

**INTRODUCTORY PSYCHOLOGY (PSYC 1010-21432)**  
**WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**FALL 2009**  
**MWF 9:30 – 10:20 A.M.**  
**SS 394**

<b>PROFESSOR</b>	Dr. Leigh Shaw	<b>OFFICE HOURS</b>	MWF 9-9:30; TR 11:45-12:15; by appt.
<b>OFFICE</b>	SS 362	<b>EMAIL</b>	<a href="mailto:lshaw@weber.edu">lshaw@weber.edu</a>
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**SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTOR** David Webb ([davidwebb@mail.weber.edu](mailto:davidwebb@mail.weber.edu))

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION AND GOALS**

Through lectures, discussions, and films, this course will introduce you to the diverse field of psychology. Topics will include the history of psychology, research methods and ethics, neuroscience, sensation and perception, learning, memory, intelligence, personality, developmental, social, and abnormal psychology.

The primary goals of this course are 1) to foster your ability to think critically about human behavior and mental processes, 2) to present the major psychological theories (i.e., their different questions, assumptions, and ways of understanding human nature), and 3) to illustrate how psychological processes operate in everyday life. This course will be challenging and stimulating. Because the field of psychology grows through questioning and critical examination, you are encouraged to question prevailing assumptions and to pose thoughtful questions about psychological perspectives on human behavior and mental processes.

### **REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS**

- 1) Your textbook is *Exploring Psychology* (7<sup>th</sup> ed.) by Myers (2007, New York: Worth). You also need access to PsychPortal, an online learning space that integrates a fully interactive eBook that you can personalize with highlighting and note-taking tools, as well as animations, tutorials, diagnostic quizzing and many other study aids. PsychPortal access will enable you to complete the required chapter activities and extra credit quizzing, and to use its many study aids to enhance your learning. Thus, you must purchase either:
  - (a) a non-returnable package of the loose-leaf textbook with a PsychPortal Access Card (ISBN 978-1-4292-4848-8) at the WSU bookstore for \$69.20, or
  - (b) the PsychPortal Access Card to use the fully interactive eBook directly from the publisher for \$45.95 ([https://purchase.bfwpub.com/purchase/transaction/transaction.php?productId=exploring7e\\_p](https://purchase.bfwpub.com/purchase/transaction/transaction.php?productId=exploring7e_p)).
 Basically, you need to decide if you want to have a “hard copy” of the textbook for an additional ~\$23 or if you want to rely solely on the eBook.

Once you have your PsychPortal Access Card, please follow the instructions below:

- a) Point your browsers to <http://courses.bfwpub.com/exploring7e> (Mac users will need to use Firefox).
- b) Click on the link "REGISTER AN ACTIVATION CODE."
- c) You will be prompted to follow the on-screen instructions to find your course. You will start by selecting the school's state/province, the school name, then your instructor, course, and/or section.
- d) You will enter the activation code (found in your Access Card). You will also be asked to enter your email address, choose a password (write it down somewhere safe) and you will be ready to go!

If you have any trouble during the registration process, please call **1-800-936-6899** or email us at **techsupport@bfwpub.com**

- 3) Internet access for online course requirements and enhancements
- 4) #2 Pencils and 50¢ for taking exams (10¢ for each scantron to be purchased at Testing Center)
- 5) A desire to learn and enjoy the class!

## SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTION

- Because introductory-level courses are typically difficult, I have a supplemental instructor (SI) to help you succeed in this course. David Webb is a well-trained SI leader who took this course from me and earned an A. In addition, David has served as SI for this course twice before and students who attended SI sessions typically outperformed students who did not by 10-20% on homework and exams! David knows the course content and is prepared to share with you what he has learned about how to study effectively for this course. David will attend class with you every day, hearing what you hear and reading what you read.
- As your SI leader, David will conduct weekly review sessions that will provide you the opportunity to get together with your peers to compare notes, to discuss important concepts, to develop strategies for studying the subject, and to test yourselves before I do, so that when I do, you'll be ready! His goals, and mine, are to keep you in class and help you improve your grade.
- At each review session, David will guide you through course concepts with activities and discussion. He will not lecture for you, he will not give you his class notes, he will not do your homework for you, and he will not think for you! David will help you make good use of your study time and he will share with you the strategies that he used to be successful in this course.

