

PSYC 1301.01: INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY

Spring 2017

M/W/F 10:00-10:50AM

CHSS C090

Sam Houston State University

Department of Psychology and Philosophy

Instructor: Ellen Reinhard

Office: CHSS 322

Email: eer018@shsu.edu

Office Hours: 11-1 on Fridays, and by appointment.

Course Overview and Learning Objectives:

This course is designed to survey major themes and concepts in psychology. We will cover topics such as biological bases of behavior, the scientific method, personality theories, and social behavior. The overarching learning **objectives** are as follows:

1. To gain factual knowledge in the area of psychology (i.e., terminology, classifications, method, trends)
2. To develop a basic understanding of psychology as a science-based discipline
3. To learn fundamental principles of psychology (e.g., biological, personality, and social stances)
4. To develop critical thinking skills in order to assess differing theories and perspectives in psychology
5. To apply your obtained knowledge and skill set to everyday situations

Required Textbook:

Essentials of Psychology: Jeffrey S. Nevid (5th Edition)

ISBN: 9781337598170

MindTap:

MindTap is an interactive resource available through Cengage. You are NOT required to complete materials through MindTap, however, they may prove useful for studying. Once you have your student account set up, you will have access to a variety of interactive material online. For example, for each of your four exams (not including your cumulative final), you will have access to online learning module and quizzes to help you. You will be able to use these quizzes to test your knowledge on each chapter covered in class so that you are able to prepare for your exams and cumulative final more effectively.

Course Requirements/Assignments:

Readings: You are responsible for reading the assigned chapter *prior* to the assigned class. Further, you are responsible for all content in those chapters and additional assigned readings. Each chapter contains helpful summaries and review questions for your assistance, as does the online resource.

Attendance Policy: Regular and punctual attendance is expected for this course. *Attendance will be taken and a record of attendance will be kept.* You may miss 0-3 classes without penalty.

Note: You do *not* need to notify me if you will be missing a regular class period. I do not excuse absences.

Dropping the course: It is the student's responsibility to do the paperwork to drop the course. If the student stops attending class and does not officially drop the course he/she will receive an "F" for the course.

Exams: There will be **4 EXAMS AND 1 FINAL** (5 EXAMS TOTAL), with each non-final exam consisting of 50 multiple-choice questions. Each exam is worth a total of 100 points. The first four exams are *non-cumulative*. The final exam during finals week is cumulative (i.e., covers the entire course), and includes 100 multiple-choice questions. Thus, there are 500 total points possible in the course.

Note: All five of your exams (4 exams and the final) will require Scantron sheets. *YOU must provide these for yourself.*

Simply missing a test **does not** entitle you to take a make-up exam. You will receive a zero if you are absent for an exam.

Students will be granted the privilege of taking a makeup test in cases of serious illness, death in the family, or other serious obstacles, only when appropriate documentation is submitted and approved by the department. Also, you should notify me as soon as possible (preferably before the exam) in order to qualify for a make-up exam. **I am VERY strict about this.** If you know you will need to be absent on an exam day, you must notify me **2 weeks** before the scheduled exam. If you need to take a makeup exam, you will have ONE OPPORTUNITY to do so.

Research Requirement:

Participation in research or practicum experiences conducted by members of the Department of Psychology and Philosophy is a **requirement** of this class. You can satisfy this requirement by participating in research studies being conducted within the

department through the PeRP System. Many different projects scheduled at various times will be available to you, but you must complete **4 hours** of participation in these activities before the end of the semester.

I highly suggest completing this requirement as early as possible as students tend to forget and then struggle to find openings at the end of the semester!

Not fulfilling the experiential component of this course will result in a grade of “Incomplete” in this course. Incomplete grades are governed by University policies. You will need to complete the course requirements by the close of the following semester in order to receive a grade of A, B, C, or D for the course; if you do not complete the course by then, your incomplete grade will become a failing grade.

Please Note: You must be at least 18 years of age to participate in the research requirements; if you are not yet 18 years of age, please email me AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Dr. Christopher Wilson, the Department Chair, will need your parents to sign consent for you to participate in research.

More details about this requirement can be found at the departmental website:

http://www.shsu.edu/~psy_web/ResearchParticipation.html. Please read the guidelines for this requirement carefully.

To set up your Psychology Research Participation (PeRP) account:

- Go to shsu.sona-systems.com
- Click the orange button on the right that says “Request Account”
- Fill out the information and be sure to **write down your user name and password**, and to select the **correct class section** (PSYC 1301-01). *****Make sure you choose the correct section; otherwise, you will create an account under another instructor and not get credit from me.** We are PSYC 1301 Section 01.***
- Click “Request Account”
- You should receive an email confirmation shortly after that says you have created an account.
- Then you can log in to the system and click “all studies” to see available studies and time slots.
- If you are having any issues with the PeRP system, please contact Dr. Anastasi at JSA001@SHSU.EDU

Important Information about PeRP

- If you sign up for a research study and do not show up you will be deducted PeRP points. This means, if you need 4 points for the class, sign up and no-show to a 2-point study, you will have -2 PeRP points and will have to now complete 6 PeRP points to receive a grade in the class.
- I am not the person who assigns your PeRP points when you complete a study. The researchers/graduate students responsible for that study will grant you your points. If you feel that you were not granted points for a study or activity that you participated in, contact the researcher.
- You need to make an effort to get your PeRP points early in the semester. If you wait until the end, studies may no longer be available and you may not have any convenient chances (or any chances at all) to get your points.

Extra Credit: Each student will have the opportunity to obtain a **maximum** of 15 extra credit points through participation in extra PeRP studies (in addition to the 4 hrs. that are required), test study review sessions and additional opportunities.

