

Syllabus for **General Psychology** – Fall 2021

Psychology 01:830:101:07.

Class meeting times: Tuesdays and Fridays 9:00 am – 10:20 123 Scott Hall

Dr. Margaret Ingate (she/her) (office Room 227, Tillett Hall. Depending on NJ's pandemic status, I may be there frequently or rarely.)

email: mingate@psych.rutgers.edu

Office hours: Wednesdays, 1 – 2 pm and by appointment on Zoom. On some early Wednesdays, my office hours will be on Thursday. Thanksgiving Week, I will not hold office hours.

Please read the syllabus through to the end. It contains important information. Note that there are three Tuesday classes that will be asynchronous, with pre-recorded lectures. (See page 6.) Any currently unplanned schedule changes will be posted on the Canvas site and communicated by email.

The required text is Feist & Rosenberg *Psychology Perspectives and Connections*, 5th Edition, ebook with CONNECT. The cost of the book is included in your term bill, so you have access from the first day of the term. You access the ebook through Canvas.

Some outside readings may be posted. These may be optional or required. There may be required video content (it will be on reserve through the library) and there are deadlines associated with each quiz. Content on exams will be based on material that is in lecture, that is in the textbook, and that is in any required outside readings or video material. CONNECT quiz material will be drawn strictly from the book.

All content and assessments are accessible via smartphone, tablet or laptop.

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).

Objectives of the course:

1. Students will develop a broad understanding of major topics in contemporary psychology.

2. Students will begin to develop the skills to critically evaluate media reports about behavioral research findings.
3. Students will learn basic aspects of research design in psychology and be able to distinguish between correlational and experimental research.
4. Students will be introduced to principles of learning and to meta-cognitive skills important for success in life-long learning.
5. Students will be exposed to applications of psychological knowledge and principles in family, social, clinical, educational, and business settings.

Exams: There will be three exams. The second and final exams will place greatest emphasis on more recently covered material. Exams count as ~70% of your grade. These may contain multiple choice questions and short answer essay questions.

Required On-line quizzes: Quizzes count as ~24% of your grade. Your best 11 scores will be averaged to contribute points to your final grade. (Each score is transformed to a percent correct score before averaging.) You may take each quiz twice, and your best score counts.

Research participation units (RPUs). Participation in research is required, resulting in accumulation of Research Participation Units (RPUs). You are required to accumulate at least 5 RPUs. There are two options for satisfying this requirement (described below). These are NOT EXTRA CREDIT. Failure to earn RPUs LOWERS YOUR GRADE. Departmental policy requires that General Psych students either participate in experiments or write two reports summarizing published scholarly research papers. **Failing to get your RPU requirement completed can ruin a good grade.** Follow this link for more details: https://rutgers-researchpool.sona-systems.com/Default.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fadd_slot.aspx%3fexperiment_id%3d355&experiment_id=355 If you are under 18, you are exempt from the Option 1 requirement (in fact, you cannot participate in experiments because you cannot give consent), but you must document your age. When you set up your SONA account be sure to register for this class. (101:07).

If you do not complete the RPU requirement, your point total will be reduced by half a standard deviation before a grade is assigned. This could reduce your grade from an A to a B, or from a B to a C. Depending on the distribution of points, and how many you've earned, the impact could be even worse.

The deadline for completing RPUs is the week before classes end. If you choose not to participate in experiments or are not eligible to because you are under 18, Option 2 requires two one-page papers, each summarizing a research report published in a recognized psychological journal (I suggest *Psychological Science*). There are deadlines for the RPU-Option 2-papers listed in the SONA site. Papers must be submitted

electronically via the Canvas website and will be checked for plagiarism. There are not always enough research slots to accommodate all students. Therefore, if you procrastinate on the RPU requirement, you may miss the date for option 2 and not have the opportunity to obtain 5 RPU credits by participating in research. Being a subject in experiments can be interesting, even fun. Completing ZAPS does not count as research participation.

Respect for diversity of person and perspectives: Families, children and adolescents in this country and around the world have very different lived experiences. I, as your professor, intend to present materials and activities that both represent and respect diversity of gender, gender expression, ethnicity, nationality, race, disability, socioeconomic status, religion, and culture. In classroom discussions our differing experiences may lead us to express different perspectives on a variety of issues relevant to course content. In our discussion of theories and of research results, we may question methodology and interpretation of results but we should not critique or question each other's choices, experiences, or identities.

There are three components to your grade. These are listed immediately below, and explained in more detail in the material that follows.

1. Connect chapter quizzes (open-book, percent correct average of 11 best scores, 2 lowest are dropped)
2. Mid-term (2) and final exams (percent correct scores)
3. Chapter completion credits (2 points per chapter completed in SmartBook, maximum of 26 points)

If you want to do well in the course, it is important that you come to class having read the book, reviewed online lectures and that you participate in discussions both online and in-session.

There are two mid-term exams and a cumulative final.

Online quizzes	100 (this is based on your average percent correct, after the two lowest scores are dropped. These can only be taken through Connect on Canvas)
Exams	300 (100 points each for exams 1, 2, and 3, based on percent correct)
SmartBook	26 (2 points for each chapter for which you read the chapter and complete SB questions)

The schedule of classes and topics covered is listed later in the syllabus.

