

Introductory Psychology

Instructor: Todd C. Baird, Ph.D. **Contact:** Office - (626-7724) Cell - (920-4215)
Email- (tbaird@weber.edu) **Course Website:** <http://faculty.weber.edu/tbaird>
Office Hrs: M,W, F (9:00-10:00 a.m.) T, TH (11:15-12:00) or by appointment

Required Text: Wade, Carole & Tavris, Carol (2007). Psychology (9th Ed.), Upper Saddle River, New Jersey, Prentice Hall.

Aspects of the syllabus are subject to change. These will be announced in class if they occur.

Course Objectives:

1. Learn the basic theories associated with the science of psychology.
2. Gain an understanding of how psychologists have sought to better understand the human condition.
3. Think critically. Explore ideas while recognizing scientifically based information as opposed to folk psychology beliefs.
4. Apply psychological theories to basic problems within our environment.

Requirements:

1. Class Attendance and Participation.

Attendance will be taken at random during five class periods over the course of the semester. Each attendance will be worth 10 points. A roll will be passed out in class and you will be asked to mark your attendance.

Each individual is invited and encouraged to participate in class discussions. Please do not either remain disconnected from discussions or monopolize class time. In order for you to participate and contribute effectively, please come to each lecture having read the associated materials in the text. You should come to class with at least one question about the material.

Mutual respect for each other is expected. With the advances in technology some students have spent class time on their laptops playing games or using their cell phone to text-message their friends. I have zero tolerance for this behavior and will invite you to leave the class should I observe any occurrence. Please turn off your phones as you come into class. If you have employment that requires you to be on-call please inform me of this so accommodations can be made. If a student continues to disrupt or disrespect others in the class he/she will be asked to withdraw from the course.

For issues related to student rights and responsibilities see the Student Rights and Responsibilities section on the Weber State University website <http://documents.weber.edu/ppm/6-22.htm>.

Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) is located in room 181 of the Student Service Center. Any student requiring accommodations for this

course must contact SSD. The following link will provide you with contact information <http://weber.edu/ssd>.

2. **Research Participation.** An important part of taking an introduction to psychology class is to understand and experience how knowledge in psychology is acquired. Therefore, part of your grade will be based on research participation. You will need to complete 8 research credits. More detailed and specific information is contained in the research participation link associated with this course. Each credit is worth 10 points. Research participation must be completed one week *Before* the last day of class for the semester.

3. **Examinations.** The exams will be available in the Social Science Testing Center, Lampros Hall Testing Center, Ogden- West Testing Center and Davis Campus Testing Center. The calendar (below) provides you with the dates of the exams. You will note that each exam is open for 3 days. Do not wait until the last day to take the exam. Do not ask for an extension unless you can validate an emergency, death of a loved one, or a similar event in your life. If you plan on being away on school or personal business during an exam you must arrange with me to take the exam prior to your departure You are responsible for checking the hours of operation of the testing center for each exam date as they may vary. You may check the hours of operation by going to (<http://weber.edu/testingcenter.xml>). The exams consist of 50-70 multiple-choice questions. The majority of questions will be drawn from the text with the remaining coming from class lectures. The final exam is not comprehensive.

Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated. If you are involved in either of these behaviors you will be referred to appropriate Weber State University authorities. As a *minimal* consequence, you will receive 0 points on that assignment or exam. For more information on student ethics please go to <http://documents.weber.edu/ppm16-22.htm>.

Grading: Your grade will be based on a percentage of all points possible. The total points possible and grade assignments will be as follows:

Exam #1:	50 Points
Exam #2:	100 Points
Exam #3:	100 Points
Exam #4:	100 Points
Exam #5:	100 Points
Attend:	50 Points
<u>Research:</u>	<u>80 Points</u>
Total =	580 Points

To calculate your grade use the following formula:

$$\text{Percentage} = (\text{your total points}) / (\text{total points possible}) \times 100$$

94-100 % = A	73-76% = C
90-93 % = A-	70-72% = C-
87-89 % = B+	67-69% = D+
83-86 % = B	63-66% = D
80-82 % = B-	60-62% = D-
77-79 % = C+	Below 59 % = F

Class Schedule. The dates below indicate the day we will begin each topic. For example, January 14th we will begin discussing “How Psychologists do Research”. We will discuss this topic until January 21st and then on January 23rd we will begin discussing “The Brain”. The assigned readings are indicated. Please read the chapters in advance.

Class Schedule	Topic of Discussion	Readings
January 6 th	Intro to Class / What is Psychology?	Chpt 1
January 13 th	How Psychologists do Research	Chpt 2
Jan 21-23	Take Exam #1 Testing Center (50 points)	
January 20 th	The Brain: Source of Mind and Self	Chpt 4
January 27 th	Body Rhythms and Mental States	Chpt 5
February 3 rd	Sensation and Perception	Chpt 6
Feb 12-14	Take Exam #2 Testing Center (100 points)	
February 17 th	Learning and Conditioning	Chpt 7
February 24 th	Behavior in Social and Cultural Context	Chpt 8
March 3 rd	Motivation	Chpt 12
Mar 16-18	Take Exam #3 in Testing Center (100 points)	
March 17 th	Theories of Personality	Chpt 13
March 24 th	Psychological Disorders	Chpt 16
March 31 st	Approaches to Treatment and Therapy	Chpt 17
April 9-11	Take Exam # 4 in Testing Center (100 points)	
April 7 th	Health, Stress, and Coping	Chpt 15
April 14 th	Memory (pages 363-389)	Chpt 10
April 21 st	Development over the Life Span (pages 521-539)	Chpt 14
April 25-29	Take Exam #5 in Testing Center (100 points)	