

PSYC 101:01 General Psychology

MTH 950 – 1110am
Scott Hall Room 123
Fall 2015

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Office Hours: TBD

Textbook: Weiten, W. (2013). *Psychology: Themes and variations*. 9th ed. Wadsworth: Belmont, CA.

Grade Breakdown

Online Homework – 25%

Exam 1 – 15%

Exam 2 – 15%

Exam 3 – 15%

Final Exam – 30%

Course Description

Welcome to Psychology 101. Psychology is the scientific study of human behavior and experience. This course will introduce you to the various topics and issues in the scientific exploration of mind and behavior. Topics will include research methods, biological psychology, sensation and perception, developmental psychology, learning and memory, cognition, intelligence, consciousness, emotions, social psychology, personality psychology, and abnormal and clinical psychology. Along the way, you will discover what psychologists have learned that can enrich your studies, your relationships, your health, and other important aspects of your life.

This course has been certified as satisfying the Social Analysis (SCL) Learning Outcome Goal of the SAS Core Curriculum. Specifically, students will be able to:

II.B.i: *Explain and be able to assess the relationship among assumptions, method, evidence, arguments, and theory in social and historical analysis.*

II.B.n: *Apply concepts about human and social behavior to particular questions or situations.*

This course also satisfies the following Psychology Department Learning Goals:

- Students will know the leading terms, concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in psychology.
- Students will apply psychological concepts and content to become engaged citizens.

- Students will use critical thinking, skeptical inquiry, and, when possible, the scientific approach to ask, answer and understand questions related to behavior and mental processes.

Accommodations

Appropriate accommodations are available for students with disabilities. Please see web site of the [Office of Disability Services for Students](http://disabilityservices.rutgers.edu) (<http://disabilityservices.rutgers.edu>) for more information.

Cheating/Plagiarism

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated, and will incur penalties as described in the University Policy on Academic Integrity, which can be found [here](http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy):
<http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy>.

Make-up Policy

Make-up exams will be given if the exam is missed for a legitimate reason (e.g. illness). There will be no make-ups or extensions for homework, participation, or experimental credits.

Research Participation Requirement

Research is an essential part of the field of psychology. It is important for students to be exposed to either actual participation as a subject in an experiment, or at the very least, to learn from technical articles how research is done. Therefore, **all sections of General Psychology require either five "Research Participation Units" of experiment participation or an alternative assignment of writing two papers describing psychological research.** The psychology department's [Human Research Student Requirements](#) web page explains exactly what you must do.

To sign up as a subject for experiments, to cancel an appointment you have already made, to find out how many Research Participation Units you've earned so far, or to contact a researcher for any reason, go to the [Human Subject Pool System](#) web site.

If you choose to write the 2 papers instead of participating in experiments, you must submit the first paper on or before the midpoint of the course (submit by October 22) and you must submit the second paper on or before the last lecture date (last lecture = December 2).

See the Human Research Student Requirements web page (scroll down to the Option 2 section) for the specific requirements for the papers (including how you must format your papers, what journals are acceptable as sources for your articles, etc.).

For more information, see [Frequently Asked Questions about Research Participation](#).

Online Homework

There are online homework assignments for each chapter of this course through the Aplia website. Information for how to activate your Aplia account is available on the course Sakai site. The due dates for each problem set are listed below.

Chapter:	Due Date:
Chapter 1: The Evolution of Psychology	September 13 by 11pm
Chapter 2: The Research Enterprise in Psychology	September 20 by 11pm
Chapter 3: The Biological Bases of Behavior	September 20 by 11pm
Chapter 4: Sensation & Perception	September 27 by 11pm
Chapter 5: Variations in Consciousness	September 27 by 11pm
Chapter 6: Learning	October 11 by 11pm
Chapter 7: Memory	October 11 by 11pm
Chapter 8: Language & Thought	October 18 by 11pm
Chapter 9: Intelligence & Psychological Testing	October 25 by 11pm
Chapter 10: Motivation & Emotion	October 25 by 11pm
Chapter 11: Human Development Across the Lifespan	November 8 by 11pm
Chapter 12: Personality	November 15 by 11pm
Chapter 13: Social Behavior	November 22 by 11pm
Chapter 14: Stress, Coping, & Health	December 6 by 11pm
Chapter 15: Psychological Disorders	December 13 by 11pm
Chapter 16: Treatment of Psychological Disorders	December 13 by 11pm

Course Outline

<i>Date:</i>	<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Readings:</i>
September 3	Course Introduction, The Evolution of Psychology	Chapter 1
September 8	The Evolution of Psychology, Research in Psychology	Chapter 1, Chapter 2
September 10	Biological Bases of Behavior	Chapter 3
September 14	Sensation & Perception	Chapter 3, Chapter 4
September 17	Sensation & Perception, Variations in Consciousness	Chapter 4, Chapter 5
September 21	Variations in Consciousness	Chapter 1 – 5
September 24	EXAM 1 (Chapters 1-5; In Class; Multiple Choice)	
September 28	Learning	Chapter 6
October 1	Learning, Memory	Chapter 6, Chapter 7
October 5	Memory	Chapter 7
October 8	Language & Thought	Chapters 6-8
October 12	Language & Thought	Chapters 6-8
October 15	Intelligence & Psychological Testing	Chapter 9
October 19	Intelligence & Psychological Testing, Motivation & Emotion	Chapter 9, Chapter 10
October 22	Motivation & Emotion	Chapter 10
October 26	EXAM 2 (Chapters 6-10; In Class; Multiple Choice)	
October 29	Human Development	Chapter 11
November 2	Personality	Chapter 11, Chapter 12
November 5	Personality	Chapter 11, Chapter 12
November 9	Social Behavior	Chapters 11-13
November 12	Social Behavior	Chapters 11-13
November 16	Social Behavior	Chapters 11-13
November 19	Stress, Coping, & Health	Chapter 14
November 23	NO CLASS	
November 30	Psychological Disorders & Treatment	Chapter 15, Chapter 16
December 3	Psychological Disorders & Treatment	Chapter 15, Chapter 16
December 7	EXAM 3 (Chapters 11-16; In Class; Multiple Choice)	
December 10	NO CLASS	
December 16	FINAL EXAM 12 to 3PM (Cumulative; Multiple Choice)	