

# Spring 2015 Course Syllabus

## Section H1

**Monday & Thursday 10:20 - 11:40 AM**

**Tillett Hall Room 253**

***Prof. Brill's Office Hours:***

**Wednesdays 3:30-4:30 PM and Thursdays  
12:00-1:00 PM, Tillett Hall Room 221**

In addition to this web site, there will be another web site with class announcements, downloadable viewgraphs, grades, and web links at <http://sakai.rutgers.edu> . You will use your Rutgers netID and password for this Sakai web site.

For more information, see [Frequently Asked Questions about the Sakai course web site](#).

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Welcome to Psychology 101 for students in the Rutgers Honors Program. This course will introduce you to the various topics and issues in the scientific exploration of mind and behavior. By the end of the semester, you should be well prepared to go on to study more advanced courses in our department. 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.

Please read the information on this web page carefully. The crucial things you need to know are presented here, and there are more details on particular topics on the [Frequently Asked](#)

[Questions](#) page.

Feel free to ask me questions before the class begins, during class, or immediately after class. You may also send me [email](#), but *I may not answer email questions if the questions have already been answered in class, on this web page, on the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page, or in the Announcements section on the course [Sakai](#) site.*

### Accommodations

Appropriate accommodations are available for students with disabilities. Please see web site of the [Office of Disability Services for Students](#) for more information.

### Academic Integrity

The policies found in the [Rutgers Academic Integrity Policy](#) apply to this course, along with specific policies concerning the use of wireless transmitters (clickers) in the classroom (see below).

### 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 and you must submit the second paper on or before the last lecture date.

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](#).

### Class Participation

The wireless classroom communication system will enable every student in the class to respond to questions presented by the instructor. Points will be accumulated by students for answering

questions: You will receive 1 point for each question answered, and 2 points for each question answered correctly. At the end of the semester, your class participation percentage will count as 20% of your final score for the course (see table below under the "Grades" heading).

The 2nd and 3rd lectures of the semester will involve practice with the wireless transmitters. It is therefore important that you purchase your transmitter as soon as possible after the first class session. Starting with the 4th lecture of the semester, responses to the in-class questions will count toward your grade. There will be, on average, 10 questions per class (but individual classes may vary in the number of questions).

The lowest 20% of your responses will be dropped. This will give you flexibility with respect to class attendance and with problems with your transmitter pad (you forgot it, you accidentally sent the wrong answer, or technical problems). Classes will start on time and will almost always require the full 80 minutes scheduled, so if you come late or leave early you will probably miss some questions.

**Please note very well: There will be no adjustments to your class participation scores except for documented excused absences. Excused absences include out-of-town athletic events, religious observances, serious illness, or other emergencies. Once you provide documentation for your absence, the questions that you missed because of that absence will be eliminated from the calculation of your total class participation score for the course.** Other attendance issues, punctuality problems, forgetting to bring your transmitter, dead batteries, or technical problems with your transmitter pad together should lead you to miss no more than 20% of the questions for the semester. Note that if your transmitter is not working properly, which is not likely to happen, you can return it to the bookstore for a new unit.

Also note you may not send responses from more than one transmitter for any in-class questions. If you are found doing this, both (or all) of the transmitters will be confiscated and both (or all) of the students to whom those transmitters belong will receive 0 for the class participation component of the course.

For more information, see [Frequently Asked Questions about the Classroom Communication System](#)

## Exams

There will be two multiple-choice exams in the course. Each exam will include 60 multiple choice questions. See the [course schedule](#) for the dates of the exams. Test questions will be taken from both the textbook and material presented in class.

**Make-up exams:** You may make up an exam *only* if you provide legitimate documentation verifying that you missed the exam because of an excused absence.

For more information, see [Frequently Asked Questions about Exams](#) and [Frequently Asked Questions about Missing and Exam and Make-Up Exams](#).

## Writing Assignments:

There will be two writing assignments in this course. Details of the assignments will be provided during class and in the course [Sakai](#) site.

## Grades

Your grade will be the result of the combination of your in-class participation and your exam scores, as follows:

Exams	60%
Clickers	20%
Written assignments	20%

The result of the combination of the above scores will be compared to the following table to determine your grade for the course:

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

**Your grade will be determined solely on the basis of the total of your scores on exams, writing assignments, and in-class participation.**

### *Changing Grades:*

Students sometimes ask professors to change final grades, usually based on the need to achieve a certain grade in order to, for example, get into the business school, retain a scholarship, or avoid academic probation. Although I wish all of you the best of success in your studies, you hopefully can understand how changing one student's grade is unfair to the other students in the class. Therefore, requests for test score or grade changes will not be entertained. Likewise, additional assignments to earn extra credit are not available. Your final grade will be based solely on the scores you achieve in the writing assignments, the clicker questions, and the course exams, as described above.

## Additional Instruction

You can get additional help with this course through tutoring sessions provided by the [Rutgers Learning Centers](#).

Additionally, there are [academic coaches](#) at these center who can provide individualized help with general study and test preparation skills.

