental Psychology *Myers* Chapter 5

Objectives: 1. To trace the course of prenatal development.
2. To describe the competencies of the newborn
3. To trace the course of physical development during infancy and childhood.
4. To describe cognitive and social development during infancy and childhood.
5. To describe the major events of physical development during adolescence.
6. To discuss the course of cognitive and social development in adolescence.
7. To describe the physical and cognitive changes in adulthood.
8. To explore the diversity of changes in the social realm during adulthood.
9. To summarize current views regarding continuity or discrete stages and stability or change in personality across the lifespan.

Topics:
- **Prenatal Development** (2-3 days)
  - Introducing the developing person
    - Activity: Lifelines
  - Conception and prenatal development
    - Video: “Life’s Greatest Miracle”
  - Newborn

- **Infancy and Childhood** (2-3 days)
  - Physical development
  - Cognitive development - Piaget’s stages of Development
    - Preoperational thought and moral development
    - Egocentrism
  - Social development
    - Parental authority
    - Attachment types
    - Self-esteem
    - Video: “Discovering Psychology: Developing Child”

- **Adolescence** (2-3 days)
Introducing adolescent development
- physical development
- puberty
- Activity: letter to adolescents about puberty

- cognitive development
  - Kohlberg’s theory of moral development

- social development
  - friendships
  - emerging adulthood
  - Erikson’s stages

**Adulthood**

- Physical development
  - attitudes toward the elderly
  - Alzheimer’s disease

- cognitive development

- social development
  - Video: “Seasons of life”

**Assignments**: Activity: interview adolescence
Reading assignment: “What Makes Teens Tick?”
Critical Thinking packet: Developing Person
Exam on Chapter 5

### 6. Sensation and Perception

*Myers Chapter 6*

**Objectives:**
1. To introduce some basic principles of sensation and perception.
2. To discuss the visual process.
3. To explain how we see color.
4. To discuss the auditory process.
5. To explore the physical and social challenges of hearing loss.
6. To describe the sense of touch, focusing on how pain is perceived.
7. To describe the senses of taste and smell.
8. To describe the mechanisms by which body positions and movement are detected.
9. To show how illusions help us understand perception.
10. To describe the basic principles of perceptual organization.
11. To discuss the factors that shape our perceptual interpretations.
12. To identify the concerns of human factors psychologists.
13. To discuss the status of ESP research.

**Topics:**
- **Introduction to Sensation and Perception**
  - Sensation vs. perception
  - top down processing
  - Video: “Discovering Psychology- Sensation and Perception”
  - Thresholds
  - subliminal persuasion
  - Weber’s law
  - Sensory adaptation
  - Selective Attention
    - inattentional blindness
    - change blindness

- **Introducing Vision**
  - The stimulus input
    - recognizing our own voice
    - locating sounds
  - visual information processing
    - blindspot
    - illusory contours
  - color vision

- **Introducing Hearing**
  - Stimulus Input: sound waves
  - hearing loss and deaf culture
Introducing the Other Senses (2-3 days)

- Touch
  - Cultural differences in pain
  - Activity: Two-point thresholds & touch localization
- Taste
  - Taste preferences
  - Genetic effects on taste
  - Activity: Mapping your tongue
- Smell
  - Gender-related odors
  - Pheromones
  - Fragrance effects
  - Body position and movement

Perceptual Organization (1-2 days)

- Perceptual illusions
- Organization principles
  - Form perception
  - Depth perception
  - Motion perception
  - Perceptual constancy

Perceptual Interpretation (2-3 days)

- Functional blindness
- Perceptual adaptation and perceptual set
- Perception and the human factor
  - Claims of ESP
  - Premonitions or pretensions
  - Putting ESP to experimental test

Assignment: Exam on Chapter 6

Learning

Myers Chapter 7

Objectives: 1. To present the principles and processes involved in classical conditioning.
2. To demonstrate the application of classical conditioning.
3. To present the principles and processes involved in operant conditioning.
4. To demonstrate the applications of operant conditioning
5. To describe the nature of observational learning.
6. To discuss the impact of both positive and negative models.

