

Syllabus
Introduction to Psychology
Summer 2019

Course Information:

Introduction to Psychology

Class location:

Contact Information

Professor: Chloe Golden, MS

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Class time: 12:00-14:00 (Monday through Friday)

Class hours: This course will have 72 class hours, including 40 lecture hours, professor 10 office hours, 10-hour TA discussion sessions, 2-hour review sessions, 10-hour extra classes.

Required materials:

Griggs, R. A. (2017). *Psychology: A concise introduction* (5th ed.). New York, NY: Worth.
ISBN: 1464192162

Optional materials available at the library:

Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders: DSM-5. (2013). Arlington, VA: American
Psychiatric Association.

ISBN 978-0-89042-554-1

Found on the first floor of the library in the reference section

You will be responsible for completing the assigned exercises and readings *before* class.

Official Course Description

“The course introduces the student to the contemporary discipline of the science of human behavior and mental processes. Topics investigated include the scientific method, biological bases of behavior, maturation, motivation, emotions, learning, personality and adjustment. The course is prerequisite for all other courses in Psychology.” From FSU catalog.

Course Goals and Objectives

1. To provide an accurate and up to date picture of psychological science.
2. To inculcate a scientific approach to understanding behavior and improving the human condition. (Scientist practitioner model.)
3. To have students learn basic theory and research that forms part of the foundation for current inquiry. (Note that students will not have time to master complex theories in this course.)
4. To increase the student’s desire to continue with psychology.
5. Develop critical thinking and oral communication skills by participating in classroom discussion, exercises, and presentations.
6. Develop problem-solving skills through classroom activities.

Invested, active, and engaged learners may:

1. Develop personal beliefs and self–efficacy leading to critical thinking, efficient information access, and useful application of the principles of human psychology.
2. Reflect on and discuss fundamental aspects of human psychology from a personal perspective.
3. Examine beliefs and reinforce or change as evidence may indicate.
4. Construct useful knowledge about the fundamental concepts of the dynamic study of human psychology
5. Establish a foundation for lifelong learning and service to self and others

Assessment of Student Learning and Teaching Effectiveness:

Your grade for this course will be made up of four (4) exams, one (1) written assignment and some smaller in-class assignments/homework assignments (including one (1) in-class group presentation). Specific test dates are listed on the Course Plan at the end of the syllabus. Please do NOT contact your instructor to request a higher grade. In addition to graded tests and assignments, this course will include regular ungraded assessments to help you evaluate your understanding of the material and improve your critical thinking skills. These ungraded assessments may include multiple choice questions during class, individual written reflections during class, handouts and group activities in class, handouts or discussions through blackboard, and group discussions.

Course Requirements:

The first three (3) exams will each cover two (2) chapters. The final exam will cover three (3) chapters. This fourth and final exam will be scheduled during the MCPHS Spring Examination Period and you are expected to be available during this time.

| Evaluation | Chapters | Value |
|---------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| Participation | All Chapters | 5% in class and homework |
| Exam #1 | 1 & 2 | 10% in class |
| Exam #2 | 3 & 4 | 15% in class |
| Exam #3 | 5 & 7 | 20% in class |
| Exam #4 | 8, 9, & 10 | 20% final exam period |
| Group Project | | 10% in class |
| Written Assignment: | | <u>20% through blackboard</u> |
| | | Total: 100% |

*Assigned reading/lectures for each class is considered testable material for all tests. This means that exams may cover information NOT covered in class. YOU WILL NEED TO READ THE CHAPTERS TO STUDY FOR THE EXAMS

Makeup Exam Policy:

If you miss a test, you must contact the instructor within 24 hours of the missed test. Without a documented absence, the grade will be '0'. With a documented absence, **the make-up test(s) will be administered at the discretion of the instructor, at a time mutually agreeable to both parties). If the final test is missed and cannot be made up, an Incomplete (I) grade will be**

given and the make-up test(s) must be completed at an agreed upon date. Failure to comply with these terms will result in an automatic zero for that test.

Written Assignment:

The assignment is worth 20%. Instructions and due dates for the assignment will be distributed in class.

Late Assignment Policy:

The assignment is due through blackboard on the date and at the time indicated by your instructor. The group assignment will be due on blackboard the night before presentations in class. Electronic versions sent to the instructor's email account will not be accepted. All other formats required (e.g., Turnitin.com) will be described by your instructor as appropriate. The assignment is considered late if any of the formats requested is not submitted on time.

- Ten percentage points will be deducted for assignments submitted after the due date/time and before 9:00 AM the next day.
- Twenty percentage points will be deducted for assignments submitted after 9:00 AM the morning after the due date and will be accepted for 2 days.
- If the assignment is not submitted by the start of the next class meeting, the student will receive a '0.'
- If you are absent on the date the assignment is due (or on a date on an in-class assignment) and your absence is documented by the Student Affairs, you will have 2 days from the last documented approved absence to submit the assignment without penalty. Late penalties will be adjusted to reflect the 2 day extension.

As an example:

Assignment is due at 11:59 pm on Tuesday January 1

If assignment is turned in between 12:00 am and 9:00 am on January 2nd, 10 percentage points will be deducted

If assignment is turned in between 9:00 am on January 2nd and 11:59 pm on January 4th, 20 percentage points will be deducted.

If assignment is turned in past 11:59 pm on January 4th, it will not be accepted.

If there is a documented absence on the due date, a two day extension for an on-time assignment will be given.

