

Psychology 101: General Psychology

Summer Session I 2012

Instructor: Azriel Grysman

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Murray Hall 210, 12:30-2:25 p.m.

Office Hours: Tillett Hall 407 (Livingston Campus) by appointment

(For most things, approaching me before or after class or during breaks should work)

Course Objectives:

This course is intended to be a general overview of the major areas of the field of psychology. Psychology is a broad academic and professional discipline, and we will attempt to explore the major areas of study of as many sub-disciplines as possible in this six-week course. By the end of the course, you should be able to have an introductory understanding of the following areas of psychology: cognition, biological psychology, developmental psychology, social psychology, and clinical psychology. Additionally, you should have a basic understanding of the methods used in psychological research.

Course Reading:

Kalat, James W. (2008) *Introduction to Psychology, Eighth Edition*. Thomson Wadworth, Belmont, CA.

The textbook is the primary resource for this class. **I have assigned the eighth edition. I am not familiar with older editions of this text and cannot guarantee that all the relevant material is in them. Feel free to use the hardcover, softcover, 9th edition, or binder version – they're all okay.** There will be reading assignments to be completed before each class. The reading is substantial, especially as there is little time between classes. I understand that you may not be able to keep up perfectly from class to class, but I urge you to try your best because you will get more out of class, and will likely perform better on tests if you have done the readings beforehand. **The exams will be partially based on the reading, and you are responsible for everything in the assigned chapters or pages even if we did not cover them in class. (Exception: For Chapter 1, you will only be tested on things covered in class, but I recommend using the text when you are studying)**

Course Requirements:

The course will include two exams and mandatory attendance, as well as a few assignments of varying scale. In addition, students are expected to come to class having read the text book readings for each week, and participate in discussion once there.

Additionally, be sure you bring your text to class – we will be using it regularly.

Grading:

Exams (55%): There will be 2 multiple choice exams, as indicated on the schedule (25% for the midterm and 30% for the final).

Class Participation (25%): This includes attendance and participating in class discussions, as well as a number of in-class group assignments that will come up over the course of the semester. Attendance is required and, because each class is four hours or so, more than one absence will result in a deduction of 3 points from your participation grade for each class missed. All absences that are expected should be reported to me prior to the date you need to miss.

Quizzes (20%): There are 8 quizzes posted on sakai for you to complete over the course of the semester (click on Tests & Quizzes on the left of the screen once you have entered our course tab). Each quiz has ten questions, and they are always due on Sunday night at the beginning of each week, as in the schedule below. You are to complete these quizzes on your own time, and feel free to use your text book. Your best 6 quizzes will be counted towards your final grade. The goal of these quizzes is to give you a study tool to test your knowledge at the end of each chapter. The questions on the quizzes will be similar to the questions on your midterm and final exams, so think of it as good practice.

Grades will be assigned on the following scale:

- A** 90 – 100 %
- B+** 87 – 89 %
- B** 80 – 86 %
- C+** 77 – 79 %
- C** 68 – 76 %
- D** 60 – 67 %
- F** 00 – 59 %

Date	Topic	Class Specifics	Assignments
Tues May 29	Introduction (Ch 1)	Overview and History of Psychology	
Wed May 30	Scientific Methods (Ch 2)	Sizing up evidence Experimental designs and statistics	
Thurs May 31	Biological Psychology (Ch 3)	Neurons and How they work Brain and Behavior –	

		mapping the brain areas	
Mon June 4	Biological Psychology (Ch 3)	GROUP WORK: The biology of drugs Sleep (Ch 10.2)	Quiz 1 Due 8:00 a.m.
Tues June 5	Sensation and Perception (Ch 4)	Vision GROUP WORK: The other senses	
Wed June 6	Sensation and Perception (Ch 4)	Applications – illusions and how we put it all together	
Thurs June 7	Human Development (Ch 5)	Introduction to genetics Theories of development	
Mon June 11	Human Development (Ch 5)	Attachment Theory The impacts of Gender, Culture, and Family	Quiz 2 & 3 Due 8:00 a.m.
Tues June 12	Catch up / Midterm review		Quiz 4 Due 11:59 p. m.
Wed June 13	Midterm exam		
Thurs June 14	Emotions and Personality (12.1 and 14.1)		
Mon June 18	Emotions and Personality (12.1 and 14.1)		
Tues June 19	Learning (Ch 6)	Behaviorism and classical conditioning Operant conditioning and other forms of learning	
Wed June 20	Learning (Ch 6)	GROUP WORK: Behaviorism and Free Will	

		Other forms of learning	
Thurs June 21	Memory (Ch 7)	The information processing view Long term memory, retrieval and error	
Mon June 25	Memory (Ch 7)	Video: The Stranger in the mirror Amnesia	Quiz 5 Due 8:00 a.m.
Tues June 26	Cognition and Language (Ch 8)	Attention and Categorization GROUP WORK: Decision Making	
Wed June 27	Cognition and Language (Ch 8)	Language	Quiz 6 Due 8:00 a.m.
Thurs June 28	Social Psychology (Ch 13)	Cooperation and Competition Social Perception and Cognition	
Mon July 2	Social Psychology (Ch 13)	Attitudes and Dissonance Conformity and Obedience, including Milgram's obedience experiments and Zimbardo's prison study	Quiz 7 Due 8:00 a.m.
Tues July 3	Final Exam review		
Wed July 4	Independence Day – No class		
Thurs July 5	Final Exam		Quiz 8 Due 8:00 a.m.

Academic Integrity:

“Academic Integrity is not unlike a professional code of ethics for students. In its simplest form it means that you do not cheat on exams, do not do someone else's work, give credit to the originator of ideas and thoughts you incorporate into your own work, and do not falsify data or what someone else said or wrote.”

<http://ctaar.rutgers.edu/integrity/student.html>

Nobody expects you to know everything. Cite sources for where you got ideas or quote when writing papers, and only turn in work that is your own. Studying with others in the class is encouraged, but always make sure you do your own writing. The school has a clear policy for cheating, so let's not try to use it. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please ask me.

Disability Accommodations:

“The community of Rutgers University is committed to providing equal educational access for individuals with disabilities in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. An individual with a disability who is qualified for admission will have the same access to programs, services, and activities as all other students. Rutgers University will make reasonable modifications to its policies, practices, and procedures unless doing so would fundamentally alter the nature of the service, program, or activity, or pose an undue administrative or financial burden. The university will provide services in a manner that promotes independence and inclusion in all aspects of university life.”

If you need any accommodations due to a disability, please contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS) on your campus (<http://disabilityservices.rutgers.edu/>). The ODS will either contact me or give you a letter which you can bring to me so that I know how I can assist you. Please speak with me at the end of our first class if you will require accommodations. I am happy to help you with this matter.