# Spring 2015 Course Schedule

## Section H1

*Prof. Brill's Office Hours:*

**Wednesdays 3:30-4:30 PM and Thursdays  
12:00-1:00 PM, Tillett Hall Room 221**

Assignment due before the beginning of the class session listed:		Date		Topic
		Thu	Jan. 22	Lecture 1: Introduction and overview of the course
Obtain	MindTap and Clicker	Mon	Jan. 26	Lecture 2: What is Psychology? (Part 1) Clicker Practice
Read	Course Web Site			
Take	Enter Your Clicker ID online Sakai assignment			
Read	Chapter 1, Module 1.1	Thu	Jan. 29	Lecture 3: What is Psychology? (Part 2) More Clicker Practice
Read	Chapter 1, Module 1.2 Chapter 2, Module 2.1	Mon	Feb. 2	Lecture 4: Scientific Methods in Psychology Clicker Responses Count Toward Grade
Read	Chapter 2, Module 2.2 Chapter 2, Module 2.3	Thu	Feb. 5	Lecture 5: Biological Psychology (Part 1)
Read	Chapter 3, Module 3.1	Mon	Feb. 9	Lecture 6: Biological Psychology (Part 2)
Read	Chapter 3, Module 3.3 Chapter 3, Module 3.4	Thu	Feb. 12	Lecture 7: Memory (Part 1)
Read	Chapter 7, Module 7.1 - <a href="#">See Reading Notes</a>	Mon	Feb. 16	Lecture 8: Memory (Part 2)
Read	Chapter 7, Module 7.2 Chapter 7, Module 7.3	Thu	Feb. 19	Lecture 9: Sensation and Perception (Part 1)
Read	Chapter 4, Module 4.1 - <a href="#">See Reading</a>	Mon	Feb. 23	Lecture 10:

	<a href="#">Notes</a> Chapter 4, Module 4.2 - <a href="#">See Reading Notes</a>			Sensation and Perception (Part 2)
Read	Chapter 4, Module 4.3 - <a href="#">See Reading Notes</a>	Thu	Feb. 26	Lecture 11 Human Development (Part 1)
Read	Chapter 5, Module 5.1	Mon	Mar. 2	Lecture 12: Human Development (Part 2)
Read	Chapter 5, Module 5.2 Chapter 5, Module 5.3	Thu	Mar. 5	Lecture 13: Learning
Complete	<i>1st Writing Assignment (Memory: Study Skills)</i>	Fri	Mar. 6	Due by 11:59 PM
Read	Chapter 6, Module 6.1 - See <a href="#">Reading Notes</a> Chapter 6, Module 6.2 - See <a href="#">Reading Notes</a> Chapter 6, Module 6.3 & Study all previous readings	Mon	Mar. 9	Exam 1
Hand in	<i>RPU Paper #1 (if you're doing <a href="#">Option 2</a>)</i>	Thu	Mar. 12	Lecture 14: Cognition and Language (Part 1)
		Mon	Mar. 16	No class - Spring Break
		Thu	Mar. 19	No class - Spring Break
Read	Chapter 8, Module 8.1 Chapter 8, Module 8.2	Mon	Mar. 23	Lecture 15: Cognition and Language (Part 2)
Read	Chapter 8, Module 8.3	Thu	Mar. 26	Lecture 16: Intelligence and Its Measurement
Read	Chapter 9, Module 9.1 Chapter 9, Module 9.2	Mon	Mar. 30	Lecture 17: Consciousness
Read	Chapter 10, Module 10.1 - <a href="#">See Reading Notes</a> Chapter 10, Module 10.2 - <a href="#">See Reading Notes</a>	Thu	Apr. 2	Lecture 18: Motivation
Read	Chapter 11, Module 1.1 - <a href="#">See Reading Notes</a>	Mon	Apr. 6	Lecture 19: Emotions, Sress, and Health (Part 1)
Read	Chapter 12, Module 12.1 Chapter 12, Module 12.2	Thu	Apr. 9	Lecture 20: Emotions, Stress, and Health (Part 2)
Read	Chapter 12, Module 12.3	Mon	Apr.13	Lecture 21:

				Social Psychology (Part 1)
Read	Chapter 13, Module 13.1 Chapter 13, Module 13.2 Chapter 13, Module 13.3	Thu	Apr. 16	Lecture 22: Social Psychology (Part 2)
Read	Chapter 13, Module 13.4 Chapter 13, Module 13.5	Mon	Apr. 20	Lecture 23: Personality (Part 1)
Read	Chapter 14, Module 14.1	Thu	Apr. 23	Lecture 24: Personality (Part 2)
Read	Chapter 14, Module 14.2 Chapter 14, Module 14.3	Mon	Apr. 27	Lecture 25: Abnormal Psychology: Disorders and Treatment (Part 1)
Read	Chapter 15, Module 15.1 Chapter 15, Module 15.2	Thu	Apr. 30	Lecture 26: Abnormal Psychology: Disorders and Treatment (Part 2)
Read	Chapter 15, Module 15.3 - <a href="#">See Reading Notes</a> Chapter 15, Module 15.4 - <a href="#">See Reading Notes</a>	Mon	May 4	Lecture 27: Abnormal Psychology: Disorders and Treatment (Part 3)
<i>Hand in</i>	<i>RPU Paper #1 (if you're doing <a href="#">Option 2</a>)</i>			
<i>Complete</i>	<i>2nd Writing Assignment</i>	Wed	May 6	Due by 11:59 PM
Read	Chapter 15, Module 15.5	Mon	May 11	Final Exam: 8:00 - 11:00 AM Tillett Hall Room 253