Topics:

- Classical Conditioning (2-3 days)
  - Defining learning
  - Video: “Discovering Psychology - Learning”
  - Pavlov’s experiments
  - Taste aversions
  - Updating Pavlov’s understanding
  - Cognitive processes in learning
  - Biological predispositions
  - Pavlov’s legacy
  - Association principle
  - Watson and Little Albert

- Operant Conditioning (1-2 days)
  - Skinner’s Experiments
  - Examples of negative reinforcement
  - Updating Skinner’s understanding
  - Overjustification effect

- Operant Conditioning (1 day)
  - Skinner’s legacy

- Observational Learning
  - Bandura’s experiments
  - Bandura’s social cognitive theory
  - Applications of observational learning
  - Media violence and aggression

Assignments: Critical Thinking packet: Learning
8. Memory

Objectives:
1. To describe the variations in human memory capacity.
2. To describe memory as an information-processing system.
3. To describe how we encode information.
4. To describe what we encode.
5. To discuss the nature of storage.
6. To explore the possible physical basis for memory.
7. To identify the different measures of memory.
8. To describe the cues that affect memory retrieval.
9. To describe possible causes for forgetting.
10. To describe the nature of memory construction.
11. To present some strategies for improving memory.

Topics:
- Introduction to Memory (2-3 days)
  - Introducing memory
  - Memory loss and memory feats
    - world memory championships
  - information processing
    - Video: “Discovering Psychology: Memory”
- Encoding: Getting Information In (1-2 days)
  - How we encode
  - What we encode
    - mnemonic devices
    - self reference effect
    - semantic encoding of pictures
- Storage: Retaining Information (1-2 days)
  - Sensory memory
  - Short term memory
  - Long term memory
  - Storing memories in the brain
- Retrieval: Getting Information Out (1-2 days)
  - Permastore
  - Retrieval cues
  - Context effects
  - Moods and memories
- Forgetting, Memory Construction, and Improving Memory (2-3 days)
  - Forgetting
    - encoding failure
    - storage decay
    - retrieval failure
      - tip-of-the-tongue phenomenon
  - memory construction
    - misinformation and imagination effects
    - source amnesia
    - discerning true and false memories
      - eyewitness testimony
  - children’s eyewitness recall
  - repressed or constructed memories of abuse
  - applying memory principles to education

Assignment: Exam on Chapter 8

9. Thinking and Language

Objectives:
1. To explore how we construct concepts and solve problems.
2. To discuss obstacles to problem solving.
3. To explore how we make decisions and form judgments.
4. To describe language structure and development.
5. To discuss the relationship between thought and language.

Topics:
10. Intelligence

Myers Chapter 10

Objectives:
1. To introduce contemporary views on the nature of intelligence.
2. To explore the relationship between intelligence and creativity.
3. To describe the relationship between intelligence and brain functioning.
4. To trace the history of intelligence testing.
5. To describe the principles of test construction.
6. To describe the stability of intelligence across the lifespan and to present extremes of intelligence.
7. To discuss genetic and environmental determinants of intelligence.
8. To discuss the issue of whether intelligence tests are biased.

Topics

○ Introduction to Intelligence (1-2 days)
  ■ What is intelligence?
  ■ Video: “Discovering Psychology: Testing and Intelligence”
  ■ Is intelligence one general ability or several specific abilities?
    ● Gardner’s theory of multiple intelligences
    ● Savant syndrome
  ■ intelligence and creativity
  ■ is intelligence neurologically measurable?

○ Assessing Intelligence (1-2 days)
  ■ Origins of intelligence testing
  ■ Modern tests of mental abilities
  ■ Principles of test construction
    ● reliability and validity
  ■ The dynamics of intelligence
    ● why do intelligent people fail?

