Welcome to General Psychology in a time of COVID-19. Because of the pandemic, this course will be held fully online. And because the class is held online, there are a lot of details to the class, more than your typical in-person course. This is the sort of trade-off we all have for being able to learn in our pajamas. With that in mind please read the syllabus very thoroughly. I can’t stress enough that I’ll assume everyone has reviewed everything before the class has begun, and if they have any questions about class requirements, will ask those via email. There will of course be some leeway (at my discretion) given during the first week or so of class, but I expect that you will read the information and ask questions if anything is unclear.

**COURSE OVERVIEW**

The purpose of this course is to provide an introduction to the field of psychology by presenting a thorough review of different psychological perspectives.

**Course Objectives**

Upon successfully completing this course, you will be able to:

- Describe and apply the knowledge, perspectives, principles, and types of reasoning employed in psychology as a social science.
- Articulate how the knowledge, perspectives, principles, and types of reasoning utilized in psychology may contribute to our understanding of human behavior and development.
- Analyze psychological events and phenomena from multiple perspectives within the field of psychology and evaluate the merits and limitations therein.

**Course Materials**

1. Course site: [https://sakai.rutgers.edu/portal/site/128cc5e3-f7fd-490f-8464-90fb44a5eb63](https://sakai.rutgers.edu/portal/site/128cc5e3-f7fd-490f-8464-90fb44a5eb63)

Purchasing the book is completely optional and is not strictly required to perform well in the course. However, since the course takes place over a compressed timeline AND we’re holding all of our course online, it is strongly recommended that if you have the means to do so, you purchase the book and read along with the class. If you would like, you can...
also purchase the 7th edition of the same book, which is much cheaper. Some of the chapters will be different, so make sure to cross reference the topics in the syllabus to ensure that you’re reading the correct information.

3. A computer that has internet access to access and download course materials and exams

4. Link for optional online meetings:
   https://rutgers.webex.com/rutgers/j.php?MTID=mdd33b2bfc6c94788a547bc53f6371899
   Meeting #: 120 930 3782
   Password: Psychology
   If you would prefer to call in, dial (650) 429-3300, enter the access code: 120 930 3782

COURSE GRADING

Attendance: Lectures for the week will be posted online on Tuesdays. You will be expected to review them by Thursday. On Thursdays I will hold live discussion sections from 6-7:30pm EST on Webex. I strongly encourage attendance at all live discussion sections. These sections will offer a sense of community and allow you to ask questions about and discuss the course material prior to submission of the weekly comprehension check assignments and exams. However, I will not take attendance or award points for attending these optional discussion sections.

Grade Breakdown:
Exams: 4 total, 80% of final grade
   • 4 Exams: 20 points each (80 points total)
Weekly Lecture Comprehension Checks: 5 total, 20% of final grade
   • 5 Weekly Comprehension Checks: 4 points each (20 points total)
TOTAL: 100 points

Standard Rutgers Undergraduate Grading Scale:
   A = 90% and higher 110 and over
   B+ = 87-89% 106 to 109
   B = 80-86% 97 to 105
   C+ = 77-79% 93 to 96
   C = 70-76% 85 to 92
   D = 60-69% 73 to 84
   F = Below 60% 72 and under

COURSE ASSESSMENTS

Exams: There will be three open-book exams consisting of multiple choice and short essay questions. Exams will be posted on Sakai in the “Tests & Quizzes” tab. I do not expect that exams will take longer than 2 hours (at most) to complete, but you will have an entire week to
complete them. Exams will be posted on Thursdays at 7:30pm EST and will be due Wednesdays at 11:55pm EST.

**Weekly Lecture Comprehension Checks:** There will be five weekly open-book “comprehension checks” posted on Sakai in the “Tests & Quizzes” tab. If you’ve reviewed the lectures, these shouldn’t take longer than 5-10 minutes. Comprehension checks will be posted on Tuesdays at 6pm EST and will be due Thursdays at 10pm EST.

**COURSE POLICIES**

**Anti-Racism Policy:** This is a firmly anti-racist space. You are encouraged to check me, critique me, etc., if I get something wrong. Racism will not be tolerated in this class.

