

# Syllabus General Psychology 101 Section 05

## Fall 2010

### Who

Instructor: Estelle Mayhew

Instructor email: emayhew@rci.rutgers.edu

TA: Kris Mescher

TA email: kmescher@eden.rutgers.edu

- The TA is in charge of copying and grading the exams.
- The TA will have the physical exams.
- If you wish to see your exam (and this is a very good idea) then you must visit the TA during office hours.

### When/where

Location: Beck Auditorium – Livingston

Time: Mondays & Wednesdays 3:20 – 4:40 pm

Office hours instructor: Thursdays, 2:00 – 3:30 pm

Office location instructor: Room 409 Tillett Hall, Livingston

Office hours TA: Thursdays, 1:30-2:30 pm

Office location TA: Tillett 607

### Note on email

- If you ask a question for which the answer is in the syllabus or in the announcements on Sakai, I will in all likelihood NOT reply to your email.
- If it's a minor issue, ask me after class.
- On other issues, I will try to get back to you within 3 days. Any emails sent at unearthly hours may not get read before class period, keep it in mind.
- Also, please remember to SIGN (that means first and last name) your emails. I don't know, nor will I expend any effort to find out who strawberry@dotmail is. You also need to indicate in EVERY email WHICH CLASS and WHICH SECTION you are in, as I have 500+ students in several different classes and sections. *If you forget to indicate your name, your class, or your section I am unlikely to reply to your email.*

### What

The goal of this course is to introduce you to the main areas of research in psychology. For each of the areas we will cover some of the basic things you need to know, and look at some of the interesting issues. So this course is really a sampler of the field of psychology.

### Required Readings

**Available at NJ Books and Livingston bookstore**

Introduction to psychology (9th ed.) James W. Kalat, Wadsworth publishing

NO CLICKERS

I realize the book is expensive, as all college textbooks are. I honestly don't care if you get the loose-leaf version, some international edition that officially isn't supposed to be sold in the U.S., or the hardback.

If you do decide to buy an older edition of the book (you should not go earlier than the 8<sup>th</sup> edition), there are TWO copies of the correct edition of the book on reserve in the Kilmer library. The exam questions are from the testbank for the current edition and as well as from stuff covered in lecture not in the book.

## Class website

- The class has SAKAI website, where this syllabus and the latest course information is posted. Powerpoints for classes will be posted after class. The main purpose of the website is to give you access to the lecture powerpoints and any other documents that are to be shared.
- The class website is also where I will post announcements. Although this is not the semester of sleet and snow, other things may happen. If I am unable to make it to class, I will post an announcement on the site as soon as possible

## Tentative Class Schedule

Week	Dates	Topic	Readings
1	Wed, Sept. 1	Course rules	Get the book
2	Wed, Sept. 8	Psychology as science	Chapter 1
3	Mon, Sept. 13	Research methods	Chapter 2
	Wed, Sept. 15	Research methods	Chapter 2
4	Mon, Sept. 20	Critical thinking ??	
	Wed, Sept. 22	Biological psych,	Chapter 3
5	Mon, Sept. 27	Biological psych/Sensation	Chapter 4
	Wed, Sept. 29	Sensation perception	Chapter 4
6	Mon, Oct. 4	Development	Chapter 5
	Wed, Oct 6	Learning	Chapter 6
7	Mon, Oct 11	EXAM 1	Chs. 1-5 & class notes
	Wed, Oct 13	Learning	Chapter 6
8	Mon, Oct 18	Memory	Chapter 7
	Wed, Oct 20	Memory	
9	Mon, Oct 25	Cognition	Chapter 8
	Wed, Oct 27	Language	Chapter 8
10	Mon, Nov 1	Intelligence	Chapter 9
	Wed, Nov 3	Consciousness	Chapter 10
11	Mon, Nov 8	EXAM 2	Chapters 6-10 & class notes
	Wed, Nov 10	Motivated behaviors	Chapter 11
12	Mon, Nov 15	Emotions	Chapter 12

	Wed, Nov 17	Stress & Health	Chapter 12
13	Mon, Nov 22	Social psychology	Chapter 13
14	Mon, Nov 29	Social psychology	Chapter 13
	Wed, Dec 1	Personality	Chapter 14
15	Mon, Dec 6	Psychological disorders	Chapter 15
	Wed, Dec 8	Psychological disorders/Treatments	Chapter 16
16	Mon, Dec 13	Treatments	
	Thu, Dec 16 8-9:30 am	EXAM 3	Chapters 11-16

## Taking part in research

**ALL STUDENTS IN GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY 830:101 ARE REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE EITHER DIRECTLY AS SUBJECTS IN EXPERIMENTS OR, INDIRECTLY, BY STUDYING AND DESCRIBING TWO PUBLISHED REPORTS OF EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS. (DIRECT PARTICIPATION IS MORE FUN AND MORE INSTRUCTIVE.)**

**YOU CAN FULFILL THIS COURSE REQUIREMENT AS FOLLOWS:**

**OPTION 1: EXPERIMENTAL PARTICIPATION ON-LINE REGISTRATION AT:**  
<http://researchpool.rutgers.edu/>

This method requires you to participate in several experiments for a total of 2-1/2 hours, equaling five credits (called RPUs). 1 RPU will be given in exchange for each ½ hour of participation, except in the case of on-line studies that do not require students to come to a lab. On-line studies will award ½ RPU per ½ hour of on-line study participation. Moreover, students are not allowed to receive more than 1 RPU by engaging in on-line studies (i.e., one hour maximum).

