

Syllabus General Psychology

Asynchronous Remote

101 Section 01 – Fall 2020

Version 8-31-2020

What is this course about?

The goal of this course is to introduce you to the main areas of psychology: psychology as a science, the research methodology, the biological basis of behavior, sensation/perception, memory, attention, thinking, development, personality, social psychology, and psychological disorders. For each of the areas we will cover some of the basic things you need to know, and look at some of the interesting issues. So this course is really a sampler of the field of psychology, or a highlights reel. By giving you an understanding of the breadth of the field you should be prepared to take more advanced classes in psychology.

Learning Goals

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);
and
- b) Apply concepts about human and social behavior to particular questions or situations (subgoal n).



Where is the course information available?

- The class has a Sakai website which you should have access to if you are enrolled in the course.
- Make sure you check that you can access our site, and check your email regularly for announcements from the site (or just check “announcements” on the site).
- The Sakai site will have:
 - The voicethread link to the lectures
 - The powerpoint slides for the lectures (will be posted under “Resources”)
 - The review questions which are your guide to what you have to know (will be posted under “Resources”)
 - Some of the assessments (will be posted under “Tests and Quizzes” – Mini-exams and the Final exam will all be here - when their time comes, as well as some of the quizzies).
 - Announcements – The weekly zoom link for office hours, the weekly checklist with items to complete, and any other announcements

- Some of the assignments will be on the website for the book at <https://digital.wwnorton.com/psychsci6> Please use the link, as googling can lead you to the sites for other editions of the book.

Who is teaching this course?

Instructor: Estelle Mayhew

Instructor email: emayhew@rutgers.edu

TA : Docia Demmin

TA email: dld194@ubhc.rutgers.edu

What are the required reading & learning tools

- (1) Psychological Science 6th ed., Michael Gazzaniga, Norton. Various ISBNs 978-0-393-64034-2 (hardback) or 978-0-393-64036-6 (paperback) or 978-0-393-64038-0 (looseleaf) or ebook available at <https://digital.wwnorton.com/psychsci6>
 - I realize the book is expensive, as all college textbooks are. I honestly don't care if you get the loose-leaf version, some international edition that officially isn't supposed to be sold in the U.S., or the hardback or any other version.
 - Please wait until you hear my opinion on 'readings' in the first class before you throw yourself into reading ahead.
- (2) InQuizitive the Quizlike learning tool from Norton, and ZAPS the experimentation learning tool also from Norton.
 - Assignments for Inquizitive and ZAPS will be on their own website <https://digital.wwnorton.com/psychsci6> . Our class number for this site (you need to join the class site - called the Student Set) is **319038**.

What are the technical requirements for the course?

- This course is asynchronous remote, so the main technical requirement is a computer with sufficient speed and a good internet connection to watch the lectures and to take quizzes and exams. There are several due dates each week, so your internet needs to be reliable.
- Please see the student technical requirements page for suggestions <https://it.rutgers.edu/technology-guide/students/?loc=new-brunswick>
- If you do not have the appropriate technology for financial reasons, please email Dean of Students deanofstudents@echo.rutgers.edu for assistance.

How will the lectures work for this class?

- The lectures will be posted via Voicethread (accessible via Sakai) on the days that this course was originally scheduled for (TuTh 3:20-4:40 pm).
- The lectures will be up for 96 hours (4 days) after they are posted, then they will come down (Tuesday lectures come down Saturday/Thursday lectures come down Monday). This should allow you to find a convenient time to 'come to lecture'.

- In the 24 hours before the mini-exams all the lectures covered by the mini-exam will again be available for you to go over if you missed any.
- Since the final is cumulative, all lectures (except the first one) will be up during the reading days at the end of the semesters as well.
- The lectures are my intellectual property, and you may therefore not record them or download them.

How can I communicate with the instructor?

(1) Email and email procedures

My email is emayhew@rutgers.edu

Questions via email

- Email is probably the best medium to ask me questions, both about course material and if you are having issues which are affecting your ability to succeed in the class.
- I will try to get back to you within 3 days.
- If you ask an administrative question for which the answer is clearly in the syllabus or in the announcements on Sakai, I will reply with "check syllabus and announcements on Sakai". So if you have checked those places and still have an administrative question, start with something like "I read the syllabus and the announcements, and I could not find the answer to the following question".