Deadlines are set and will not be moved. There will be no exceptions unless accompanied by a documented absence. Please do not write your instructor before an assignment is due asking for an extension.

Classroom etiquette. Be respectful, punctual, prepared, and professional. Don't use your phones, surf the web, chat, sleep, etc. Feel free to read the Student Code of Conduct for guidelines on how to conduct oneself.

Miscellaneous:

When emailing your instructor, please be sure to include your course code and section in the subject line so that the email can be easily identified. If you do not receive a response within 1 business day please check that you have used the correct email address.

If readings and other items are posted on Blackboard (with a request for them to be completed for the next class), please complete them. Come to class prepared! You are expected to attend class, which means you are responsible for all material, announcements, and assignments given out during class.

Use of a notebook computer is only permitted for course-related work (and at your instructor's discretion). Notebook computers (laptops) CANNOT be used in class for note-taking unless specified by the disability center as a needed accommodation. If you are found to be taking advantage of this benefit (i.e. using Facebook, emailing) during times when the notebook is allowed, then the use of your notebook will be revoked for the remainder of that day's class. Following a second infraction, you may not use the notebook for the duration of the course. Use of cell phones and texting in class are not permitted.

No student should expect to receive:

- Special consideration for undocumented absences;
- Extensions on due dates, in the absence of a corresponding documented absence;
- Extra credit work to make up for poor performance on assigned work;
- Modification of grading policies to improve the student's grade;
- A change in grade to address concerns regarding:
 - Progression in the student's program;
 - Admission to an academic program;
 - Maintenance of student visa status; maintenance or improvement of scholarship status;
 - Expectations of the student of the student's family.

Repercussions for students behaving badly:

1. A student who violates the Code of Conduct, as designated in the MCPHS Student Handbook, will be referred to the Dean of Students Office. All cases will be handled as per the policies and procedures outline in the Handbook.
2. Depending on the severity of the altercation between a student and an instructor, the instructor may:
 - a. Ask Campus Security to remove the student from the classroom or office;
 - b. Ask the student to leave the classroom or office; report the incident to the Chair, the Dean of Arts & Sciences and the Dean of Students;
 - c. Ask the student to return when the student has calmed down

Academic Integrity Policy. The university's academic integrity policy can be found online at <http://www.fitchburgstate.edu/campus-life/student-services/office-of-student-conduct-mediationeducation/academic-integrity/>. Any form of cheating or plagiarism will not be tolerated. Evidence of cheating or plagiarism will be brought to the department chair. Violations of academic integrity may result in penalties including (but not limited to) loss of credit for an assignment, course failure, or expulsion from the university.

Disabilities Statement. Please inform the instructor as soon as possible if: you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability; you have emergency medical

information to share with the instructor; you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated; or need to share other related information.

Your Course Grade

Your course grade will be calculated using the FSU grading policy described below:

| FSU Grade | Letter Grade | 100 Point Grade |
|-----------|--------------|-----------------|
| 4.0 | A | 95-100 |
| 3.7 | A- | 92-94 |
| 3.5 | A-/B+ | 89-91 |
| 3.3 | B+ | 86-88 |
| 3.0 | B | 83-85 |
| 2.7 | B- | 80-82 |
| 2.5 | B-/C+ | 77-79 |
| 2.3 | C+ | 74-76 |
| 2.0 | C | 71-73 |
| 1.7 | C- | 69-70 |
| 1.5 | C-/D+ | 67-68 |
| 1.3 | D+ | 64-66 |
| 1.0 | D | 60-63 |
| 0 | F | 0-59 |

The instructor reserves the right to change the syllabus. Any changes will be announced in class. Any changes will be announced in class.

Course Plan

Note: you are not responsible for Chapter 6; course plan topic dates are subject to revision

| WEEK | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday |
|------|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | -Course & Syllabus Overview -Research Perspectives (chapter 1) | Research Methods (chapter 1) Basic Research Statistics (chapter 1) | Introduction to Brain & Neuron Structure/Function & Neurotransmitters (chapter 2) | Nervous/Endocrine Systems & Theories of Emotion (chapter 2) Brain Structure and Sleep Theories (Chapter 2) |
| 2 | Exam 1 (Chapters 1 and 2) | The 'Questions' & How the Eye Works (chapter 3) How the Ear Works & Perception (chapter 3) | Classical Conditioning (Chapter 4) Operant Conditioning (chapter 4) | Classical and Motivation & Biological/Cognitive Aspects of Learning (Chapter 4) Part I of Written Assignment is due |

| | | | | |
|---|------------------------------|---|--|---|
| 3 | Exam 2 (Chapters 3 and 4) | 3-Stage Model of Memory (chapter 5) Encoding & Retrieving Information from Memories (chapter 5) | Prenatal/Infant & Cognitive Development (chapter 7) | Moral & Social Development (chapter 7) Part II of Written Assignment is due |
| 4 | Exam 3 (chapters 5 & 7) | Diagnosis and Classification of Disorders (Chapter 10) DSM-V Criteria for different disorders (Chapter 10) Treatment of Mental Disorders (Chapter 10) | Psychoanalytic & Humanistic Theories of Personality Social-Cognitive & Trait Theories of Personality; Personality Assessment (chapter 8) | Conformity, Compliance, & Obedience (chapter 9) Part III of Written Assignment is due |
| 5 | Attributions (chapter 9) | Group Assignment Presentations | Group Assignment Presentations | Exam 4 (chapters 8-10) |