

General Psychology (830:101:B6) – Summer 2015
Monday/Wednesday 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm; Livingston Campus: Lucy Stone Hall 143A

Lecturer: Dr. Vivian Hsu

Office Location/Hours: 319 Tillett Hall; Monday & Wednesday 4:00-5:30 pm or by appointment

Email: vhsu@rutgers.edu

Course Description/Learning Outcomes

This course will provide you with an overview of the field psychology. We will be concentrating on the psychological basis for the understanding of human behavior, specifically learning, motivation, cognition, personality, abnormal behavior, development and social psychology. The approach will emphasize recent research relevant to present day society. We will focus on a number of different areas (1) theories pertaining to cognitive development, (2) underlying processes in areas of physical, emotional, social, and language development, (3) consider the role of culture and environment on development, and (4) critically discuss applications of present day research.

Textbook and Additional Readings

Ciccarelli, S. K. & White, J.N. (2015). Psychology: An Exploration (online text and material), Pearson Publishing

Online text is available via Rutgers Bookstore or online via Pearson. You may wait until the first day of class to determine your purchase options. Any additional readings will be added throughout the semester. It is important that you keep up with the readings so that you will be able to ask questions and participate in class discussions.

Course Webpage

Students can find course materials on the SAKAI website. You must log on with your Access ID and password to get into ANGEL; you will then have access to shared class files via the Resource Tab. An electronic copy of the syllabus, assignments, and any other useful information will be available on this website.

Course Content Areas

Psychological Theorists and Theories: Darwin, Freud, Erikson's Psychosocial Theory, Pavlov's Classical Conditioning, Skinner's Operant Conditioning, Piaget's Cognitive Developmental Theory, Vygotsky's Sociocultural Theory

Research: Hypothesis, Experiments, Correlations, Descriptive, Longitudinal, Cross-Sectional, Independent Variable, Dependent Variable, Confounding Variables, Ethics, Research Flaws

Human Development: Prenatal Development, Teratogens, Childbirth, APGAR, Newborn Reflexes, Sensory Capabilities, Neuron and Brain Development

Cognitive Development: Piaget's Assimilation, Accommodation, Object Permanence, Infantile Amnesia, Vygotsky's Sociocultural Theory- Zone of Proximal Development, Scaffolding, and Private Speech, Language Development, Information Processing

Emotional/Social Development: Emotions, Temperament, Attachment, Personality, In-Group vs. Out-Group Perception, Bandura's Observational Learning, Erikson's Stages of Social Development

Psychological Disorders: Anxiety Disorders, Multiple Personality, Schizophrenia, Treatment Methods

Evaluation

Attendance: Class attendance is expected and necessary for successful completion of this course. Although it will not be taken during class period, there will be either in-class assignments or "fun facts" that will be given during class for later assessment via weekly quizzes. I expect that you will be self-motivated and attentive during class as well as being polite and respectful towards fellow classmates during open discussions.

Students are responsible for **all** announcements and lecture notes regardless of whether class is attended. If students miss a class, they should contact a fellow classmate about borrowing notes because I will not provide them. However, I will be happy to meet with students during office hours should students need clarification on any notes that they have received or missed.

1. Assessments (360 pts total): There will be a 60-point **online** quiz released every Wednesday covering material that was presented during that week. All quizzes are due Friday (midnight). Quizzes begin the Week of 5/25 and will continue through the Week of 6/22 for a total of 5 quizzes (300 points). They will consist of multiple choice, fill-in, and open-ended questions. **NO makeup quizzes permitted.**

There will be a 60-point final exam **in class** on the last day of classes. It will consist of 3 open-ended questions that will require you to synthesize material covered over the course of the entire semester. **NO makeup finals permitted.**

There will be a total of 5 quizzes (each worth 60 points) and 1 final exam (worth 60 points). Your quiz and final exam point total is 360 points towards your final point tally.

2. In-Class Discussion and Write-up (100 points total):

There will be 10 in-class article/activity write-ups throughout the semester (1 each class period, except for last day of classes). You will

be expected to divide into groups and discuss your view on psychological issues as they relate to the particular activity. You are required to read/view the posted assignment (if given ahead of time) and respond accordingly with your personal commentary and/or opinion. Please DO NOT RESTATE what is said, but talk about how it influences your life (whether past, present, or future). As time permits, we will discuss these topics in class. **NO makeup assignments permitted. There will be a total of 10 assignments throughout the course the semester and each is worth 10 points. This requirement will be worth 100 points towards your final point tally.**

3. Movie/Video Monday (40 points total): I will show an in-class a film/video on designated Monday's that are related to current topics in Psychology. Following each film, there will be a series of questions that you will need to answer related to material from the film/video as well as your opinions on how it relates to the course material. As time allows, we will discuss these topics further in a future class. **NO makeup assignments permitted. There will be a total of 4 film/videos shown throughout the course the semester and each is worth 10 points. This requirement will be worth 40 points towards your final point tally.**

4. Writing Assignments (worth 50 points towards your final point tally):

Psychology Interview: As you know, psychology reaches into many different fields of study. Often times, theories from one discipline lend to further collaboration with another. Please choose any faculty or staff member on campus or family member to interview and discuss how psychology could affect their field of work. The following mandatory questions should be asked/answered:

1. Name of person being interviewed and a general description of the career they have.
2. Describe their main interest of study/research or something specific to the work they do that is exciting to them.
3. Ask two additional questions of your own creation that you feel are relevant to your discussion.