Politesse

- Do please remember to SIGN (that means first and last name) your emails.
- I have more than 700 students this semester, and I am afraid I am unlikely to remember who you are, even if you have emailed before. Therefore you also need to indicate in EVERY email WHICH CLASS you are in. ***If you forget to indicate your name, or your class, I am unlikely to reply to your email. (this applies all the way to the end of the semester).***

(2) Open zoom office hours

Office hours:

- Wednesdays 10-11 am. I will be posting a zoom office hour link in announcements in Sakai every week. Since they are open office hours, it's first-come-first-served. If you log in and someone else is talking to me, you will be in the waiting room until the person before you is done. Please let me know by email if the waiting room wait didn't work. If this turns out to be too busy or works poorly, I may switch to signup slots. Stay tuned for updates.
- I may also add a general question hour or a chat hour depending on how things go.

(3) Office hours by appointment (also zoom)

To arrange office hours "by appointment"

- If you can't make my standard office hours (e.g. you're working Wednesday mornings, you are in a totally different timezone) we can meet "by appointment". What this means is that we need to coordinate our schedules. The fastest way to do that is to send me the slots of time

that you can be available, and I will look at those and pick some times that also work with my schedule (which varies from week to week).

- Example of timeslots (i.e. adjust for your availability):
Mondays 10-12 and 3-4, Tuesdays 9-12, Wednesdays after 4, Thursdays before 2, Fridays no availability. Please indicate what timezone the timeslots you send me are referring to.
- Sending me just one time is almost never going to work, so be comprehensive the first time and save us some email back and forth.

How will the instructor communicate with the class?

(1) Announcements in class

- At the beginning of lecture I go over administrative matters, don't skip those slides!

(2) Weekly checklists with lectures & work to be done that week

- These will go out on Tuesdays which is the beginning of our class week, they will be posted via announcements via Sakai.

(3) Announcements via Sakai

- This is the method I use to send you announcements outside of lecture.

What makes the grade?

(1) Mini-Exams

- There will be six non-cumulative mini-exams, of which the LOWEST grade will be dropped.
- The highest 5 mini-exams are each worth 12 course points, i.e. in total mini-exams make up 60% of your course grade.
- Exam characteristics:
 - 20 Multiple choice questions via Sakai
 - Covers lecture & book, see review questions
 - 35 minutes on the day indicated (there will also be lectures posted on those days folks!)
 - Mini's will be available for 12 hours, but once you log in you have 35 minutes to complete the mini-exam.

(2) Cumulative Final Exam

- There will ONE cumulative final exam.
- See further down in the syllabus for absence policy for exams.
- The final exam is worth 20 course points, i.e. in total the final makes up 20% of your course grade.
- Exam characteristics:
 - 35 Multiple choice questions via Sakai
 - Covers lecture & book for the whole semester, see review questions
 - 75 minutes on the day indicated
 - The final is open for the 75 minutes.

- If you cannot make the original time slot (Dec 17 – from 8 am to 9:15 am), you have to let me know in advance, so that I can set you up for the alternate date and time, which is December 20, from 4 pm to 5:15 pm.

(3) Quizzies

- Quizzies (I needed something smaller than ‘quiz’ and I used ‘mini’ for the examlets) will be posted each week. They will be any of 3 types:
 1. Quizzies on Sakai
 2. Inquizitive assignments on the Norton website (<https://digital.wwnorton.com/psychsci6>)
 3. ZAP assignments on the Norton website (<https://digital.wwnorton.com/psychsci6>)
- Quizzies will be worth anywhere from 0.5 course points to 1 course points (the worth of the assignment will be indicated in the weekly checklists in what to do for the course that week)
- Quizzies will be a combination of practice/review questions on Sakai or Inquizitive, open questions, ZAPS experiments and polls. They will be open notes.
- Given that there will be more than 20 quizzies, it behooves you to take them all, as the points over 20 are extra credit.
- Please don't do exercises on Inquizitive or ZAPS until they have been assigned!
- **THERE IS NO OTHER EXTRA CREDIT; REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL EXTRA CREDIT OPTIONS AT THE END OF THE SEMESTER WILL NOT BE GRANTED**

(4) Taking part in research worth 5 rpu's – 0 % deduction from your grade

- The psychology department requires all General Psychology students to either participate in research studies (OPTION 1) or complete an alternative paper assignment consisting of two papers (OPTION 2)
- 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 2 1/2 hours of your time outside of class to earn research credits, which are called “RPUs.” You must earn a total of FIVE “RPUs” (1 RPU for each ½ hour of your participation in experiments). The last day for participation is one week prior to the last day of classes i.e. Dec 3rd (there may be some exceptions).
- For this option you will need to register on the Human Subject Pool System page at <https://rutgers-researchpool.sona-systems.com/Default.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2f> by clicking on "Request an Account." Make sure that you carefully enter your correct email address and select the correct course (section 01), instructor (Mayhew), 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. (please don't google "SONA", you don't want to sign up for the Rutgers Newark SONA system).