## GRADING

<b>Exams</b>	<b>= 330 points (~61% of total)</b> <i>#1-4 @ 60 points; #5 @ 90 points</i>
<b>Homework</b>	<b>= 110 points (~20% of total)</b> <i>#1-4 @ 20 points; #5 @ 30 points</i>
<b>Chapter Activities</b>	<b>= 50 points (~9% of total)</b> <i>10 activities @ 5 points</i>
<b>Research Participation</b>	<b>= 50 points (~9% of total)</b> <i>8 research credits @ 6.25 points</i>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>= 540 points</b>

Final grades will be assigned based on the percent of total points earned, as follows:

<b>A</b> (100-93%)	<b>B-</b> (82-80%)	<b>D+</b> (69-67%)
<b>A-</b> (92-90%)	<b>C+</b> (79-77%)	<b>D</b> (66-63%)
<b>B+</b> (89-87%)	<b>C</b> (76-73%)	<b>D-</b> (62-60%)
<b>B</b> (86-83%)	<b>C-</b> (72-70%)	<b>E</b> (59-0%)

## EXAMS

- You will take 5 non-comprehensive exams, each covering about 1/5 of course material - including lectures, discussions, videos, and assigned textbook chapters. Exams consist of multiple-choice questions. Exams are "closed-book" and "closed-notes". Exams 1-4 have 40 items, each worth 1.5 points for 60 total points; Exam 5 has 60 items, each worth 1.5 points for 90 total points.
  - Exams are given in the Social Sciences Testing Center (SS 036, basement of the Social Sciences building). To take an exam, you must show up with a photo ID on the correct date (see Course Schedule) at the appropriate times. You will not be allowed to take an exam without a photo ID or if you show up after hours (tests will be issued until the closing time listed; you may remain for one hour after that time to complete your exam).
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|-------------------|-------------------|
| Monday – Thursday | 7:30 AM – 8:00 PM |
| Friday            | 7:30 AM – 4:30 PM |
| Saturday          | 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM |

- It is your responsibility to take the exam during the period it is administered at the Social Sciences Testing Center. If you have a conflict with the exam schedule, you may take an exam *early* at no penalty. In this case, please discuss your conflict with me so that we can make arrangements for you to take the exam early. If for whatever reason, you fail to take an exam during the exam period, you may take the exam within 2 days of the close-date at a 20% penalty. If the exam is not taken during the late period, you will earn a 0 for the exam. You must consult with me before taking a late exam with penalty, and late exams are administered at my discretion.
  - EXAM REVIEW SHEETS will be available online one week before the exam period.
  - IMPORTANT: You are responsible for *all* materials in the assigned readings even if they are not discussed in class, and you are responsible for anything discussed in class even if it is not covered in the readings. If you miss a class period, I strongly advise you to get the notes from another student. Use this space to write the contact information of another student should you miss a class period.
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### EXAM ITEM REVIEWS

- My goal is to help you learn the course material and foster your ability to think like a scientific psychologist. To this end, it is important for you to reflect on and learn from your mistakes. If you choose to truly learn the material on each exam and you seek to improve your exam score, you may do the following:
  - 1) Take blank paper, a pen, and your Exam Score Output to the SS Testing Center. On the top of the page, write your name and course reference number.
  - 2) Check out a copy of the exam, sit in the Testing Center, and review the items you missed.
  - 3) For each missed item, you must write down the **item #**, the **correct response** (*figure it out – you may use your notes and text!*), and a **2-3 sentence explanation of why you chose one of the incorrect responses**. BE HONEST! Perhaps you read the question too quickly, you misread the question, you didn't study that concept, you didn't read the textbook, you misunderstood the concept, you second-guessed yourself, and/or you just spaced out! This is an opportunity for you and for me to learn from your mistakes!
- Item reviews are due **by NOON** on the due date (see Course Schedule). Early reviews are encouraged; late reviews will not be accepted. Reviews that do not include the required elements will not be considered. Due to testing center policy and final grade deadlines, item reviews can be completed only for exams 1, 2, 3, & 4.
- You may earn **0.50%** for each missed item that you review.
- I strongly advise you to take this opportunity to make the most of what may have been a personally disappointing performance on any given exam. I believe in your ability to succeed in this course and I am willing to help you do so.

### HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS

- You will complete 5 homework assignments, each covering 2-3 module topics. Homework consist of a variety of questions (e.g., multiple-choice, matching, true-false) about the assigned chapters, lectures, and discussions.
- You will download and submit your homework assignments online via Vista. Homework assignments are due **by NOON** on the specified due date (see Course Schedule). You may turn in your homework assignments at any point during the semester up to the due date. No late homework assignments will be accepted, so schedule your time wisely! I strongly suggest you turn in your homework well in advance of the due date, just in case you have any problems with computer connections. *Ignorance is not an excuse*; it is your responsibility to download, print, complete, and submit homework assignments online and on time.
- Please read the “How to complete and submit your homework!” handout for more information.

## CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

- You will complete 10 activities, one for each of the 10 assigned chapters, in PsychPortal. Activities will be varied and consist of, for example, watching a brief video or completing a simulation and then answering a short quiz. Activities will be graded for completion and accuracy. Each activity is worth 5 points; thus, the 10 chapter activities are worth a total of 50 points (~9% of final grade).
- You will complete and submit your chapter activities online via PsychPortal **by NOON** on the specified due date (see Course Schedule). Homework assignments and chapter activities are due at the same time. Similarly, you may turn in your chapter activities at any point during the semester up to the due date. No late chapter activities will be accepted, so schedule your time wisely! I strongly suggest you turn in your activities well in advance of the due date, just in case you have any problems with computer connections. *Ignorance is not an excuse*; it is your responsibility to submit chapter activities online and on time.

## RESEARCH PARTICIPATION CREDITS

- An important part of taking an introduction to psychology course is to understand how knowledge is psychology is acquired. Therefore, 9% of your final grade will be based on research participation. You will need to complete 8 research credits (each research credit = 15 minutes of participation) to receive the full 9%. Research participation or its alternatives must be completed and all research participation receipts turned into Dr. Shaw no later than **NOON on Wednesday, November 25<sup>th</sup>**.
- Read the “Research Participation Requirement” handout for more information.

## EXTRA CREDIT: PSYCHPORTAL DIAGNOSTIC QUIZZING

- PsychPortal’s Diagnostic Quizzing will help you pinpoint the concepts with which you are having difficulty in each chapter. You may take pre-lecture quizzes to see how well you understand material before coming to class and mastery quizzes to gauge your understanding of what you have learned. Quizzes are randomized and timed and the results direct you to reading sections, interactive activities, and other resources to help you focus study time on the important concepts you need to master. Quiz results are stored in your Personalized Study Plan.
- In addition to fostering your knowledge of course concepts, you will accrue extra points as you complete the pre-lecture and mastery quizzes for each of the 10 assigned chapters. For the assigned chapter(s), you may submit the pre-lecture and mastery quizzes according to the following schedule (*note the final due date and time are the same as the relevant chapter activities and homework*):
  - CH 1: 8/24 - 9/11 by NOON
  - CH 2 & 5: 9/12 - 9/30 by NOON
  - CH 7 & 8: 10/1 - 10/21 by NOON
  - CH 11 & 12: 10/22 - 11/6 by NOON
  - CH 4, 15, 13: 11/7 - 12/4 by NOON
- Each pre-lecture and mastery quiz completed on-time will earn 1 point. Thus, you may earn up to 20 extra points (+3.7%) with this activity. Partial or late completion of quizzes will give you no extra-credit points. Extra-credit points will be counted in your final grade only if you take each of the 5 exams, complete at least 4 of the 5 homework assignments and 8 of the 10 chapter activities.

## VISTA ENHANCEMENT

- This course is Vista-enhanced. To access the course website, go to <http://online.weber.edu>. Log-in with your Wildcat username and password. From the “My WSU Online” tab, click on “PSYC 1010”. Once you are on the course homepage, click on “Start Here”, to ensure that your computer has the proper “Software Downloads”, to view the e-copy of the syllabus, and to review “How to Contact Your Professor”.

- What is available on the course website? You will be able to access the course syllabus with course schedule, PowerPoint presentations and handouts to aid in note taking, homework assignments, exam review guides, website links relevant to course material, and the website that accompanies your textbook. Also, you will be able to stay up-to-date with course announcements (“*Announcements*”), your course grades (“*My Grades*”), and, if you choose, to contact your professor and peers via email.
- The material available online is provided as a courtesy to facilitate note taking and comprehension of course material – it is NOT a substitute for attending class. You will be provided with important information in class that is not sufficiently elaborated in the Power Points, is not provided in your text, and is critical to your success in this class. I strongly advise you to bring to class the relevant handouts so that you may elaborate them with in-class information.
- For assistance with Vista issues, email [wsuonline@weber.edu](mailto:wsuonline@weber.edu) or call 626-6499 (the phone is staffed Mon-Thurs, 8am–9pm & Fridays, 8–4:30pm; leave a message for a return call during non-business hours). For assistance with usernames and/or passwords, call (626-7777) or email ([csupport@weber.edu](mailto:csupport@weber.edu)) the Help Desk.

## ATTENDANCE

I do not take daily attendance; you are responsible to decide the level at which you will be engaged in this course. In my experience, attendance is positively related to course success.

