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**Psychology 1010: Introductory Psychology**  
**Spring 2010**

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**Professor:** Dr. Aaron Ashley

**Office:** SS 360

**Email:** AaronAshley@weber.edu

Please note: This email address is the best way to contact me. You should, however, only your Weber State email account to contact me, because the Weber State mail system is likely to quarantine your email, and I will probably not open email from or respond to non-Weber State email accounts.

I typically respond to email in the morning. This tactic keeps me from responding to email all day. I will certainly respond to your emails during office hours, but outside of those times it will most likely be the following morning.

If you have questions about any aspect of the course, please don't hesitate to contact me.

**Phone:** (801) 626-8743

**Text:** Myers, D. G. (2007). *Exploring Psychology 7<sup>th</sup> Ed.* NY: Worth

Myers, D. G. (2007). *Psychology Reader to accompany INTRODUCTORY PSYCHOLOGY TEXTS* by David G. Myers. NY: Worth

**Course Description and Goal:** This course will be an introduction to the scientific discipline of psychology. The goal of this course is to present a broad overview of (a) the goals and methods of science and how psychology fits within this framework (b) the important phenomena and concepts in psychology, (c) the types of data that relate to these phenomena and concepts, and (d) the basic experimental procedures commonly used in the study of psychological phenomena. In addition, students should learn the important conceptual issues associated with the various topics covered, and how the existing body of research data relates to these conceptual issues. Attention will be given to practical applications of the material covered, in the hopes that students will appreciate the many possibilities for generalizing psychological principles to everyday life.

Of course, no area will receive detailed coverage and no attempt will be made to survey the research literature or theoretical literature related to any of the topics covered. Specific experiments will be covered only as representatives of a particular methodology or approach, or, in a few cases, simply because they are "classics" in the field.

**Grades:** There are 1000 possible points this semester. Grades will be based on the percentage of total points received from the total points available.

94-100	A	87-89	B+	77-79	C+	67-69	D+
90-92	A-	83-86	B	73-76	C	60-66	D
		80-82	B-	70-72	C-	0-59	E

**Sources of Points:**

**Exams (700 pts):** There will be 7 exams (100 pts each). Exams will consist of multiple-choice items. All questions will be taken from material covered in the text. The dates for each exam are listed below. These dates will not change. Therefore, you know at this moment the dates and times for each of your exams in this class. Prepare your schedule accordingly for each exam, because make-up exams will be given only in extreme circumstances. Additionally, all make-up exams will be essay format.

The exams are taken via Chi-Tester and need to be completed at one of the Weber State University Testing Centers. If you are not familiar with chi-tester please visit the following website for details on how exams are completed using this method <http://chitester.weber.edu>. If you are taking this course long distance (50 miles away from a WSU testing-center) then you may take the exams via Chi-tester by following the proxy procedure outlined on the chi-tester website. If you are going to use a proctor you need to set it up as soon as possible. In order to set up a proctor you need to go to the chi-tester homepage using the above link. After logging in, you need to choose the "distance test" tab. Follow the instructions provided. Be aware that some proctors charge a fee for their services.

**Please note: You only have to take seven exams!** You only have to take the comprehensive final if you missed a previous exam, or you would like the final to take the place of one of the section exams. The comprehensive final will be primarily multiple choice, and will be available finals week.

**Quizzes (200 pts):** In addition to the exams, there will be fifteen short weekly quizzes. Of these fifteen weekly quizzes, ten will count toward your final grade. I suggest taking all of the quizzes. Because only ten of the fifteen quizzes will contribute to your grade there will be no makeup quizzes offered. Quizzes will be available throughout the week. That is, quizzes will be opened on Monday, and will be available through Friday. Quizzes will be multiple-choice or short answer in format.

**Research Participation (100 pts):** A primary goal in our Introductory Psychology classes is to foster an appreciation and understanding of psychological research. ALL students enrolled in Psychology 1010 are required to participate in a minimum of two hours (8 Credits) of research experiments. The primary means for satisfying this requirement will be for each student to serve as a participant in department research projects. Students can choose the projects they wish to participate in by signing up on the sheets provided on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Bulletin Board outside of the Psychology Department Main Office. Additionally, there will be several online research projects available. When these projects become available, I will make an announcement and post a link to the surveys.

**IMPORTANT!** Be sure to make a note of the **TIME, ROOM NUMBER,** and **EXPERIMENTER'S NAME** when you sign up for the experiment. Do not go to the psychology office and ask when or where your experiment is scheduled. **IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY** to obtain this information when you sign up for the experiment, and it is your responsibility to maintain this information after you sign up for an experiment.