Are there extra credit opportunities? There are no extra credit opportunities for this course. If you are concerned about your grade because of difficulty on quizzes or the first exam, come to office hours early in the term.

Grading standards may be lowered (curved), but the grading standards will not be made more difficult.

A = 360 or above

B = 320 – 359 (yes, I do give B+ grades, at the midpoint)

C = 300 – 319 (yes, I do give C+ grades, at the midpoint.)

With the availability of SmartBook points, I hope no one earns below a C.

Academic integrity: Sanctions for cheating in any form can result in failing the course or, for more severe violations, temporary or permanent separation from the university. Familiarize yourself with the university's policies on academic integrity by visiting the following website <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/> and reading the material for students. I take violations of the academic integrity policies very seriously and have taken action and will take action against students who violate the policies. Keep in mind that cheating on an exam or a paper can completely derail your future plans and ambitions. A history of an academic integrity violation will keep you out of law school, medical school and most graduate programs. http://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/avoid_plagiarism
<http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/resources-for-students>

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.).

Attendance and Absences: If you are seriously ill or injured, and will have difficulty meeting deadlines or participating for more than two weeks, or if someone in your family becomes ill, you should notify your dean. Your dean can contact all of your professors and ask for accommodations to help you complete course requirements.

The university has implemented a system for student self-reporting of incidental absences. A link to the Student Self-Reporting of Absences system is <https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/>

Grades: I do not change grades unless a computational error has been made. If you need a certain average to stay in the honors program, to keep a scholarship or financial aid, to make it into OCS, or just to keep your parents from nagging you, read assignments **before** class every week, attend class regularly, participate, take the quizzes on time, and review frequently

by testing your memory for the material. Elaborative encoding, elaborative rehearsal, and distributed review of course material will lead to greatly improved retention of the material and decent grades in this and almost every course.

Week	Day	Dates	Topics in <i>General Psychology Fall 2021</i> Tuesdays and Fridays 9 – 10:20 123 Scott Hall
1	T	9/3	Introduction and Chapter 1 COME TO CLASS
2*	T F	9/7 9/10	Chapter 2 Research in Psychology: Pre-recorded lecture posted Do not come to class Ch 2 continued COME TO CLASS
3	T F	9/14 9/17	Chapter 3 Biology of Behavior COME TO CLASS Ch 3 continued COME TO CLASS
4*	T F	9/21 9/24	Chapter 4 Sensing and Perceiving Our World; Pre-recorded lecture posted. Do not come to class Ch 4 continued COME TO CLASS
5*	T F	9/28 10/1	Chapter 6 Consciousness Pre-recorded lecture posted. Do not come to class Review before Exam 1 COME TO CLASS
6	T F	10/5 10/8	Exam 1 (Chapters 1 – 4, 6) Chapter 5 Human Development
7	T F	10/12 10/15	Chapter 5 Continued Chapter 7 Memory
8	T F	10/19 10/22	Chapter 7 continued; Chapter 8 Learning Ch 8 continued (skip chapters 9, 10, 11)
9	T F	10/26 10/29	Chapter 12 Stress and Health Ch 12 continued
10	T F	11/2 11/5	Chapter 13 Personality Ch 13 continued
11	T F	11/9 11/12	Review before exam 2 Exam 2 Chapters (1 – 8, 12, 13)
12	T F	11/16 11/19	Chapter 14 Social Behavior Ch 14 continued
13*	T F	11/23 11/26	Chapter 15 Psychological Disorders Classes do not meet
14*	T F	11/30 12/3	Ch 15 Continued Chapter 16 Treatment of Psychological Disorders
15	T F	12/7 12/10	Ch 16 Continued Wrap up and review
	TBD		FINAL EXAM – In class room

- **Special arrangements:** If you are entitled to extended testing time or other testing accommodations, provide me with the documentation from the Office of Disability Services, and I will work with them to arrange alternate administration of your exams. Identify yourself early in the term. If you wait until just before an exam, there may be a considerable delay. Students with disabilities requesting accommodations must follow the procedures outlined at <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/getting-registered>.
- Full disability policies and procedures are at <https://ods.rutgers.edu/>

If things go horribly wrong in this course, other courses, or your life: the University has many resources to help you. The faculty and staff want you to thrive at the University and to succeed academically and socially. Ask for help as soon as you realize there is a

problem. Come to office hours, for this class, for other classes. If you don't know what resources are available, these are listed below. It is important that you let your dean know if a serious problem arises – if a family member becomes critically ill, if you experience any serious health crisis, if you are the victim of a crime.... These stressors can affect your performance in all of your courses. Your dean will respect your confidentiality and contact your professors to ask for accommodations.

If you are a freshman or a transfer student: the transition to life at a large university is difficult for many students. You are not alone and there are resources to help you. Some of these are listed below.

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 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.

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/>

The Office of Disability Services works with students with a documented disability to determine the eligibility of reasonable accommodations, facilitates and coordinates those accommodations when applicable, and lastly engages with the Rutgers community at large to provide and connect students to appropriate resources.

Scarlet Listeners

(732) 247-5555 / <http://www.scarletlisteners.com/> Free and confidential peer counseling and referral hotline, providing a comforting and supportive safe space.