- FAQs – setting up your account: <https://psych.rutgers.edu/academics/undergraduate/general-psychrequirement/faq-for-participants>
- Video to set up your account https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_1OnT2ZU6QQ
- At the end of the semester I will get a report from the system about everyone's research participation.
- *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/major/237-uncategorised/1091-general-psychology-research-requirement#option-2-two-summaries-of-two-published-research-articles>). Please be sure that your papers contain no plagiarism; all papers will be submitted to Turnitin.com.
- The first summary must be submitted (via Sakai dropbox) by Oct. 16. Students who miss that deadline must fulfill the requirement via Option 1. The second summary is due on or before Dec. 4
- More information about both options is located here:
- <https://psych.rutgers.edu/academics/undergraduate/major/237-uncategorised/1091-general-psychology-research-requirement#option-1-experimental-participation-sign-up-for-experiments>
- Please read these rules carefully before beginning either your research participation or your papers.

If you haven't taken part in 5 rpus of research, OR submitted 2 research papers by the deadlines in lieu of the research participation, professors are instructed to lower your grade, up to a whole grade. For example, an A will be lowered to a B, a B to a C, etc.

- (1) No late papers permitted.
- (2) No mix 'n match between RPUs and papers.
- (3) Since a grade is 10% points, each RPU is, in effect, worth 2 % points, and each paper 5%.
- (4) PLEASE don't lose these points by not doing the research participation or substitute papers

How to do well in the course

- This whole learning remotely thing is challenging for everyone. For assistance with learning how to address these challenges, please consult the resources available here: https://rlc.rutgers.edu/remote_instruction
- The key for most of us is upping our time management skills (I am definitely including myself in this statement!)
- Make a standard schedule for your week and schedule the times for :
 - watching the Voicethreads for this class.
 - Taking the quizzies for that week
 - Working on the review questions, both preparing them and studying them so that you are ready for the mini-exams and eventually, the final exam.

- I will post weekly checklists of what to do for the course that week. These will go out on Tuesdays via Sakai announcements. When you get these mark the items on your schedule (in principle you should have the recurring items on there already).
- The quizzies have deadlines, and if you miss one, you forego the point. They will not be reopened, as there are more quizzies than needed for the full 20% of the grade, so there is a brain fart buffer.
- The class slides (which are only an outline of the material covered) will be posted on Sakai. Posting will take place at the same time as the Voicethread, so you can take notes on the printouts, but there may be empty slides with material to be filled in in class.
- **Recent research on methods of notetaking and memory suggests that handwritten notetaking is significantly more likely to result in remembering the material than notetaking on the computer. So for this class I recommend taking notes on printouts or some other paper notebook. EVEN IN THE REMOTE ENVIRONMENT. The advantage of Voicethreads is you can make me repeat, repeat, repeat ☺**
- Make sure you are well-rested when you watch the Voicethreads.
- Do your research participation or papers.
- Most importantly, do the review questions across the weeks. They will be posted on Sakai. **Prepare the answers to the review questions. These questions are your guide to what you should know. So KNOW the answers, be able to explain them to others in your house, whether they be siblings, parents, grandparents or friends!**
- Get in touch with me if you are having issues that are affecting your ability to succeed in this course.

What is the order of topics in this class?

Note that this is a Tentative Class Schedule (i.e. this can CHANGE)

Week	Dates	Topic	Readings
1	Tue, Sep. 1	Course rules	Get the book, InQuizitive, ZAPS
	Thu, Sept. 3	General Intro/Memory	Chapter 7 parts!
2	Thu, Sept. 10	Memory	
	Tue, Sep. 15	Memory/Science	Chapter 1
3	Thu, Sept. 17	Science	
	Tue, Sep. 22	Research	Chapter 2
4	Thu, Sept. 24	MINI-EXAM 1 Research/Biology	
	Tue, Sep. 29	Biology	
5	Thu, Oct. 1	Biology	
	Tue, Oct. 6	Biology/Consciousness	Chapter 4
6	Thu, Oct. 8	MINI-EXAM 2 Consciousness	
	Tue, Oct. 13	Consciousness/Sensation & Perception	
7	Thu, Oct. 15	Sensation & Perception/Learning	Chapter 5