## EXCUSED ABSENCES FOR UNIVERSITY-RECOGNIZED ACTIVITIES

Students who will be absent while representing the University in officially recognized University activities (e.g., sports, band, professional conferences) must notify the instructor ten days prior to absence. Students will be permitted to make up both assignments and examinations in consultation with their instructors

## DROPPING THE COURSE

You may completely withdraw from the semester at any time. The last day to withdraw from any individual class is Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> (see Catalog for details and instructions).

## CLASS CONDUCT AND COURTESY

- Please be courteous of others when arriving late or leaving early from class. Students have the right to a course that is relatively free of any unnecessary distractions that could impair their participation in the course. If you anticipate being late for class or leaving early from class on a regular basis, see me immediately to explain the reasons for your tardiness or early departures. You also should plan to sit in an area of the classroom that will lead to the least amount of class disruption when you arrive or leave.
- Refrain from engaging in disruptive behavior (e.g., lecture-irrelevant conversations with peers) during class. You will be warned to stop your behavior. If such disruptive behavior continues, you will be asked to leave the classroom. A petition will be submitted to the Dean’s office to drop you from the class roster after the second dismissal from class. If you are dropped from the roster, you may receive a grade of “E”.
- You are expected to deactivate all electronic devices during class. No music players or portable headsets may be worn during class. If you disrupt the class with your electronic devices, you may be asked to leave the classroom. Audio recorders are permitted in lecture.
- No adult or child visitors are allowed in class without prior permission.
- Refer to <http://documents.weber.edu/ppm/6-22.htm> for a description of student rights and responsibilities.

## REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act [ADA], any student requiring accommodations or services due to a disability must contact Services for Students with Disability (SSD) in room 181 of the Student Service Center. SSD can also arrange to provide course materials (including this syllabus) in alternative formats, if necessary. Furthermore, I wish to offer any qualified student with a disability the opportunity to meet with me privately to discuss receiving reasonable accommodation. Such accommodation will be afforded based on the specific disability and as agreed in writing. This statement in no way asks that students identify themselves as having a disability; however, a request for reasonable accommodation can be granted if a student makes his or her disability known. Please refer to the following web site for the Services for Students with Disabilities Handbook: [http://departments.weber.edu/ssd/handbook/hb\\_07.htm](http://departments.weber.edu/ssd/handbook/hb_07.htm)

## PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING

All work submitted in this course must be your own and be written exclusively for this course. The use of sources (ideas, quotations, paraphrases), even in oral presentations, must be properly documented. “Plagiarism” means the intentional unacknowledged use or incorporation of any other person’s work in, or as a basis for, one’s own work offered for academic consideration or credit or for public presentation. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, representing as one’s own, without attribution, any other individual’s words, phrasing, ideas, sequence of ideas, information or any other mode or content of expression.

For example, you are engaging in plagiarism if you:

- 1) turn in the work of another person as your own;
- 2) “cut & paste” material into your paper/talk, fail to quote or paraphrase the material, and fail to cite the source;
- 3) paraphrase an author’s idea(s) and fail to cite the source;
- 4) only change around or delete a few words from the source, *whether or not* you cite the source;
- 5) use an author’s exact words and fail to put the material in quotes *whether or not* you cite the source;
- 6) use an author’s exact words in quotations but fail to cite the source of that information.

### Frequently Asked Questions about Plagiarism, Quotations and Paraphrasing

#### *How can I avoid plagiarism?*

You must give credit to the original source whenever you use another person’s ideas, concepts, or theories, whenever you use another person’s facts, statistics, graphs, or drawings that are not common knowledge (e.g., The Declaration of Independence was signed on July, 4th 1776), whenever you use another person’s actual spoken or written words, and whenever you paraphrase another person’s spoken or written words.

#### *When should I quote material?*

You must use quotation marks and an APA-style citation when you use another writer’s exact words, even if a short phrase. It must be clear to your audience which words are your own and which words are another writer’s.

#### *How do I quote material?*

For direct quotations, you must enclose the quoted material in quotation marks AND include an APA-style citation, with the author, year, and page number in parentheses at the end of the quote. Consider this example:

Contrary to Plato and Descartes who assumed that knowledge is innate or inborn, Locke proposed that “the mind at birth is a blank slate—a “white paper”—on which experience writes” (Myers, 2005, p. 3). This notion helped lay the foundation for empiricism, or “the view that knowledge originates in experience and that science should, therefore, rely on observation and experimentation” (Myers, 2005, p. 4).