- **PeRP:** Each additional hour that you complete of PeRP is equal to one extra credit point.
Note: The **maximum** number of points one student can receive is 15. This means that even if you complete 20 extra hours of PeRP credits, you will still only receive 15 points, so plan accordingly.
- **Test Study Review Sessions:** There will be at least one, potentially more, test review games and each member on the winning team will receive 3 extra credit points.

Calculate Your Grade:

Exam 1 grade = ___/100

Exam 2 grade = ___/100

Exam 3 grade = ___/100

Exam 4 grade = ___/100

Final Exam grade = ___/100

Extra Credit = ___/15

Final percentage grade = Your total points earned plus extra credit points divided by 500 (total points possible)

Example = 453 (Total Points Earned) + 5 (Extra Credit Points) = (458/500 = .916) X 100 = 91.6%

Grading Scale: The final course grade rubric is as follows:

A = 89.6-100%

B = 79.6-89.5%

C = 69.6-79.5%

D = 59.6-69.5%

F = Less than 59.5%

Note: The Psychology Department does not accept grades lower than a “C” for Psychology majors.

Instructor evaluations: Students will be asked to complete a course/instructor evaluation form toward the end of the semester.

Visitors: If you wish to have a visitor observe class, you must clear them with me at least a one week in advance.

Classroom Etiquette:

1. **Please turn off (silence) all cell phones!** If you use your phone in class, you will be asked to leave for the remainder of the class period.
2. **Be on time.** Punctuality is important in the real world, and people walking in late distracts the class from the lecture material.
3. **No side conversation.** Please be respectful of those around you and keep conversations to class discussions and course material.
4. **Please be respectful toward classmates and myself.** While I am generally laidback and informal, I do take discrimination and disrespect seriously. Please keep this in mind when expressing opinions pertaining to course discussion.
5. **E-mail guidelines.** I welcome your e-mails, so please feel free to send me any content-related questions you may have at any time. Please observe the following guidelines:
 - a. I try my best to return emails quickly, but do not email me right before class and expect a quick response. Responding to class emails may also diminish after 5pm or on weekends.
 - b. Consult the course syllabus before contacting me.
6. **Laptops...** I will allow students to take notes on their computers as long as it does not become a problem. As soon as I begin to feel that the computers are becoming a distraction, the entire class will lose the privilege of computers in class. *You are responsible for your own learning.* I recommend handwriting notes if using a computer in class will become too much of a temptation.

Office Hours: Office hours are on Fridays from 11:00am to 1:00pm, or by appointment. I not only welcome you to stop by, but encourage it as well! I ask that you *please send me an email ahead of time* if you plan on coming by in case there are any conflicts. Additionally, I understand these times may conflict with your schedule and will work with you to make an appointment for a time that works for both of us, if necessary.

Academic Dishonesty/Religious Days/Disabilities Policy:

Visit <http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/>

Changes in Schedule:

This schedule will serve as an outline. I reserve the right to make changes as needed; however, I will notify you as far in advance as possible should changes be necessary.

Meeting Date	Lecture Topic/Description	Readings Due
W – 1/17	Introduction to the Course	Syllabus
F – 1/19	The Science of Psychology	Chapter 1
M – 1/22	The Science of Psychology	Chapter 1
W – 1/24	The Science of Psychology	Chapter 1
F – 1/26	Biological Foundations of Behavior	Chapter 2
M – 1/29	Biological Foundations of Behavior	Chapter 2
W – 1/31	Biological Foundations of Behavior	Chapter 2

F – 2/02	Biological Foundations of Behavior	Chapter 2
M – 2/05	Sensation and Perception	Chapter 3
W – 2/07	Sensation and Perception	Chapter 3
F – 2/09	Sensation and Perception	Chapter 3
M – 2/12	EXAM 1: Chapters 1, 2 and 3	Bring a Scantron!
W – 2/14	Learning	Chapter 5
F – 2/16	Learning	Chapter 5
M – 2/19	Learning	Chapter 5
W – 2/21	Memory	Chapter 6
F – 2/23	Memory	Chapter 6
M – 2/26	Memory	Chapter 6
W – 2/28	Motivation and Emotion	Chapter 8
F – 3/02	Motivation and Emotion	Chapter 8
M – 3/05	Motivation and Emotion	Chapter 8
W – 3/07	Motivation and Emotion	Chapter 8
F – 3/09	NO CLASS	
M – 3/12-3/16	SPRING BREAK	
M – 3/19	EXAM 2: Chapters 5, 6, and 8	Bring a Scantron!
W – 3/21	Human Development	Chapter 9
F – 3/23	Human Development	Chapter 9
M – 3/26	Human Development	Chapter 9
W – 3/28	Personality	Chapter 11
F – 3/30	GOOD FRIDAY	
M – 4/02	Personality	Chapter 11
W – 4/04	Social Psychology	Chapter 12
F – 4/06	Social Psychology	Chapter 12
M – 4/09	Social Psychology	Chapter 12
W – 4/11	EXAM 3: Chapters 9, 11 and 12	Bring a Scantron!
F – 4/13	Psychological Disorders	Chapter 13
M – 4/16	Psychological Disorders	Chapter 13
W – 4/18	Psychological Disorders	Chapter 13

F – 4/20	Methods of Therapy	Chapter 14
M – 4/23	Methods of Therapy	Chapter 14
W – 4/25	Methods of Therapy	Chapter 14
F – 4/27	EXAM 4: Chapters 13 and 14	Bring a Scantron!
M – 4/30	Final Exam Review	
W – 5/02	Final Exam Review	
F – 5/04	Final Exam Review	
M – 5/07	FINAL EXAM (ALL CHAPTERS) 10:30am-12:30pm	Bring a Scantron!