

# PSYCHOLOGY

**General Psychology**  
**830:101:07**  
**Spring 2017**

**Tuesday & Thursday 5:00-6:20pm**  
**Lucy Stone Hall (LSH) Auditorium (Livingston Campus)**

**Professor:** Dr. Sara Manuel

**Teaching Assistant:** Akeela Careem

**Contact Information:**

[sara.manuel@rutgers.edu](mailto:sara.manuel@rutgers.edu) (write “general psych” in the subject line)

**Contact Information:**

[apc104@scarletmail.rutgers.edu](mailto:apc104@scarletmail.rutgers.edu) (write “general psych 07” in the subject line)

**Office:** Tillett 331

**Office:** Tillett 407

**Office Hours:** Thursdays 3:30-4:30pm, or by appointment

**Office Hours:** Tuesdays 10:00-11:00am, or by appointment

## Course Overview

This course surveys the major areas of psychology: the nature of psychology as a science, the brain and behavior, sensation and perception, development, principles of learning and memory, cognitive processes, intelligence and consciousness, motivation and emotion, social behavior, personality, and behavior disorders.

## Learning Goals:

### SAS Core Goal statement for General Psychology:

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:

- a) Explain and be able to assess the relationship among assumptions, method, 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).



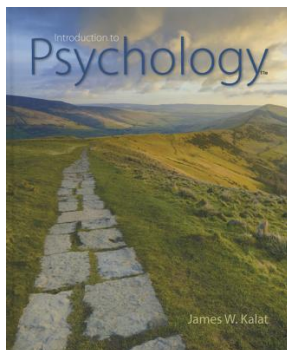
## Course Objectives:

1. To acquire requisite basic knowledge of the influential theories and relevant research involving important aspects of human behavior, including personality, learning and memory, psychological development, sensation and perception, and psychological disorders; in other words, to find out what we currently know about how the mind works.
2. To master the fundamental principles underlying psychology as a scientific discipline. How do we carry out empirical research and use the resulting data to draw conclusions about how the mind works?
3. To understand how the science of psychology is applied to the various domains of human behavior (e.g., mental health, education, parenting, organizational functioning, etc.).
4. To situate psychology within the intellectual framework of contemporary thought, to review its historical evolution, and to gain familiarity with its current sub-disciplines.

**Class Format:** We will meet twice a week for 80-minute lectures. I will assume that you have completed the reading assigned for each class meeting. The lectures will focus on central themes in the assigned reading but I will often introduce new topics not covered in the readings. Videos, class demonstrations, and discussion will supplement the lectures. Be sure to get complete notes from a classmate if you miss a class. Abbreviated lecture notes are available before every class on Sakai.

## Required Textbook:

Kalat, J. W. (2015). Introduction to Psychology. (11th Edition). Cengage Learning. ISBN 978-1-305-27155-5.



You are extremely unlikely to do well in the course if you do not read the textbook. The text is available at the University bookstore. You may also use any number of online sites to buy or rent this edition of the textbook (e.g., amazon.com, half.com, chegg.com).

**Course website:** If you are properly registered for the course, you have access to the course website through Sakai. There you will find copies of lectures and other related materials.

You are responsible for all the information contained in this syllabus and for all changes to the syllabus that I announce in class or post on Sakai. It is important to note that the syllabus is subject to change, so please consistently check the syllabus on Sakai so that you are aware of these changes. The schedule of class topics and/or assignments is subject to change as

necessary. Changes will be made known via emails, Sakai announcements, and/or lectures slides. You are responsible to check these resources.

### Course Evaluation

**Exams:** There will be three exams based on the reading and other materials presented in class. For all exams, test material may be taken from the required readings, class lectures, and in-class discussions. Make-up exams will not be permitted without advance permission. Permission will only be granted for unavoidable circumstances (serious illness, family emergency). If you would like to review your scantron after the exam, visit the TA during office hours or contact her to schedule an appointment.

*Midterm Exams:* The first two exams will be non-cumulative multiple choice midterm exams. These exams will not be cumulative and only cover material from that section of the course. Each midterm exam will be worth 100 points.

*Final Exam:* There will be a third exam made up of two parts:

Part 1 of the final exam will be a non-cumulative multiple choice exam, assessing the material covered since the last exam (chapters 11-15). This portion of the exam will not be cumulative and only cover material from that section of the course. Part 1 of the final will be worth 100 points.

Part 2 of the final exam will be a cumulative multiple choice exam, assessing material covered throughout the entire course. This portion of the final will be worth 50 points.

The lowest score of your Midterm Exam 1, Midterm Exam 2, and Final Exam Part 1 will be dropped. Therefore, only two of the three non-cumulative exams will count toward your final grade. However, the Final Exam Part 2 cannot be dropped and will count toward your final grade. Therefore, you must attend the final exam.