8	Tue, Oct. 20	Learning	Chapter 6
	Thu, Oct. 22	MINI-EXAM 3 Learning	
9	Tue, Oct. 27	Memory again	Chapter 7 rest
	Thu, Oct. 29	Thinking etc.	Chapter 8
10	Tue, Nov 3	Thinking etc.	
	Thu, Nov. 5	MINI-EXAM 4 Development	Chapter 9
11	Tue, Nov 10	Emotions	Chapter 10
	Thu, Nov. 12	Motivation	
12	Tue, Nov 17	Health & Wellbeing	Chapter 11
	Thu, Nov. 19	MINI-EXAM 5 Social psychology	Chapter 12
13	Tue, Nov. 24	Social psychology	
14	Tue, Dec. 1	Personality	Chapter 13
	Thu, Dec. 3	Personality/Psychological disorders	Chapter 14
15	Tue, Dec 8	Psychological disorders	
15	Thu, Dec 10	MINI-EXAM 6 Treatments psychological disorders	Chapter 15
	Thu, Dec. 17 Sun, Dec. 20	FINAL EXAM Alternate exam date	8-9:15 am 4 – 5:15 pm

Grading Scale for letter grades end semester

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

Am I allowed to cheat?

- Eh, NO (duh).
- You are expected to abide by the Rutgers policy on academic integrity; please familiarize yourself with this policy, you can view it at <http://nbacademicintegrity.rutgers.edu/home-2/academic-integrity-policy/>
- There's a student section also: <http://nbacademicintegrity.rutgers.edu/home-2/for-students/>
- Use of external website resources such as Chegg.com or other sites to obtain solutions to homework assignments, quizzes, or exams is cheating and a violation of the University Academic Integrity policy. Cheating in the course may result in grade penalties, disciplinary sanctions or educational sanctions. Posting homework assignments, or exams, to external sites without the instructor's permission may be a violation of copyright and

may constitute the facilitation of dishonesty, which may result in the same penalties as plain cheating.

- All students will need to sign the Rutgers Honor Pledge on every major exam, assignment, or other assessment as follows: **On my honor, I have neither received nor given any unauthorized assistance on this examination (assignment, paper, quiz, etc.).**

What if I can't make lecture?

- Lectures are in the form of Voicethreads, which are up for 4 days (i.e. 96 hours). If you cannot view the lecture in those 4 days you will be able to view it in the 24 hours before the mini-exam that includes it.
- If you are expecting to miss more than two classes in a row, 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.

What if I can't make a quizzzy, mini-exam or the final exam?

- **Quizzies** – there will be more quizzies than the 20 needed for the 20% of the course grade, so missing one or two is not a big deal. Quizzies are available for at least 4 or 5 days, the deadlines will be on the Weekly checklist. HOWEVER, because there is a quizzzy buffer (i.e. more than needed) they will not be re-opened after the deadline
- **Mini-exams** – There will be 6 mini-exams, and the lowest grade will be dropped, so if you miss one, that will be your lowest grade. If you miss a further mini-exam you will have to take a makeup *at the end of the semester*.
- Mini's will be available for 12 hours, but once you log in you have 35 minutes to complete the mini-exam.
- **Final exam** – There are two slots for the final. If you have to miss the first slot, let me know and I'll set you up for the second slot. If you miss the second slot, you will have to take a makeup at some later date.

General Support

- This is a difficult time, and you may find yourself in any of various circumstances where you need help of one kind or another. Please don't hesitate to ask for help, either from me (emayhew@rutgers.edu) or from Rutgers institutions/services.
- The link to the School of Arts and Sciences (SAS) general help page is <https://sasundergrad.rutgers.edu/help> It has links to many different services at Rutgers.
- If you are facing financial hardships, please visit the Office of Financial Aid at <https://financialaid.rutgers.edu/>.

Rutgers Academic Support Services

Rutgers has a variety of resources for academic support. For more information, check <https://sasundergrad.rutgers.edu/academic-standing/student-services>

This page has links to:

- Counseling services <http://health.rutgers.edu/medical-counseling-services/counseling/>
- Learning centers <https://rlc.rutgers.edu/>
- Dean of students office <http://deanofstudents.rutgers.edu/>

Rutgers Student Accommodations

- If you need special accommodations, let me know early in the semester, go through the process at ODS and email me the Letter of Accommodation from the disability office (see below).
- 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>.

Student Wellness Services

Counseling, ADAP & Psychiatric Services (CAPS)

(848) 932-7884 / 17 Senior Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901/

<http://health.rutgers.edu/medical-counseling-services/counseling/>

CAPS is a University mental health support service that includes counseling, alcohol and other drug assistance, and psychiatric services staffed by a team of professionals 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.

Crisis Intervention : <http://health.rutgers.edu/medical-counseling-services/counseling/crisis-intervention/>

Report a Concern: <http://health.rutgers.edu/do-something-to-help/>

Violence Prevention & Victim Assistance (VPVA)

(848) 932-1181 / 3 Bartlett Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 / 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.

Note: Your decision to remain enrolled in the course after the first class session is your implicit agreement to abide by everything stated above.