

## **General Psychology**

MW10:05-11:55am

Instructor: Lyra Stein, PhD  
Email: Lyra@rci.rutgers.edu  
Office: 313 Tillett Hall  
Office Hours: By appointment

### **Required Materials:**

1) Aplia for Kalat: Introduction to Psychology 10<sup>th</sup> edition  
Instructor: Lyra Stein  
Start Date: 07/07/2014  
Course Key: ML7Y-JH3L-8SLA

### **Registration**

Aplia is part of CengageBrain, which allows you to sign in to a single site to access your Cengage materials and courses.

1. Connect to <http://login.cengagebrain.com/>
2. If you already have an account, sign in. From your Dashboard, enter your course key (ML7Y-JH3L-8SLA) in the box provided, and click the *Register* button. If you don't have an account, click the *Create a New Account* button, and enter your course key when prompted: ML7Y-JH3L-8SLA. Continue to follow the on-screen instructions.

### **Payment**

Online: After registering, you can buy access to Aplia from [myhome.cengagebrain.com](http://myhome.cengagebrain.com). If you choose to pay later, you can use Aplia without paying until 11:59 PM on 07/21/2014. After paying, you will have the option to purchase a physical book at a discounted price.

For more information on registering for Aplia, please visit <http://www.cengagebrain.com/aplia/>.

2) TopHat Monocle in class response system

<https://s3.amazonaws.com/thm-corporate/Support/Guides/Student+Quick+Start+Guide+-W2014-.pdf>

When you register for TopHat, make sure to use your full name as it appears on the roster,

### **Goals of this class:**

Psychology is the scientific study of behavior and the mind. As such it is a diverse field dealing with everything from biology/physiology to learning development to social interaction. This is an introductory course and we will only be able to skim the surface of

as many topics allowed in 6 weeks. The goal of this course is to give you an overview of each subfield of psychology so you can leave with a basic understanding of psychology. In addition, I hope to expose you to the scientific study of psychology to help you evaluate issues that you will read about in the popular press and encounter in everyday life.

### **Office Hours:**

Office Hours will be held by appointment after class at my office on Livingston Campus in Tillett Hall, room 313. Feel free to set up an appointment to discuss the course material or any questions you may have about courses and careers in psychology.

### **In the Classroom**

My philosophy of education includes active participation in class as I don't want to have to lecture for 2 hours. In my experience, this format only works when everyone puts effort into being prepared for class and actively participating in discussions. When it does work, it is similar to the kinds of interaction which will help you in your courses and your careers. You are fortunate to be registered for this class in the summer when the class is small and can facilitate open discussion.

### **Aplia Questions**

There will be mandatory questions on Aplia worth 450 points. You may answer each question three times, and the higher score for each question will be counted. In order to do this, click on "Try Another Version" on the bottom of the screen after you've completed each page. You must take the quiz by the due date for it to be counted.

### **In Class Responses**

The TopHat response system will allow for interactive class participation. When a question is presented on the PowerPoint during lecture, you will answer and receive 1 point for each question answered whether correct or not. You will receive another 1 point for correct multiple choice questions and another 4 points for correct discussion questions. Your grade for in class responses will be out of 150 points. I will give you an extra credit point for every 5 points received above 150 points.

### **Examinations**

There will be two hourly examinations, each consisting of 50 multiple-choice questions and a final consisting of 75 multiple-choice questions. You will also have 5 online quizzes. Dates of these exams are listed on the class calendar. Exam questions will cover material reviewed during class, online and assigned reading. You are responsible for all material in the chapters assigned unless otherwise indicated.

### **Make up exam policy:**

You need to provide both (1) advance notice of your absence to me (via email) AND (2) acceptable documentation for the absence (e.g., an excuse from a doctor, a death notice, obituary, or funeral notice, a police report, etc.). Unless both of these criteria are met, you will not be permitted to take a make-up. Make-up exams will be in essay format.

### **Studying:**

Inevitably every semester there are students who are not happy with their grades and seem to not be concerned until the day before the final. Please do not put yourself in that position and make sure that you keep up with the class through out the semester. I know that the summer is tough since the class is compressed into 6 weeks and you would rather be outside basking in the sun. The following are some tips on how you should study for the exams:

If you want to learn the subject matter well, read the assigned material before the lecture and answer the Aplia questions, review the material after the lecture, quickly go over it again a day or two later, and then re-read the notes and the chapter for a few days before the exam. Memory researchers have established that you will understand and remember something better by studying it several times spread out over days than by studying the same amount of time all at once. Also, of course, the more total time you spend studying, the better.