**Exam Make-up Policy:** If you must miss an exam for a legitimate reason (e.g., religious holiday), please contact me at least one week before the scheduled exam to discuss a make-up option. If you miss an exam without contacting me ahead of time, you will only be allowed to take the make-up exam with proper documentation (e.g., note from doctor with the date of your visit). REGIS reporting is not sufficient to warrant a make-up exam. In all cases, you **MUST** receive prior approval from me in order to receive an opportunity to take the make-up exams.

**In-class exercises:** Throughout the course of the semester, I will introduce four in-class extra credit opportunities. These won't be announced in advance. Because missing an in-class exercise cannot lower your grade, and because they are part of the in-class activity for that day, extra credit assignments cannot be made up or turned in late, regardless of the reason for your absence. Each assignment will be worth one half of a percentage point toward your course grade (e.g., if your course average is an 88% and you competently complete all four in-class exercises, your overall course grade will be raised to 90%).

**Grading:** Your grade in this class will be based on your performance on the midterm exams, the final exam, and any extra credit you earn. Grades will not be "curved"—in other words, everyone in the class could get an A, or everyone could get a C. Your success in the class does not affect anyone else's and vice versa. You will get the grade that you, and you alone, earn in this course.

Final grades are based on the total number of points earned (as well as up to 2 percentage points of extra credit) in accordance with the grading scale below, no exceptions. There is absolutely no end-of-semester negotiation period where students can plea and barter for a better grade in the class. If you are dissatisfied with your performance in the class, discuss the situation with the professor or the TA early— don't wait until it's too late to bring up your grade

The points needed for each grade is:

Grade	Points	Percentage
A	225-250	90-100%
B+	218-224	87-89.9%
B	200-217	80-86.9%
C+	193-199	77-79.9%
C	175-192	70-76.9%
D	150-174	60-69.9%
F	0-149	0-59.9%

### Research Participation

The Psychology Department requires that students in General Psychology fulfill a research participation requirement. You are required to accumulate at least 7 Research Participation Units (RPU's). There are two options for satisfying this requirement.

Departmental policy requires that General Psych students either participate in experiments or write two reports summarizing published scholarly research papers. More details on what this requirement is and how it can be met are available [here](#) or at (<http://psych.rutgers.edu/undergrad/rpurules>).

Note that you must be at least 18 years of age to participate in experiments. If you are not 18 at the start of the semester and will not turn 18 early in the semester, you should strongly consider fulfilling the requirement using the "Papers" option.

If you choose to fulfill the requirement using the "Papers" option, you must submit a copy of your paper electronically on Sakai by the due dates on the schedule below. Your paper must follow the format prescribed on the research participation web page, and the article you choose must be from an APA or APS publication. The research participation web page has links to lists of these publications. Information on electronic submission will be made available on Sakai a week before the first paper is due. Your paper will be submitted to Turnitin to check for originality; no more than 10% of your paper may come from existing sources. You will be able to resubmit your paper if you need to revise it to meet this criterion.

Research participation is NOT EXTRA CREDIT. You should complete this requirement as early in the semester as possible to avoid being deficient at semester's end. Failure to fulfill this requirement will result in half a grade reduction (e.g., B+ to B, B to C+, etc.)

### Course Policies

**Required readings:** All readings should be completed prior to the assigned class day. You should come to class prepared to discuss the readings. I encourage you to take notes as you read and bring any questions that you might have on the material to share with the class.

**Attendance:** Attendance in this course is not mandatory, but it is *highly* recommended. As each class meeting will cover a great deal of material, missing class may set you behind. Additionally, some of the material discussed in class will not be covered in the readings. If you cannot come to class, make sure you check the abbreviated lectures posted on Sakai and get additional notes from a classmate. Do not contact the professor or TA to ask what you have missed.

Students are expected to attend all classes; if you expect to miss one or two classes, please use the University absence reporting website <https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/> to indicate the date and reason for your absence. An email is automatically sent to me.

**Class discussion:** Psychological topics can be easily applied to people's own experiences and thus, discussion is common (and highly encouraged). You will have many opportunities to ask questions and/or share your thoughts. However, you are never required to share any personal experiences. Most importantly, please be respectful of other students' opinions and the information they share in class.

**Office hours:** I welcome and encourage any student to visit me if they have any questions or concerns about something covered in class. Office hours are a time that I set aside to be available for you, so you do not need to worry about bothering me. If you cannot meet during my office hours, email me to arrange another time to meet. Make sure to write "general psych" in the subject line of the email.

Students wishing to review their exams should visit the TA during her office hours, or email her to arrange an appointment. Make sure to write "general psych 07" in the subject line of the email.

