## Course Syllabus

#### **GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY 11 F19**

Tuesday and Thursday 6:40 PM - 8:00 PM

BUSCH Campus HLL-114

Course Instructor	
Contact	Professor Mimi Phan
Office Hours	By appointment.
Office Address	Rm331 Psychology Busch
Email:	mphan@scarletmail.rutgers.edu

Course TA	
Contact	Maggie Albright-Pierce
Office Hours	Thursday between 1:30 and 4:30
Office Address	Tillett Hall – Rm101
Email:	maggie.albrightpierce@rutgers.edu



#### **Required Textbook**

Bundle: Discovering Psychology: The Science of Mind, Loose-Leaf Version,

3rd + MindTapV2.0, 1 term Printed Access Card 9780357271292

Where to purchase: Barnes & Noble at Rutgers [100 Somerset St, New Brunswick, NJ 08901]

Welcome to Psychology 101. This course will introduce you to the various topics and issues in the scientific exploration of mind and behavior. As such it is a diverse field dealing with everything from biology/physiology to learning development to social interaction. This is an introductory course and we will only be able to skim the surface of as many topics allowed in 1 semester. However, 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:

- A) Explain and be able to assess the relationship among assumptions, method, evidence, arguments, and theory in social and historical analysis.
- 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.

## General course requirements/notes:

- 1. **CANVAS**. It is expected that all students will regularly access CANVAS for course announcements and materials. Please also make sure that you check your Rutgers email regularly.
- 2. **University e-mail accounts** 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.
- 3. Regular access to a computer with Internet, #2 pencil for all exams.
- 4. Attendance: Attending class is essential to the learning process. Please don't be late to class and be in attendance every time. Regular class attendance is expected. Further, some exam questions will be drawn from material presented in the lecture that is not repeated in the textbook; thus, it is in your best interest to attend all classes. Our time is short and swift in this face-paced format. If you miss a class meeting, you will still be responsible for material covered in class, but you will miss that day's participation points and any points awarded for assignments, participation, quizzes and/or midterms.
- 5. **Late assignments.** Assignments not handed in before the beginning of lecture at 6:05 pm are considered LATE no exceptions! Submitting your work any time after this on the same day will result in a 10% penalty. Each day after will result in a further 20% penalty.
- 6. If you are not performing as well as you would like it is your responsibility to meet with me. I am here to help you learn.

#### Accommodations

In compliance with the Rutgers University policy and equal access laws, I am available to discuss appropriate academic accommodations that may be required for student with disabilities. Requests for academic accommodations are to be made during the first two weeks of the semester, except for unusual circumstances, so arrangements can be made. Students are encouraged to register with the RU Office of Disability Services to verify their

eligibility for appropriate accommodations and provide me with appropriate documentation. Appropriate accommodations are available for students with disabilities. Please see web site of the Office of Disability Services for Students (https://ods.rutgers.edu/) for more information. Please give your letter of accommodation to me as soon as possible, and we will coordinate the accommodations privately.

#### **Academic Integrity**

Each student in this course is expected to abide by the Rutgers University Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity Policy.

The policies found in the Rutgers Academic Integrity Policy (http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/) apply to this course. Integrity is the practice of being honest and showing a consistent and uncompromising adherence to strong moral and ethical principles and values. (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Integrity).

## **Research Participation Requirement**

The psychology department requires all General Psychology students to either participate in research studies or complete an alternative paper assignment consisting of two papers (Paper 1 is due by Week 7 (October 15) and Paper 2 is due by Week 14 (December 3rd)). Papers are to be emailed to mphan@scarletmail.rutgers.edu; subject header: Research Paper Summary (#)

All students in this class will need to register on the Human Subject Pool System page at <a href="https://rutgers-researchpool.sona-systems.com">https://rutgers-researchpool.sona-systems.com</a> by clicking on "Request an Account." Make sure that you carefully enter your correct email address and select the correct course (section 11), instructor, and days/period for which you are registered. If you don't specify this information correctly, there may be subsequent problems with getting your RPUs assigned to you.

Per departmental rules, non-fulfillment of this requirement will result in a deduction from your final course grade total equal to one-half standard deviation of the class distribution of total points. This could lower your final grade by a full letter grade (i.e., A to B, B to C, etc.).

**Option 1:** You can participate in a few experiments by putting in 3 1/2 hours of your time outside of class to earn research credits, which are called "RPUs." You must earn a total of SEVEN "RPUs" (1 RPU for each ½ hour of your participation in lab experiments). Participating in web-based or online studies gives you ½ RPU per ½ hour of online study participation (i.e., half credit) for a maximum of 2 hours. In other words, you can earn only 2 RPUs from online studies and the rest of the RPUs are earned by participating in 2.5 hours (5 RPUs) of in-person participation. The last day for participation is one week prior to the last day of classes (Dec. 4th) (there may be some exceptions).

