

PSYCHOLOGY 102 Introduction to Psychology

UW Green Bay

Instructor Contact Information

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Course Description

This introductory course will provide students with an overview of the current body of knowledge and methods of the science of psychology. Topics will include the historical foundations of psychology, cognition, emotions, learning, human development, biological bases of behavior, personality, psychological disorders, psychotherapy and behavior change, and social behavior. This is a course designed for adult college students; thus, students are responsible for all lecture and text materials.

Course Objectives:

- Students will gain a basic understanding of the various subfields and topics that fall within the broad category of "Psychology"
- Students will learn about the fundamentals of scientific research and how it contributes to psychology
- Students will acquire the basic tools to allow them to think critically and analytically about the world around them
- Students will review the critical findings and major contributions from the various subfields of psychology

Required Textbooks and Materials

Plotnik, R. & Kouyoumdjian, (2014) *Introduction to Psychology* (10th ed.)
Belmont, CA: Wadsworth

Grading Policy:

The course grade is based on the total points obtained by the student on:

- 5 exams = 5 x 50 = 250 points
- 7 Active learning assessments (10-20 points each)

A = 90-100

B+ = 87-89.99

B = 83-86.99

B- = 80-82.99

C+ = 77-79.99

C = 73-76.99

C- = 70-72.99

D = 60-69.99

Less than 60 = F

Attendance

Your attendance directly impacts your performance in this class. Students are responsible for getting all class notes, handouts, class announcements, or other course materials from a fellow classmate should they miss a lecture.

Course & Instructor Policies

No cell phone use in class unless instructed to do so by your professor.

Make-up Exams

No make-up exams will be administered unless you provide a medical certificate or other documentation to excuse the absence. If you foresee that you will be absent for an exam (i.e., religious holidays), please provide a note to the instructor at least 1 week in advance. If the absence is justified, necessary arrangements will be made to retake the exam. If an exam is missed, and the absence is not excused, the grade given will be 0. Make-up exams will be scheduled with the instructor and will be administered during regular class hours. Make-up exams must be completed immediately upon your return to school.

Formative Assessments

No late formative assessments will be accepted.

Specific Class Policies and Professional Courtesy

- Cell phones should be set to off or silent and **NO texting**
- Emails sent to the instructor will be returned as quickly as possible.
- If you need to contact the instructor via email.

Additional Important Notes

Given time constraints, it is impossible to "cover" all of the material in the text. As such, students will be expected to read/understand the material covered in the chapters that are assigned.

Please read the assigned material before class; even if you only have time to skim it. If you are at least somewhat familiar with concepts before class, it will GREATLY facilitate your learning.

Academic Integrity Policy

Integrity is one of the Core Values of UW Oshkosh. All students share with the faculty the responsibility for academic honesty and integrity. The University expects its students to do their own academic work. In addition, it expects active participation and equitable contributions of students involved in group assignments. The following acts of academic dishonesty are not acceptable:

- Cheating: using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise (e.g. an exam).
- Fabrication: unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise (e.g. a paper reference).
- Plagiarism: representing the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic exercise (e.g. failing to cite references appropriately or taking verbatim from another source), whether it is done with the intention of being dishonest or not.
 - Violation of the Academic Integrity Policy shall result in you being assigned a grade of F for this course followed by such disciplinary measures as deemed necessary by university officials. Refer to Chapter UWS 14 of the Student Discipline Code at <http://www.uwosh.edu/dean/08.09DisciplinaryCode.pdf>.