When you study, don't just read the text and lecture notes but stop and think about the material. The more actively you use the material, the better you will remember it. Also test yourself using flashcards. Go through the lecture notes and write the name of the concept on the front and the definition on the back. Don't worry about memorizing the definition word for word as it would be better to try to use each word in a sentence or think of examples for each term.

### **Research requirement:**

You are required to participate in research over the semester. However, you will have the option of

(1) participating psychology research as a subject ("experimental participation credits")  
OR

(2) B) Find a short journal article to read (see Psychological Science if logged into a Rutgers computer: <http://www.blackwell-synergy.com/loi/PSCI?cookieSet=1>). Write a brief description of the study that identifies the research question, the dependent variable, the independent variable, and design type (correlational and/or experimental). If there are many DVs and IVs then just report the most important ones. Then turn in both the first page of the article and your description. (2), confer with me for approval of your selected article, and for format, content, and length requirements. (The summary will count as extra credit if you also participate in a study)

### **Additional credit:**

There will also be many opportunities for extra credit through out the semester in addition to extra response questions in class.

1) You will also have many opportunities to participate in ongoing research in the psychology department and in addition to the one required study you may participate in any other studies for 2 extra credit points each.

2) Summarize a scientific journal article (see Psychological Science if logged into a Rutgers computer) for 2 extra credit points (limit 2).

3) Find an article relating to one of the topics we are studying in the popular press (Psychology Today, Scientific American Mind, New York Times, Time magazine, etc.) and summarize the article and relate it to the topic covered in class for 2 extra credit points (limit 2).

**Evaluation:**

Evaluations are based on:

- 200 Two hourly exams (50 questions)
- 150 Final examination worth (75 questions)
- 100 Five quizzes worth (20 questions each)
- 450 Aplia questions
- 150 in class responses
- 50 group presentations
- 1100 total

A: 990-1100, B+: 935-989, B: 880-934, C+: 825-879, C: 770-824, D: 660-769

**\*\*Schedule of Reading Assignments and Exams\*\***

**\*\*(All dates are approximate and changes will be announced in class)\*\***

Date	Material	Due
Monday 7/07  In class	Introduction  <u>Chapter 1: What is Psychology</u> <u>Chapter 2: Scientific Methods in Psychology</u>	
Tuesday 7/08	<u>Chapter 3: Biological Psychology</u>	<b>Aplia introduction</b>
Wednesday 7/09  In class	<u>Chapter 3: Biological Psychology</u>	<b>Aplia chapters 1,2 &amp; 3</b>
Thursday 7/10	<u>Chapter 4: Sensation and Perception</u>	
Monday 7/14  In class	<u>Chapter 4: Sensation and Perception</u>	<b>Aplia chapter 4</b> <b>Online quiz on chapters 1-4 open from 7/14-7/17</b>
Tuesday 7/15	<u>Chapter 5: Nature, Nurture, Human Development</u>	

Wednesday 7/16 In class	<u>Chapter 6: Learning</u>	<b>Aplia chapters 5, 6</b>
Thursday 7/17	<u>Chapter 7: memory</u>	<b>Online quiz on chapters 5-7 open from 7/17-7/20</b>
Monday 7/21 In class	<b>Exam 1 Chapters 1-7</b>	<b>Aplia chapter 7</b>
Tuesday 7/22	<u>Chapter 8: Cognition and Language</u>	
Wednesday 7/23 In class	<u>Chapter 9: Intelligence</u>	<b>Aplia chapters 8, 9</b>
Thursday 7/24	<u>Chapter 10: Consciousness</u>	
Monday 7/28	<u>Chapter 11: Motivated Behaviors</u>	<b>Aplia chapters 10, 11</b> <b>Online quiz on chapters 8-11 open from 7/28-7/31</b>
Tuesday 7/29	<u>Chapter 12: Emotions, Stress and Health</u>	
Wednesday 7/30 In class	<u>Chapter 13: Social Psychology</u>	<b>Aplia chapters 12, 13</b>
Thursday 7/31	<u>Chapter 13: Social Psychology</u>	<b>Online quiz on chapters 12-13 open from 7/31 -8/3</b>
Monday 8/4 In class	<b>Exam 2 Chapters 8 -13</b>	
Tuesday 8/5	<u>Chapter 14: Personality</u>	
Wednesday 8/6 In class	<u>Chapter 14: Personality</u>	<b>Aplia Chapter 14</b>
Thursday 8/7	<u>Chapter 15: Abnormal Psychology</u>	<b>Online quiz on chapters 14-15 open from 8/7 -8/12</b>
Monday 8/11 In class	<u>Chapter 15: Abnormal Psychology</u>	<b>Aplia Chapter 15</b>

Tuesday 8/12	study
Wednesday 8/15	<b>Final</b>
In class	