Once you have gathered your faculty information, determine how it relates to the field of psychology, using your text as a reference. Write a 5-page paper that includes the mandatory information above and how psychological theory(ies) that you discovered in the text and in class could help to enhance the research of your chosen faculty member. **Your final write-up must be in APA format and at least 5 pages (references not included). Please upload your completed paper in the folder labeled "Dropbox" in SAKAI. Your paper should be entitled "Writing – Option 1 (your initials)". Final deadline Friday, June 26, 2015. A 10-point deduction will be assessed for late submissions.**

5. Online Assignments via Pearson (worth 50 points towards your final point tally):

Complete the appropriate practice quizzes via Pearson online text material. More information to follow.

Extra Credit FREE POINTS!! You may complete any and all:

You may submit a maximum of 2 extra credit assignments under this option (each worth 2 points) for a **total of 4 extra credit points** towards your point total. Find a comic or cartoon video (Youtube/Hulu) pertaining to a topic involving psychology. Write a brief (1 paragraph) summary explaining the concept presented and how it relates to what you have learned in class. **Please upload your completed extra credit in the folder labeled "Dropbox" in SAKAI. Your extra credit should be entitled "Extra Credit – (your initials)". Final deadline June 29, 2015.**

In summary, here is the breakdown of the grading strategy:

Quizzes (5 total) & Final	360pts	Letter Grade Designation (one decimal place rounding):
Discussion/Write-ups (10 total)	100pts	Range: 600 – 538pts = A
Movie Monday (4 total)	40pts	537 – 477pts = B
Writing Assignments	50pts	476 – 417pts = C
Online Assignments	50pts	416 – 387pts = D
	600pts	< 386pts = F

(+) and (-) grades will be assessed as needed

Important Information

University e-mail accounts and SAKAI announcements should be checked **at least** daily by the student because this will be the primary means for sending information to the class or contacting individual students. Failure to monitor your e-mail effectively is not an excuse for not having course information or for not following up on course issues in a timely manner.

E-mail records of any excused absence, assignment deadline extensions, etc. should be maintained by the student. Any verbal agreements or after class discussion will not be honored so students should e-mail the instructor following those interactions to obtain a written record. Memory, both yours and mine, is fallible so documentation is the only that that will be honored.

Disabilities:

It is the policy of Rutgers University to provide reasonable accommodations for all qualified individuals with disabilities. If you need an accommodation to fully participate in this class, please consult with us at the beginning of the semester or at any point necessary during the semester. If you have a learning and/or physical disability, please contact Disability Support Services. Website: <http://disabilityservices.rutgers.edu/> E-mail: dsoffice@rci.rutgers.edu Phone: (732) 932-2848.

This Academic Integrity Policy: *Academic dishonesty is any attempt by the student to gain academic advantage through dishonest means, to submit, as his or her own, work which has not been done by him/her or to give improper aid to another student in the completion of an assignment. Such dishonesty would include, but is not limited to: submitting as his/her own a project, paper, report, test, or speech copied from, partially copied, or paraphrased from the work of another (whether the source is printed, under copyright, or in manuscript form). Credit must be given for words quoted or paraphrased. The rules apply to any academic dishonesty, whether the work is graded or ungraded, group or individual, written or oral. The university's policy on Academic Integrity is available at http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/files/documents/AI_Policy_0_01_2011.pdf*

Self-Reporting Absence Application

You are expected to attend all classes, however if unexpected absences arise and you plan on missing multiple classes, please use the University absence reporting website <https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/> to indicate the date(s) and reason for your absence. An email is automatically sent to me, *however I would also appreciate a personal email or speaking to me directly if you have extenuating circumstances.*

Class Schedule (*subject to change as course progresses)

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Topic:</u>	<u>Readings:</u>
Week of 5.26	Welcome/Introduction; Science of Psychology Approaches to Psychology; Brain and Behavior <i>In-Class Write-Up #1 / Quiz 1</i>	Ch. 1 Ch. 1 cont'd; 2
Week of 6.1	Brain and Behavior; Nervous System <i>In-Class Write-Up #2 / Feature Film Friday #1</i> Sensation and Perception <i>In-Class Write-Up #3 / Quiz 2</i>	Ch. 2 Ch. 3
Week of 6.8	Sensory System; States of Consciousness; Drug Effects <i>In-Class Write-Up #4 / Feature Film Friday #2</i> Classical/Operational Conditioning; Observational Learning <i>In-Class Write-up #5 / Quiz 3</i> Memory Storage and Retrieval	Ch. 3 cont'd; 4 Ch. 5; 6
Week of 6.15	Intelligence Tests; Language Development <i>In-Class Write-up #6 / Feature Film Friday #3</i> Human Development: Child Development <i>In-Class Write-up #7 / Quiz 4</i> Human Development: Adolescence, Adulthood	Ch. 6 cont'd; 7 Ch. 8 Ch. 8 cont'd; 9
Week of 6.22	Emotion Development <i>In-Class Write-Up #8 / Feature Film Friday #4</i> Personality/Attachment/Development of the Self <i>In-Class Write-Up #9 / Quiz 5</i>	Ch. 9 cont'd Ch. 10; 11
Week of 6.29	Development of the Self/Psychological Disorders <i>In-Class Write-Up #10 / Feature Film Friday #5</i> Anxiety; Mood; Eating Disorders; Treatment <i>Final Exam</i>	Ch. 11 cont'd; 12 Ch. 12 cont'd

Final Exams according to University (*Final exams MAY NOT be rescheduled unless approved 1-week in advance by instructor):
Final Exam scheduled for last day of class, Wednesday, July 1, 2015.