**Option 2:** You can opt out of experimental participation by writing two summaries of research journal articles (details can be found here: https://psych.rutgers.edu/academics/undergraduate/general-psych-requirement/189-%20human-research-student-requirements)

Please be sure that your papers contain no plagiarism; all papers will be submitted to Turnitin.com.

More information about both options is located here: <a href="https://psych.rutgers.edu/academics/undergraduate/general-psych-requirement/189-%20human-research-student-requirements">https://psych.rutgers.edu/academics/undergraduate/general-psych-requirement/189-%20human-research-student-requirements</a>). Please read these rules carefully before beginning either your research participation or your papers.

#### **Exams And Other Assessments**

Course grades will be based on the following:

 Exam 1:
 25% or 250 points

 Exam 2:
 25% or 250 points

 Exam 3:
 25% or 250 points

 MindTap/Canvas:
 25% or 250 points

 Final Exam
 0% or 0 points

TOTAL 100% or 1000 points (Non-completion of research participation requirement) ~7% deduction

Final grades will be determined by the following (standard Rutgers grading scale):

90.00 % and above A 85.00-89.99% B+ 80.00-84.99% C+ 75.00-79.99% C 70.00-74.99% D below 60.00% F

Note: A grade of C or better is required as a prerequisite to either the major or minor in psychology.

### Make-up policy:

Missed exam policy – there are NO make-up exams. If you miss any one of the three in-term exams for any reason:

- 1. Your score on the missed exam is zero
- 2. You can take the optional final exam. The grade that you receive on final exam will replace the zero.
- 3. Important Exception: For official Rutgers business, such as a business trip, a team activity, (e.g., a sports event where you are a participant), you must produce the relevant official Rutgers documentation noting your absence. In this case, you will be allowed to take the exam before the regularly scheduled exam period. The student must provide written notice of the planned absence at least one week prior to the regularly scheduled exam period. It is the responsibility of the student to schedule the alternative exam period with the instructor. Social or personal events of any kind do not count as a valid reason.

#### **Extra Credit:**

The final exam is optional. You can use it as a replacement for a missed exam (see above) or MindTap assessment. If you are not sure that you will receive the grade that you desire/need/expect for the course, you can take the final exam for extra credit. The points received will be added to the points tallied and your final grade will be adjusted up. Other opportunities to receive extra credit will be given at my discretion and will be class room based.

#### **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. However, I have built in a mechanism to earn extra credit (see above). Your final grade will be based solely on the your scores on the course exams and MindTap assignments, as described above.

# Psych 101 Section 11 -- Spring 2019 Calendar†† †† (All dates are approximate and changes will be announced in class)

Tuesday September 3, 2019	Chapter 1: The Science of Mind: The Discipline of Psychology; Class Introduction
Thursday September 5, 2019	Chapter 2: The Measure of Mind: Methods of Psychology
Tuesday September 10, 2019	Chapter 3: The Evolving Mind: Nature and Nurture Intertwined
Tuesday September 17, 2019	Chapter 4: The Biological Mind: The Physical Basis of Behavior
Tuesday September 24, 2019	Midterm 1 Chs 1-4
Thursday September 26, 2019	Chapter 5: The Perceiving Mind: Sensation and Perception
Tuesday October 1, 2019	Chapter 6: The Aware Mind: Elements of Consciousness
Tuesday October 8, 2019	Chapter 7: The Feeling Mind: Emotion and Motivation
Tuesday October 15, 2019	Chapter 8: The Adaptive Mind: Learning; RPU Paper 1 due
Tuesday October 22, 2019	Chapter 9: The Knowing Mind: Memory
Tuesday October 29, 2019	Chapter 10: The Thinking Mind: Thinking, Language, and Intelligence
Thursday October 31, 2019	Midterm 2 Chs 5-9
Tuesday November 5, 2019	Chapter 11: The Developing Mind: Life Span Development
Tuesday November 12, 2019	Chapter 12: The Individual Mind: Personality and the Self
Tuesday November 19, 2019	Chapter 13: The Connected Mind: Social Psychology
Tuesday November 26, 2019	Midterm 3 Chs 10-13 *****
Thanksgiving Recess	Thursday, 11/28 - Sunday, 12/1
Tuesday December 3, 2019	Chapter 14: The Troubled Mind: Psychological Disorders
Thursday December 5, 2019	Chapter 15: Healing the Troubled Mind: Therapy
Tuesday December 10, 2019	Chapter 16: The Healthy Mind: Stress and Coping; RPU Paper 2 due
Regular Classes End	Wednesday, December 11
Reading Days	Thursday, December 12 Friday, December 13 All Mindtap Assignments are due.
Tuesday December 17, 2019	Final Exam 8:00 PM - 11:00 PM