**Academic integrity:** All students are required to uphold the highest standards of academic honesty. Any instance of academic dishonesty will be dealt with according to the guidelines and procedures outlined in Rutgers University's Academic Integrity Policy. Violations include: cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, denying others access to information or material, and facilitating violations of academic integrity. A copy of this document is available on the Rutgers Student Affairs website, or you may access the link here:

<http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy/>

**Plagiarism:** Since what counts as plagiarism is not always clear, I have provided the definition given in Rutgers' policy: Plagiarism is the use of another person's words, ideas, or results without giving that person appropriate credit. To avoid plagiarism, every direct quotation must be identified by quotation marks or appropriate indentation and both direct quotation and paraphrasing must be cited properly according to the accepted format for the particular discipline or as required by the instructor in a course. Some common examples of plagiarism are:

- Copying word for word (i.e. quoting directly) from an oral, printed, or electronic source without proper attribution.
- Paraphrasing without proper attribution, i.e., presenting in one's own words another person's written words or ideas as if they were one's own.
- Submitting a purchased or downloaded term paper or other materials to satisfy a course requirement.
- Incorporating into one's work graphs, drawings, photographs, diagrams, tables, spreadsheets, computer programs, or other nontextual material from other sources without proper attribution.

Additionally, we require that your paper be turned in as electronic copies so that we can check for plagiarism by matching content to information on the web. Any student who plagiarizes will, *at the very least*, receive a failing grade for the course. More severe consequences (e.g., expulsion) are also possible. More about academic integrity can be found at <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy/>

### **Student-Wellness Services**

**Just In Case Web App:** <http://codu.co/cee05e>

Access helpful mental health information and resources for yourself or a friend in a mental health crisis on your smartphone or tablet and easily contact CAPS or RUPD.

**Counseling, ADAP & Psychiatric Services (CAPS): (848) 932-7884 / 17 Senior Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901/ [www.rhscaps.rutgers.edu/](http://www.rhscaps.rutgers.edu/)**

CAPS is a University mental health support service that includes counseling, alcohol and other drug assistance, and psychiatric services staffed by a team of professional within Rutgers Health services to support students' efforts to succeed at Rutgers University. CAPS offers a variety of services that include: individual therapy, group therapy and workshops, crisis intervention, referral to specialists in the community and consultation and collaboration with campus partners.

**Violence Prevention & Victim Assistance (VPVA): (848) 932-1181 / 3 Bartlett Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 / [www.vpva.rutgers.edu/](http://www.vpva.rutgers.edu/)**

The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance provides confidential crisis intervention, counseling and advocacy for victims of sexual and relationship violence and stalking to students, staff and faculty. To reach staff during office hours when the university is open or to reach an advocate after hours, call 848-932-1181.

**Disability Services: (848) 445-6800 / Lucy Stone Hall, Suite A145, Livingston Campus, 54 Joyce Kilmer Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08854 / <https://ods.rutgers.edu/>**

Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines>. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form>.

**Scarlet Listeners: (732) 247-5555 / <http://www.scarletlisteners.com/>**

Free and confidential peer counseling and referral hotline, providing a comforting and supportive safe space.

### Course Schedule and Readings\*

Week	Date	Topic	Assigned Reading
1	1/17 (T)	Course Introduction & Overview	
	1/19 (Th)	What is Psychology?	Chapter 1
2	1/24 (T)	Scientific Methods in Psychology	Chapter 2
	1/26 (Th)	Scientific Methods in Psychology	
3	1/31 (T)	Biological Psychology	Chapter 3
	2/2 (Th)	Sensation & Perception	Chapter 4
4	2/7 (T)	Sensation & Perception	
	2/9 (Th)	Development	Chapter 5
5	2/14 (T)	Catch Up & Review for Midterm	
	2/16 (Th)	<b>Midterm Exam 1</b>	
6	2/21 (T)	Learning	Chapter 6
	2/23 (Th)	Learning	
7	2/28 (T)	Memory	Chapter 7
	3/2 (Th)	Memory	<b>Note:</b> First Paper for Research Participation Alternative 2 due by 5:00pm
8	3/7 (T)	Cognition	Chapter 8
	3/9 (Th)	Language	Chapter 8
9	3/14 (T)	<b>NO CLASS—SPRING BREAK</b>	

	3/16 (Th)	<b>NO CLASS—SPRING BREAK</b>	
10	3/21 (T)	Intelligence	Chapter 9
	3/23 (Th)	Consciousness	Chapter 10
11	3/28 (T)	Catch Up & Review for Exam	
	3/30 (Th)	<b>Midterm Exam 2</b>	
12	4/4 (T)	Motivated Behaviors	Chapter 11
	4/6 (Th)	Emotions, Stress, & Health	Chapter 12
13	4/11 (T)	Social Psychology	Chapter 13
	4/13 (Th)	Social Psychology	Chapter 13
14	4/18 (T)	Personality	Chapter 14
	4/20 (Th)	Abnormal Psychology	Chapter 15
			<b>Note:</b> Second Paper for Research Participation Alternative 2 due by 5:00pm
15	4/25 (T)	Abnormal Psychology	Chapter 15
	4/27 (Th)	Wrap Up & Review for Exam	
	5/2 (T)	<b>NO CLASS—READING DAY</b>	
16		<b>FINAL EXAM—TBA</b>	
		<p>Note: The final exam date/time will be announced on Sakai when available. You can access the Rutgers final exam schedule here: <a href="http://finalexams.rutgers.edu/">http://finalexams.rutgers.edu/</a></p>	

\*Subject to change if necessary. All changes will be announced in advance.