Note: You should have received a message from Sona Systems giving you a username and password (which you can't change, but you can click on "Lost Password?" to have it e-mailed to you) to use when you log in. If you did not, it's because you did not provide an e-mail address when you registered. In that event, register yourself by going to the site (click on "Create an Account?"), but you must carefully select the correct course, instructor, days/period that you are registered for.

**OPTION 2: TWO PAPERS SUMMARIZING A PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDY**

Students who are unwilling or unable to participate as subjects in experiments (Option 1) may fulfill this research participation requirement by submitting summaries of two published research articles.

The first summary must be submitted to the instructor by the 8th week of the semester. (October 18th). Students who miss that deadline must fulfill the requirement via Option 1. The second summary is due on or before the 14th week of the semester. (December 1<sup>st</sup>, or earlier).

FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON BOTH OPTIONS SEE LINK AT ABOVE SITE – before you log in, you can click on the announcement about reading the rules, and you will see what they are. In other words, you won't need to log in to find out what the rules are for either option.

## What makes the grade?

### (a) Exams – 33% each

- There will be three exams during the semester, each covering about a third of the material.
- There will be non-cumulative make-up exams ONLY for those who present a Dean's note to the instructor within a week of the missed exam.

Exam 1: Monday Oct. 11

covers chapters 1 – 5

Exam 2: Monday, Nov. 8

covers chapters 6 – 10

Exam 3: Thursday, Dec. 16 8-9:40 am

covers Chapters 11 – 16

- *If* you have a conflict for the final exam, which is defined as follows by SAS:
  - More than two (2) final exams on one calendar day
  - More than two (2) final exams scheduled in consecutive periods (ex: A student has exams scheduled for 4:00-7:00 pm and 8:00-11:00 pm on one day and 8:00-11:00 am on the following day.)
  - Two final exams scheduled for the same exam period.
- *Then* you are allowed to ask for a makeup on the basis of conflict.
- In order to obtain it, you need to go to <http://finalexams.rutgers.edu> and log in (it's at the top of the page). Print out your final exam schedule and only then come to me. You should actually be able to do this on the first day that your schedule is finalized. The day before the exam conflict is TOO LATE to come asking for a makeup!
- Exam characteristics:
  - 60 Multiple choice questions
  - Covers lecture and book

### (b) Taking part in research worth 5 rpu's – 0 % taken off

At the end of the semester the instructor will get a report from the system about everyone's research participation.

If you haven't taken part in 5 rpus of research, OR submitted 2 research papers by the deadlines in lieu of the research participation, professors are instructed to lower your grade. For example, an A will be lowered to a B, a B to a C, etc. NO LATE PAPERS PERMITTED. NO MIX 'N MATCH. Since a grade is 10% points, each RPU is, in effect, worth 2 % points. DON'T BE

FOOLISH ENOUGH TO LOSE THESE POINTS BY NOT DOING THE RESEARCH PARTICIPATION OR SUBSTITUTE PAPERS

## **(c) Extra credit up to 5%**

There will be extra credit projects announced in class and posted on our website, worth ½ to 1% points each. Stay tuned.

## **Grading Scale for letter grades end semester**

A	90% or higher
B+	85% - 89%
B	80% - 84%
C+	75% - 79%
C	70% - 74%
D	60% - 69%
F	below 60%

## **Course Ground Rules**

I really only want you in class if you are going to be paying some attention, so be so kind as to turn off your cell phone, and if you urgently need to have a conversation, or if you want to read the newspaper or do crosswords or watch Paris Hilton videos on youtube rather than be in class, you are free to do so, but go elsewhere.

## **(b) Academic dishonesty**

You are required to abide by the Rutgers policy on academic integrity; please familiarize yourself with this policy, you can view it at <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/integrity.shtml> Read the section on level three violations and the sanctions that follow! Cheating is a serious offense and has serious consequences.

## **(c) Absences from class**

It is your responsibility to arrange to obtain information (other than the downloadable class slides, and those are outlines) if you miss one or more classes. Please do not ask or send email to the professor or teaching assistant. If you can, arrange in advance for someone in the class that you know to take good notes for you.

## **(d) Missing an exam**

You will be allowed to take a make-up exam if, within one week of the exam, you present a doctor's note or letter from your dean's office to the professor.

- (a) For illnesses: I need a doctor's note to verify your illness. So if you get sick, *get a doctor's note*.
  - (b) For car accidents: the dean will most likely ask for a police report to verify that the accident took place.
  - (c) For personal or family emergencies: the dean will most likely require some verification of the emergency (such as a death certificate if a relative has died). If it is a personal issue of some other nature, it will be up to the judgment of the dean to determine whether or not you should be excused from the exam (and thus be allowed to take the make-up).
- Basically folks: I need some paper documentation from you.

**Note: Your decision to remain enrolled in the course after the first class session is your implicit agreement to abide by everything stated above.**