

Psychology 1010: Introduction to Psychology
T-Th: 9:00-10:15
Weber State University - Spring 2010
Syllabus and Course Outline

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SPECIAL NOTE TO THE STUDENT:

Please note that this syllabus is a contract between you and the instructor of this course. Your decision to stay in this course is a statement that you are agreeing to abide by the policies described in this syllabus. If you don't agree with these policies, or you think that you cannot conduct yourself according to them, you are strongly encouraged to take this course from another professor.

TEXTBOOK:

Required: Myers. Exploring Psychology. 7th Edition with PsychPortal Access
****PsychPortal Access is MANDATORY!****

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this course is to provide a survey of the discipline of psychology. This course also may fulfill general education and/or lower division requirements.

OBJECTIVES:

Knowledge of the Various Areas of Psychology

You will find that the field of psychology is diverse and constantly growing. It is expected that you will leave this course with a general knowledge of the field.

Development of Critical Thinking Skills

The ability to think and evaluate incoming information critically is a highly valuable skill. There will be many opportunities over the course of this class to begin or continue developing this ability.

Personal Development

Here is where we hope that the knowledge learned and critical thinking will carry over into your everyday life. It is difficult, if not impossible, for the principles learned in this course not to affect and enhance your daily functioning.

GRADING:

All students have the potential to earn an "A" in this course. There is no effort by the instructor to grade according to a "bell curve." All students will be graded according to the following point system:

Modality	Point Value	Percent of Total Grade
Exam I	150	15
Exam II	150	15
Exam III	150	15
Exam IV	150	15
Research Participation	100	10
2 Response Papers	100	10
10 Chapter Assignments	200	20
Total	1000	100

A 920+, A- 900-919, B+ 880-899, B 820-879, B- 800-819, C+ 780-799, C 720-779, C- 700-719, D+ 680-699, D 620-679, D- 600-619, E 0-599

PsychPortal:

PsychPortal is a **required** online component of this class. When you get PsychPortal access, it includes access to a wide variety of study aids, an online grade book, your chapter assignments (Mastery Quizzes), a course calendar, and an online version of the textbook. You can purchase this access at the WSU bookstore. Alternatively, you can purchase PsychPortal/Ebook access directly from the publisher. I will be giving you a handout to assist you with buying directly from the publisher.

Exams:

The exams will consist of multiple choice questions. They are not comprehensive, and will be designed to last approximately 50 minutes.

You will be able to access the exams on WSU's ChiTester system in any WSU Testing Center. Each exam will be available to you for at least 3 days. Your course outline will tell you when each exam is available. Please note that you will need to bring a picture ID (e.g. drivers license, WSU ID) and arrive at least 1 hour prior to closing time in order to be allowed to take the exam. It is your responsibility to make sure that you know the hours of operation for the WSU Testing Center you intend to use. Failure to follow these guidelines does not constitute a sufficient excuse to take an exam late without penalty.

Response Papers:

Your instructor wants you to notice psychology in your daily lives, as well as for you to flex your writing muscles. The deadline for each response paper will be stated in your course outline. You will notice that we will have discussed several topics/chapters prior to each deadline. I would like you to describe an experience or situation. Some examples include, but are not limited to, a movie that has psychological issues in it (e.g. A Beautiful Mind, One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest), good or bad examples of parenting, or a an experience with brain injury or mental illness. If you aren't sure of what to write about, feel free to ask me for guidance. Next, you should discuss how a section in at least one of the one of the chapters connects to what you experienced.

*This is NOT a research paper, so I won't expect references or a certain format. The finished product should be approximately 1-2 double-spaced pages, and it **MUST** be emailed to me in the PsychPortal or tkay@weber.edu. I won't grade on spelling/grammar/punctuation. However, if I see glaring problems with writing, you will see comments about it. While you don't need strong writing skills to succeed in THIS class, you will want to rectify the issues I point out as the majority of your other courses will require good writing skills.*

Chapter Assignments:

Assignments for each chapter will be available in the PsychPortal. Each assignment will be available from the beginning of the semester until the date noted on the course outline, course calendar, and individual assignment information. You will have unlimited time to complete each assignment attempt, and you can repeat each assignment as many times as you need to get the score you want. You will be able to access the assignments from any computer that has an internet connection. Since you will have so much time to complete the assignments, and since you have tremendous flexibility in terms of where you work on them, late assignments will NOT be accepted.

Research Participation

*Ten percent of your grade will be based on participating in research experiments conducted by psychology faculty and students. Your instructor will circulate a handout explaining the policy for this. All research participation **MUST** be completed by the date listed on your course outline.*

Extra Credit:

*Various extra credit opportunities may be offered throughout the semester. These may consist of psychologically related activities on campus or in the community. Your instructor will announce these opportunities in class. Class attendance or frequent reading of discussion posts in PsychPortal is necessary in order to hear of these opportunities!!! Extra credit opportunities will be offered to the entire class only. Your instructor will **NOT** extend special opportunities for extra credit to people on an individualized basis. The deadline for extra credit assignments can be found on your course outline. Late extra credit assignments will **NOT** be accepted.*

LATENESS POLICY:

Your instructor believes that it is vitally important to adhere to all deadlines noted in the course outline. Making a regular practice of respecting deadlines will go a long way toward success in the various areas of your life. However, your instructor recognizes that emergencies do occur and that they can interfere with even the most serious intent to respect deadlines. Therefore, your instructor expects that we will adhere to the following:

- 1. If you are sick, please stay home until you are no longer contagious. Generally, the standard is going 24 hours without a fever. Your instructor*

and classmates do not want to be infected with whatever illness you might have.

