

# Course Syllabus: General Psychology

01:830:101:H5

Summer 2016

**Class Meeting Times:** Monday and Wednesday 1:30-5:10

**Room:** Tillet 103C

**Instructor:** Professor Bell

**Email:** bab255@scarletmail.rutgers.edu

**Office Hours:** Tuesday 1:30 – 3:00 pm or by appointment in Busch Psychology Room 332

**Required Text:** Introduction to Psychology by Kalat w/ Mindtap. 11<sup>th</sup> Ed. Cengage Learning. ISBN: 978-1-337-12746-2.

Copies are available at the Rutgers Barnes & Noble Bookstore as well as NJ Books.

This book includes 'Mindtap' an online accompaniment to the text, which will be utilized for all homeworks. Mindtap has an eBook, reading quizzes, writing assignments and allows you to highlight, take notes from, and compile study guides directly from the book. We will utilize this program throughout the class and if you have any issues with setting up your account or using Mindtap in general, please let me know ASAP so as not to miss homework due dates.

Once you have purchased your book and registered your Mindtap access code on their site the course key to register for our site is: **MTPN-KCPP-JRG7**.

**Welcome to General Psychology!** This course will give you an introduction to the large field that is psychology, beginning with the basic biology of what a neuron in the brain is, and concluding with intricate topics on the principles of human social interaction and psychological disorders. We will touch on topics related to: sensation and perception, learning and memory, motivation and emotion, language, cognition and social psychology. Psychology is perhaps one of the most ubiquitous topics you can learn throughout college, useful for any multitude of careers after graduation. Due to this, in addition to the short summer class schedule, throughout this course we will simply skim the surface of the sub-disciplines in psychology. This will truly be an 'introduction' to the topics that you can further study throughout the psychology department, as your interests lie. Therefore, this course is designed to give background on multiple fields and to students of varying interests and backgrounds. If ever you are interested in diving deeper into a particular topic, or need additional clarity, questions throughout class are welcome.

## Learning goals of this course:

- Develop critical thinking and reasoning skills.
- Understand the relationship between brain functioning and behavioral output.
- Learn about the sub-fields of psychology, the major theories in psychology and what psychologists do.

**SAS Core Goals:** This course has been certified as satisfying the Social Analysis Learning (SCL) Outcome Goal of the SAS Core Curriculum.



Specifically, students will be able to:

- a) Explain and be able to assess the relationship among assumptions, methods, evidence, arguments, and theory in social and historical analysis (subgoal i);
- b) Apply concepts about human and social behavior to particular questions or situations (subgoal n)

**Academic Integrity:** You are required to abide by the Rutgers policy on academic integrity; failure to do so will result in no points awarded on copied tests and plagiarized papers, as well as disciplinary action. Please familiarize yourself with this policy, you can view it at <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/integrity.shtml>

**Disability Services:** Appropriate accommodations are available for students with disabilities. Please see the website for the Office of Disability Services for Students for more information (<http://ods.rutgers.edu>).

**E-mail and Announcements:** I am extremely accessible by email, I will answer within a day on weekdays. However, if you ask questions for which the answers can be found on Sakai or the lecture notes, I will say that. I also require you check your emails/Sakai for any updates and announcements once a day. If you miss an assignment because you missed the announcement email, that is not a valid excuse. The syllabus is subject to changes and additions.

**Attendance:** As this is a summer course, the issue of attendance is highly important. We will be meeting for 6 weeks, 2 times a week, learning the same amount of material that school year courses get through in 12 weeks. Therefore, each class is essentially 2 classes and we will cover the material from two of the books chapters in each class. This means if you miss a class, you miss two lectures. Therefore you have only one unexcused absence throughout this course. The Dean of Students or I must excuse any other absences for medical or family emergencies, etc.

**Assessments/Examinations:** You will earn points through three different types of assessments: homework quizzes on Mindtap, in-class exams and writing assignments. Homeworks are composed of Mindtap quizzes on each chapter to assess your reading, due the day we go over that chapter in class. In total, these online assignments are worth 125 points. Your combined percentage grade on all homeworks will be used to determine how many of those points you are awarded. There will be three in-class exams, each worth 75 points. You will also be required to submit two writing assignments, worth a combined 75 points. These will be done on Mindtap, shortly before tests, on a topic of your choice from the recent chapters. You will be able to drop 1 of your four 75 point assessments.

**Mindtap Homework Quizzes – 125 pts**

**Writing Assignments (2) – 75 points\***

**Exam 1 – 75 points\***

**Exam 2 – 75 points\***

**Exam 3 – 75 points\***

\* One of the 75 point grades will be dropped

**Total Points = 350**

### Schedule of Classes & Topics:

| Date    | Topic  | Assignment Due at Midnight  |
|---------|--|---|
| 7/11/16 | Introduction<br>&<br>What is Psychology?                     | Chapter 1 - Read  |
| 7/13/16 | Research Methods in Psychology<br>&<br>Biological Psychology | Chapters 2 &3 - Read and complete Mindtap                               |
| 7/18/16 | Sensation & Perception                                       | Chapter 4 - Read and complete Mindtap                                   |
| 7/20/16 | <b>Exam 1</b>  | <b>Chapter 1 - Mindtap complete</b>                                     |
| 7/25/16 | Learning<br>&<br>Memory                                      | Chapters 6 & 7 - Read and complete Mindtap                              |
| 7/27/16 | Development<br>&<br>Cognition & Language                     | Chapters 5 & 8 – Read and complete Mindtap                              |
| 8/1/16  | Intelligence<br>&<br>Consciousness                           | Chapters 9 & 10 - Read and complete Mindtap                             |
| 8/3/16  | <b>Exam 2</b>  | <b>Writing Assignment 1:</b><br>memory, development or consciousness    |
| 8/8/16  | Motivated Behaviors<br>&<br>Emotions, Stress & Health        | Chapters 11 & 12 - Read and complete Mindtap                            |
| 8/10/16 | Social Psychology<br>&<br>Personality                        | Chapters 13 & 14 - Read and complete Mindtap                            |
| 8/15/16 | Abnormal Psychology:<br>Disorders and Treatments             | Chapter 15 - Read and complete Mindtap                                  |
| 8/17/16 | <b>Exam 3</b>  | <b>Writing Assignment 2:</b><br>biopsych, personality or abnormal psych |