○ Genetic and Environmental influences on intelligence (1-2 days)
  ■ Genetic influences
  ■ Environmental influences
  ■ Group differences in intelligence test scores
  ■ The question of bias

Assignments:
Intelligence Reading and Writing Assignment (essays)
Exam on Chapter 10

11. Motivation and Work

Myers Chapter 11

Objectives:
1. To present basic concepts of motivation.
2. To discuss Maslow’s hierarchy of motives.
3. To discuss the basics of hunger.
4. To describe the major eating disorders.
5. To discuss sexual motivation, including the dynamics of sexual orientation.
6. To explain the strong human need to belong.
7. To describe how industrial-organizational psychology applies psychological principles to the workplace.
8. To describe how effective managers motivate their employees.

**Topics**

- **Introduction to Motivation** (1-2 days)
  - Instincts and evolutionary psychology
  - Drives and incentives
  - Optimum arousal
  - A hierarchy of motives
    - Maslow’s Hierarchy
- **Hunger** (1-2 days)
  - The physiology of hunger
  - The psychology of hunger
    - taste preferences
  - body images
- **Sexual Motivation** (1-2 days)
  - Describing sexual behavior
  - Physiology of sex
  - Psychology of sex
  - Adolescent sexuality
  - Sexual orientation
  - Sex and human values
  - The need to belong
- **Motivation at Work** (1-2 days)
  - Personnel psychology
  - Organizational psychology: motivating achievement

**Assignment:** Exam on Chapter 11

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**Exercise 12: Emotion, Stress and Health**

*Myers Chapter 12*

**Objectives:**
1. To present the major theories of emotion.
2. To describe the dimensions of emotion.
3. To describe the physiology of emotion.
4. To present research on emotional expression.
5. To discuss our experiences of fear, anger, and happiness.
6. To discuss the nature of stress.
7. To explain the relationship of stress to illness.
8. To present effective health-maintenance strategies.
9. To discuss negative health-related behaviors and ways of altering them.

**Topics:**

- **Theories of Emotion** (3-4 days)
  - Introducing emotions
    - Video: “Discovering Psychology: Motivation and Emotion”
  - The James-Lange and Cannon Bard theories
  - Cognition and emotion
  - Two dimensions of emotion
- **Experienced and Expressed Emotion** (3-4 days)
  - Embodied emotion
    - the physiology of specific emotions
  - expressed emotion
    - nonverbal communication
    - culture and emotional expression
    - the effects of facial expression
  - experienced emotions
    - fear
    - anger
    - happiness
- **Stress and Illness** (3-4 days)
  - Video: “Discovering Psychology: Health, Mind and Behavior”
Stress and stressors
- Stress and the heart
  - type A and type B personalities
- Stress and susceptibility to disease

Promoting Health (1-2 days)
- Promoting health
  - fringe medicines
- Coping with stress
- Modifying illness-related behaviors

Promoting Health

Assignment: Exam on Chapter 12

13. Personality

Myers Chapter 13 (1-2 days)

Objectives:
1. To describe the psychoanalytic perspective on personality and to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of Freud’s ideas.
2. To introduce and evaluate the humanistic perspective.
3. To present the trait perspective.
4. To discuss the consistency of behavior over time and across situations.
5. To describe the social-cognitive perspective, including recent research on personal control, learned helplessness, and optimism.
6. To evaluate the social-cognitive perspective.
7. To discuss psychology’s study of the self.
8. To describe evidence for nonconscious information processing.

Topics:

- Historic Perspectives: Psychoanalytic and Humanistic
  - The psychoanalysis perspective
    - Freudian principles and Freudian slips
    - Defense mechanisms
    - neo-Freudians
  - The humanistic perspective
    - Obstacles to self-actualization
    - Maslow’s hierarchy of needs

- Contemporary research: the Trait Perspective (1-2 days)
  - Introducing the trait perspective
  - Exploring traits
    - Extraversion and emotional stability
  - Assessing traits
  - The Big Five Factors
  - Evaluating the trait perspective
    - The Barnum effect

- Contemporary research: the Social-Cognitive Perspective (1-2 days)
  - Exploring behavior in situations
  - Reciprocal influences
  - Personal control
    - Locus of control
  - Assessing behavior in situations
  - Evaluating the social-cognitive theory

- Contemporary research: the Self and the Modern Unconscious (2-3 days)
  - Exploring the self
    - Self-esteem
    - Video: “Discovering Psychology: The Self”
  - The modern unconscious mind

Assignments: Personality analysis box and essay, Critical Thinking packet: Personality
Exam on Chapter 13

14. Social Psychology

Myers Chapter 14

Objectives:
1. To introduce attribution theory.
2. To describe research on the relationship between attitudes and action.
3. To present the literature on social influence.
4. To describe research demonstrating the power of the person.
5. To describe the major findings on prejudice, aggression, and social conflict.
6. To explore factors that contribute to attraction, altruism, and peacemaking.