Schedule		
Date	Readings	Class Topics
Sept. 5	Chapter 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to course • What is Psychology
Sept. 7 Active Research Plan	Chapter 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approaches to Psychology • Statistics • Psychology's Scientific Method • Types of Psychological Research
Sept 17	Chapters 3& 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nervous System • Neurons • Structures of the Brian and functions • Brain Damage, plasticity, and repair.
Sept. 26		EXAM 1
Sept. 27	Chapters 5 and 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sensation and perception
Oct. 4 Active Learning Project	Chapters 9 and 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning: Classical and Operant Conditioning • Observational Learning
Oct. 15 Memory Research Assessment	Chapters 11 and 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Memory
Oct 23		EXAM 2
Oct. 24	Chapters 13 and 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cognition and intelligence
Nov 1	Chapter 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consciousness
Nov. 6	Chapter 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motivation
Nov. 7		EXAM 3
Nov. 8	Chapter 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emotion

Nov. 13 Piaget-based Child Cognition Project	Chapter 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues in Human Development • Child Development
Nov. 16	Chapter 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adolescence and Adulthood
Nov. 26 Social Research Learning Inquiry	Chapter 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Cognition/Behavior • Social Influence • Intergroup Relations • Close Relationships
Dec. 10		EXAM 4
Dec. 11 Personality Analysis	Chapters 19 and 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Personality • Perspectives on Personality
Dec. 17	Chapters 22 and 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment and Psychological Disorders
Jan. 4		EXAM 5
Jan. 7	Chapter 8 and 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abnormal Psychology: Theories , Disorders, and Treatment
Jan. 14 Self-Assessment and Coping Activity	Chapter 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Psychology: Stress and Coping
Jan. 17		Exam 5

Writing Assignment

- The purpose of this assignment is to provide you with an opportunity to design, conduct, and provide professional documentation of a research study. There are *four parts* to the final paper/write-up and you will receive one final grade. However, you will turn in different sections of the paper during different times throughout the semester.
- ALL part of your paper should be typed, double spaced pages, with a 12pt font, Times New Roman. You MUST follow APA guidelines when writing this paper. Failure to follow these guidelines will result in points being deducted and a lower grade.
- **Part 1:** You will write a 2-3 page summary of the literature. You are expected to find peer-reviewed journal articles and professional book chapters to provide a literature review that sets the foundation for the research study you will be conducting. Do NOT use magazines like Newsweek or Times as these are not professional sources. *Part 1 is DUE on the day you have Exam 1.*
- **Part 2:** You will write a 1-2 page method section. This section should provide the specifics of how you conducted the study (procedures of the study) and a detailed understanding of all assessment instruments (material used in the study). *Part 2 is DUE on the day you have Exam 2.*
- **Part 3:** You will write a 1-2 page results section. This section should provide a detailed write-up of the demographics of your participants (e.g., mean age, standard deviation, ethnicity, etc...). You should also provide a detail summary of all your findings based on the data you collected using your study design. *Part 3 is Due on the day you have Exam 3.*
- **Part 4** and Final synthesis of the paper: You will write a 2-3 page discussion section for Part 4. This section should detail what the specific findings are (without using statistical jargon) and how the main findings might apply to your life or to society as a whole. In addition, you should discuss limitations of the study and the findings, and provide the audience with an idea of the future direction (i.e., what would be the next step if you were to conduct another study to address the limits previously outlined).
- **Final manuscript:** Once you have completed Part 4, you should put Parts 1-4 together and hand in this completed written manuscript. *The final paper which includes Parts 1 -4 is DUE on the day you have Exam 4.*
- You will receive ONE final grade for this paper (50 total points). However, as you turn in

sections of your paper, you will receive feedback on how to improve your paper, and the expectation is that you will incorporate the feedback into the final paper to strengthen your paper. Although you will not receive a grade for Parts 1 -3 until the final grade, failure to turn in each section will result in **minus 10 points** for each deadline missed. In other words, if you do not turn in Parts 1-3 when they are due, but you turn in a complete draft with all 4 parts at the end of the semester, you will still receive points but you will lose 30 out of 50 points for missing the three deadlines (10 points for each deadline). Conversely, if you turn in Parts 1-3 in a timely manner but fail to complete Part 4 and turn in a final manuscript integrating all four Parts, you will simply lose all 50 points.

Plagiarism: As with all university assignments, plagiarism will not be tolerated. Be sure to submit *your own work*. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns about plagiarism.