In addition to participating in research experiments, you may also satisfy the research participation requirement by writing two research article summaries. A list of possible articles will be presented in class. Article summaries must be 1200 words in length and

adhere to APA style formatting. Article summaries must be submitted in electronic format (Word, Word Perfect, or RTF only) via WSU Online. **If you wish to do the article summaries in place of the research, you must notify me prior to March 14<sup>th</sup>.**

**The research participation requirement must be completed by April 11<sup>th</sup>.**

If you have any questions concerning these requirements, it is best to ask your instructor for specifications as experimenters may not know how your instructor will tally the points for grading.

**Extra-Credit:** You are offered the opportunity to obtain 100 extra credit points by writing up to 4 article reviews. I will post supplementary articles for each section of material. These articles are intended to assist in your understanding of the course materials. You can earn 25 extra-credit points for writing a 500 word review of an article. You can do up to 4 article reviews.

### **Course Courtesy:**

**Discriminatory Harassment:** Weber State University is committed to providing an environment free from harassment and other forms of discrimination based upon race, color, ethnic background, national origin, religion, creed, age, lack of American citizenship, disability, status of veteran of the Vietnam era, sexual orientation or preference or gender, including sexual/gender harassment. Such an environment is a necessary part of a healthy learning and working atmosphere because such discrimination undermines the sense of human dignity and sense of belonging of all people in the environment. Thus, students in this class should practice professional deportment, and avoid treating others in a manner that is demeaning or derisive in any respect.

While diverse viewpoints and opinions are welcome in this course, in expressing them, we will practice mutual deference so important in the world of work. Thus, while I encourage you to share your opinions, when appropriate, you will be expected to do so in a manner that is respectful towards others, even when you disagree with them.

If you have questions regarding the university's policy against discrimination and harassment you may contact the university's AA/EO office (626-6239) or visit its website: <http://departments.weber.edu/aaeeo/> .

**Academic dishonesty policy:** Weber State University imposes specific disciplinary actions in response to incidents of academic misconduct (cheating, plagiarism, etc.). These actions may include admonition, failing grade, failure of course, disciplinary probation, suspension, and dismissal. The specified policies can be found in the WSU Student Code at <http://documents.weber.edu/ppm/6-22.htm> . Cheating will not be tolerated in this or any class at WSU. Any student caught cheating or plagiarizing on any assignment will receive a grade of E. It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes plagiarism, if you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism please contact me.

### **Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:**

Any student requiring accommodations or services due to a disability must contact Services for Students with Disabilities (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.

Weber State University policies regarding Services for Students with Disabilities are available on the <http://weber.edu/ssd> website.

### **CLASS SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS**

Weeks 1-2 (1/4 – 1/16)	Introduction to Psychology	Ch. 1
	Research Methods & Statistics	A1-A9
<b>Jan. 14 – Jan. 16</b>	<b>EXAM 1</b>	
Weeks 3-4 (1/17 – 1/30)	Neuroscience & Behavior	Ch. 2
	Nature & Nurture	Ch. 3
	Development	Ch. 4 (Up to Adolescence)
<b>Jan. 28 – Jan. 30</b>	<b>EXAM 2</b>	
Weeks 5-6 (1/31 – 2/13)	Sensation & Perception	Ch. 5
	State of Consciousness	Ch. 6
<b>Feb. 11 – Feb. 13</b>	<b>EXAM 3</b>	
Weeks 7-8 (2/14 – 2/27)	Learning	Ch. 7
	Memory	Ch. 8
<b>Feb. 25 – Feb. 27</b>	<b>EXAM 4</b>	
Weeks 9-10 (2/28 – 3/13)	Thinking, Language, and Intelligence	Ch. 9
	Motivation	Ch. 10
<b>Mar. 11 – Mar. 13</b>	<b>EXAM 5</b>	
<b>Mar. 15 – Mar. 21</b>	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>	
Weeks 12-13 (3/22 – 4/3)	Emotion, Stress, and Health	Ch. 11
	Personality	Ch. 12
<b>Apr. 1 – Apr. 3</b>	<b>EXAM 6</b>	
Weeks 14-15 (4/4 – 4/17)	Psychological Disorders	Ch. 13
	Therapy	Ch. 14
	Social Psychology	Ch. 15
<b>Apr. 15 – Apr. 17</b>	<b>EXAM 7</b>	
<b>Apr. 20 – Apr. 22</b>	<b>Comprehensive Final Available</b>	