#### *What is paraphrasing, and how do I do it right?*

Paraphrasing is rewriting another writer’s ideas in your own words. Acceptable paraphrasing accurately relays the information presented in the source, uses your own words (not the words of the source author), and lets your reader know the source of your information. When paraphrasing, you must **rewrite** the original language, **change** the original sentence structure, and include an APA-style **citation**. Unacceptable paraphrasing is plagiarism because it you are only changing around/deleting/adding a few words or phrases, changing the order of sentences from the source material, and/or failing to cite the source for any ideas or facts.

*Ignorance is not an excuse*; understanding and avoiding plagiarism is your responsibility. Please ask me if you have questions about how to properly cite sources. Also, use the resources available on WebCT regarding writing style and avoiding plagiarism. Although it may not seem to be “a big deal” and it often occurs because of carelessness rather than maliciousness, plagiarism is an act of stealing (another person’s ideas) and an act of lying (passing another person’s ideas off as your own). Plagiarism or cheating is an act of academic dishonesty and a violation of University Standards and the Student Code of Conduct. It will result in a grade of zero for the assignment. It may further result in failure of the course and a hearing before the Dean of Students; therefore, it could have serious implications for your academic career (e.g., academic probation, suspension, or expulsion). Refer to <http://documents.weber.edu/ppm/6-22.htm> for the WSU Student Code.

## **FINAL POINT**

This syllabus is our contract: it details your obligations to me, and mine to you. If there are any issues with it, bring them up as soon as they come to your attention. Announcements made in class or online “count” just as much as policies outlined in this document. The course schedule may change, and it is your duty to attend class to learn about the changes. Exam dates rarely change; however, material covered on an exam may change.

**COURSE SCHEDULE**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Chapter</b>	<b>Assignments (due by NOON)</b>
1	8/24	Expectations!		
	8/26	Course Overview		
	8/28	History of Psychology	1	
2	8/31	History of Psychology		
	9/2	How to Think like a Psychologist		
	9/4	Thinking Critically...	Appendix A, C	
3	9/7	<b>NO CLASS: Labor Day</b>		
	9/9	Thinking Critically ...		
	9/11	Thinking Critically ...		<i>HW #1, Ch 1 Activity &amp; Extra Credit</i>
	<b>9/11-15</b>	<b>EXAM 1</b>		
4	9/14	<b>NO CLASS: Exam 1</b>		
	9/16	Neuroscience and Behavior	2	
	9/18	Neuroscience and Behavior		
5	9/21	Neuroscience and Behavior		<i>EX 1 Reviews</i>
	9/23	Neuroscience and Behavior		
	9/25	Sensation and Perception	5	
6	9/28	Sensation and Perception		
	9/30	Sensation and Perception		<i>HW #2, Ch 2 &amp; 5 Activities &amp; Extra Credit</i>
	10/2	<b>NO CLASS: Exam 2</b>		
	<b>9/30-10/3</b>	<b>EXAM 2</b>		
7	10/5	Learning	7	
	10/7	Learning		
	10/9	Learning		
8	10/12	Memory	8	<i>EX 2 Reviews</i>
	10/14	Memory		
	10/16	<b>NO CLASS: Fall Break</b>		
9	10/19	Memory		
	10/21	Memory		<i>HW #3, Ch 7 &amp; 8 Activities &amp; Extra Credit</i>
	10/23	<b>NO CLASS: Exam 3</b>		
	<b>10/21-24</b>	<b>EXAM 3</b>		
10	10/26	Emotions, Stress, & Health	11	
	10/28	Emotions, Stress, & Health		
	10/30	Emotions, Stress, & Health		<i>EX 3 Reviews</i>
11	11/2	Personality	12	
	11/4	Personality		
	11/6	Personality		<i>HW #4, Ch 11 &amp; 12 Activities &amp; Ex. Credit</i>
	<b>11/6-10</b>	<b>EXAM 4</b>		
12	11/9	<b>NO CLASS: Exam 4</b>		
	11/11	Development	4	
	11/13	Development		
13	11/16	Development		
	11/18	Social Psychology	15	<i>EX 4 Reviews</i>
	11/20	Social Psychology		
14	11/23	Social Psychology		
	11/25	Psychological Disorders	13	<i>Research Credits</i>
	11/27	<b>NO CLASS: Thanksgiving</b>		
15	11/30	Psychological Disorders		
	12/2	Psychological Disorders		
	12/4	Psychological Disorders		<i>HW #5, Ch 4, 15, 13 Activities &amp; Ex. Credit</i>
	<b>12/4-8</b>	<b>EXAM 5</b>		