**Topics:**
- **Social Thinking** (2-3 days)
  - Videos: “Discovering Psychology: The Power of the Situation” and “Constructing Social Reality”
  - Attributing behavior to persons or to situations
  - Attitudes and actions
    - Zimbardo’s prison experiment
- **Social Influence** (1-2 days)
  - Conformity and obedience
    - Milgram’s obedience experiment video
  - Group influence
    - Deindividuation
    - Group polarization
- **Social Relations** (1-2 days)
  - Prejudice
  - Aggression
  - Conflict
  - Attraction
  - Altruism
  - Peacemaking

**Assignments:**
- Critical Thinking packet: Social Psychology
- Psychology in TV assignment
- Exam on Chpt 14

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**15. Psychological Disorders**

*Myers Chapter 15*

**Objectives:**
1. To introduce the different perspectives on psychological disorders and to discuss the controversy surrounding the use of diagnostic labels.
2. To describe the prevalence of the different psychological disorders.
3. To describe the most prevalent anxiety disorders.
4. To examine the possible causes of anxiety disorders.
5. To describe the controversial dissociative disorders and to discuss their possible causes.
6. To describe personality disorders, focusing on the antisocial personality.
7. To describe the major mood disorders.
8. To explore possible causes of mood disorders.
9. To describe the symptoms and types of schizophrenia.
10. To explore possible causes of schizophrenia.

**Topics:**
- **Introduction to Psychological Disorders** (2-3 days)
  - Video: “Discovering Psychology: Psychopathology”
  - Defining psychological disorders
  - Understanding psychological disorders
    - Tourette’s syndrome
    - Culture bound disorders
  - Classifying psychological disorders
  - Labeling psychological disorders
  - Rates of psychological disorders
- **Anxiety Disorders** (1-2 days)
  - Intro to anxiety disorders
    - Anxiety attacks
  - Generalized anxiety disorder and panic disorder
  - Phobias
  - Obsessive compulsive disorder
  - Explaining anxiety disorders
- **Dissociative and Personality Disorders** (1-2 days)
  - Psychogenic amnesia
  - Dissociative identity disorder
  - Personality disorders
    - Antisocial personality disorder
16. **THERAPY**

*Myers Chapter 16*

**Objectives:**
1. To present the major psychotherapies.
2. To describe how various therapies can be applied in group settings.
3. To evaluate the effectiveness of the major psychotherapies.
4. To evaluate the effectiveness of the major psychotherapies.
5. To describe the drug therapies.
6. To describe electroconvulsive therapy and psychosurgery and to explore reasons for the controversy over these techniques.

**Topics:**

- **The Psychological Therapies**
  - Introducing psychological therapies
    - attitudes toward seeking professional help
  - psychoanalysis
  - humanistic therapies
    - computer assisted psychotherapies
  - behavior therapies
    - virtual reality and systematic desensitization
  - cognitive therapies
  - group and family therapies

- **Evaluating Psychotherapies**
  - Is psychotherapy effective?
  - The relative effectiveness of different therapies
  - Evaluating alternative therapies
    - pets in therapy
    - trepanation
  - commonalities among psychotherapies
  - culture and values in psychotherapy
  - preventing psychological disorders

- **The Biomedical Therapies**
  - Drug therapies
  - Electroconvulsive therapy
  - Psychosurgery
    - lobotomy

**Assignments:**
- Treatment of Psychological Disorders Reading & Writing Assignment
- Exam on Chapter 16