**Students with Disabilities:**
Any student who feels he or she needs accommodation for a physical or learning disability, please contact the Office of Disability Services (151 College Ave, Suite 123; phone 732-932-2848) and read more about Rutgers’ policy at [https://ods.rutgers.edu](https://ods.rutgers.edu).

- If you request accommodations for this course, you will need a letter from Disability Services. This letter must be provided to me by our second class, at which point you may make a request for course-specific accommodations. The Chair of Undergraduate Psychology and I will review your request and may choose to modify it before it is approved.

**Plagiarism:**
- All work that students turn in must be their own work
- Students should NOT work collaboratively on assignments without prior approval from the instructor.
- More about academic integrity can be found at: [http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-at-rutgers/](http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-at-rutgers/)

**Makeup Exams:** If you are unable to complete an exam due to an unavoidable circumstance (e.g., illness), please reach out to me to coordinate a makeup exam. Please contact me before the exam deadline.

**Late Assignments:** Lecture Comprehension Checks should be submitted on time. 1 point will be deducted per day that the assignment is late until no points are remaining. If you are unable to complete an assignment due to an unavoidable circumstance (e.g., illness), please reach out to me before the deadline.
## Summer 2020 – Course Schedule*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1    | Tuesday 7/7 & Thursday 7/9 | **Review Uploaded Lecture:** Introduction  
               **Review Uploaded Lecture:** Genetics & Evolution  
               **Review Uploaded Lecture:** Methods and Statistics | Read Chapters 1-3 |
|      | **Optional Discussion Section:** Thursday @ 6-7:30pm on Webex  
      **Assignment:** Weekly Lecture Comprehension Check #1 on Sakai Thursday (7/9) Due at 10pm EST |
| 2    | Tuesday 7/14 & Thursday 7/16 | **Review Uploaded Lecture:** The Brain and Body  
               **Review Uploaded Lecture:** Motivation and Emotion | Read Chapters 4-5 |
|      | **Optional Discussion Section:** Thursday @ 6-7:30pm on Webex  
      **Assignment:** Weekly Lecture Comprehension Check #2 on Sakai Thursday (7/16) Due at 10pm EST |
|      | Exam 1 posted on Thursday 7/16 @ 7:30pm EST. Due Wednesday 7/22 by 11:55pm EST |
|      | Exam will cover lecture material from 7/7 – 7/16 |
| 3    | Tuesday 7/21 & Thursday 7/23 | **Review Uploaded Lecture:** Sensation and Perception  
               **Review Uploaded Lecture:** Learning and Behaviorism | Read Chapters 6-8 |
|      | **Optional Discussion Section:** Thursday @ 6-7:30pm on Webex  
      **Assignment:** Weekly Lecture Comprehension Check #3 on Sakai Thursday (7/23) Due at 10pm EST |
| 4    | Tuesday 7/28 & Thursday 7/30 | **Review Uploaded Lecture:** Memory and Attention  
               **Review Uploaded Lecture:** Reasoning and Intelligence | Read Chapters 9-10 |
|      | **Optional Discussion Section:** Thursday @ 6-7:30pm on Webex  
      **Assignment:** Weekly Lecture Comprehension Check #4 on Sakai Thursday (7/30) Due at 10pm EST |
|      | Exam 2 posted on Thursday 7/30 @ 7:30pm EST. Due Wednesday 8/5 by 11:55pm EST |
|      | Exam will cover lecture material from 7/21 – 7/30 |
| 5    | Tuesday 8/4 & Thursday 8/6 | **Review Uploaded Lecture:** Development  
               **Review Uploaded Lecture:** Social Psychology and Personality | Read Chapters 11-14 |
|      | **Optional Discussion Section:** Thursday @ 6-7:30pm on Webex  
      **Assignment:** Weekly Lecture Comprehension Check #5 on Sakai Thursday (8/6) Due at 10pm EST |
| 6    | Tuesday 8/11 | **Review Uploaded Lecture:** Mental Disorders and Treatment | Read Chapters 15, 16 |
|      | Exam 3 posted on Thursday 8/6 @ 7:30pm EST. Due Wednesday 8/12 by 11:55pm EST |
|      | Exam will cover lecture material from 8/4 – 8/11 (Note: only 1-2 questions will come from 8/11) |

*Schedule subject to change!
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/
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/
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.