- 2. If an illness or other emergency occurs, it is your responsibility to notify your instructor as immediately as is realistically possible. It is also your responsibility to keep your instructor updated. If you do this, your instructor will work with you with exam and assignment deadlines. Please note that your instructor will be trying to balance your needs with the upcoming demands of the course. Therefore, while you may get an extension, you will need to complete the exam or assignment within the parameters set by the instructor.*
- 3. If you are unable or otherwise fail to contact your instructor in the manner described in #2, you **MUST** provide documentation in order to get an extension without a penalty. This documentation will need to adequately why you need an extension and why you were unable to contact me in a timely manner. **YOUR INSTRUCTOR WILL BE THE ONE TO DETERMINE WHAT IS SUFFICIENT DOCUMENTATION.***
- 4. Generally speaking, the penalty for late submission of an exam or assignment will be 20% if it is submitted within 2 business days of the deadline. After 2 days, the score becomes a zero*

MISCELLANEOUS:

While every effort will be made to adhere to the course outline, all times, topics, and subjects covered will be at the professor's discretion and could change at any time. Advance notice will be given if a change is necessary.

From time to time, your instructor may need to be absent to participate in a professional conference. Please note that such participation is part of your instructor's job. If such an absence is necessary, you will be notified of it and any changes to the course schedule as soon as possible.

PsychPortal has an online grade book feature, so you are able to check your grades on a regular basis to ensure that you are properly receiving credit for your work. It is much easier to correct errors during the semester. If you notice an error, your instructor will be happy to correct it once you provide evidence of the mistake. Please keep everything your instructor returns to you, as this will be the only proof you have that you completed an assignment.

Technology now makes it possible for your instructor to email the entire class at once. If I need to cancel a class because of illness, or if I need to make a last-minute announcement, I will email the class as a whole. I recommend that you check your PsychPortal email account on a regular basis to receive these announcements.

It is the instructor's expectation that the work you submit is in fact your work. Cheating on exams or plagiarizing work on papers or presentations will result in immediate failure of the course, as well as other possible disciplinary action. Plagiarism is representing the work of someone else as your own by taking sentences, paragraphs, or sections from other sources without using quotation marks or appropriate references. Please consult the instructor if you have any questions about appropriate referencing of material.

Appropriate classroom behavior is vital to a productive learning environment. Behaviors such as a) arriving late, b) leaving early, c) holding private conversations, d) sleeping, e) reading other material, f) playing games with or communicating via cell phone or PDA, or g) doing other work are very rude and distracting to the instructor and your peers. The same principle holds true for cell phones and pagers going off in class. The instructor will intervene with such behaviors as appropriate. If they persist, offending students will be encouraged to drop the course.

Disability Notice:

Any student needing accommodations or services due to a learning disability must contact the Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 801-626-6413. The office is located in Room 181 of the Student Services Center.

COURSE OUTLINE

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Assigned Reading</i>
1-4	<i>Intro to Class</i>	
1-6	<i>History of Psychology...</i>	<i>Ch1</i>
1-8	<i>History of Psychology...</i>	<i>Ch1</i>
1-11	<i>History of Psychology...</i>	<i>Ch1</i>
1-13	<i>Human Development</i>	<i>Ch4</i>
1-15	<i>Human Development</i>	<i>Ch4</i>
1-18	<i>Martin Luther King Holiday</i>	
1-20	<i>Human Development</i>	<i>Ch4</i>
1-22	<i>Human Development</i>	<i>Ch4</i>
1-25	<i>Human Development</i>	<i>Ch4</i>
1-27	<i>Exam I: 1-27 to 1-30: No Class Wednesday</i> <i>***Ch1 & Ch4 Mastery Quizzes Due 1-30</i>	
1-29	<i>Neuroscience</i>	<i>Ch2</i>
2-1	<i>Neuroscience</i>	<i>Ch2</i>
2-3	<i>Neuroscience</i>	<i>Ch2</i>
2-5	<i>Neuroscience</i>	<i>Ch2</i>
2-8	<i>Emotions, Stress, & Health</i>	<i>Ch11</i>
	<i>Response Paper #1 Due</i>	
2-10	<i>Emotions, Stress, & Health</i>	<i>Ch11</i>
2-12	<i>Emotions, Stress, & Health</i>	<i>Ch11</i>
2-15	<i>Presidents' Day Holiday</i>	
2-17	<i>Exam II: 2-17 to 2-20: No Class Wednesday</i> <i>***Ch2 & Ch11 Mastery Quizzes Due 2-20</i>	
2-19	<i>Learning</i>	<i>Ch7</i>
2-22	<i>Learning</i>	<i>Ch7</i>
2-24	<i>Learning</i>	<i>Ch7</i>
2-26	<i>Learning</i>	<i>Ch7</i>
3-1	<i>Language & Intelligence</i>	<i>Ch9</i>
3-3	<i>Language & Intelligence</i>	<i>Ch9</i>
3-5	<i>Language & Intelligence</i>	<i>Ch9</i>

3-8	Language & Intelligence	Ch9
3-10	Exam III: 3-9 to 3-12: No Class Wednesday	
	Ch's 7 & 9 Quizzes Due 3-12	
3-12	Personality	Ch12

Spring Break 3-15 to 3-19: Enjoy!!!

3-22	Personality	Ch12
3-24	Personality	Ch12
3-26	Personality	Ch12
3-29	Psychological Disorders	Ch13
3-31	Psychological Disorders	
4-2	Psychological Disorders	Ch13
	Response Paper #2 Due	
4-5	Psychological Disorders	Ch13
4-7	Psychological Disorders	Ch13
4-9	Social Psychology	
	All Research Participation Due	
4-12	Social Psychology	Ch15
4-14	Social Psychology	
4-16	Instructor at RMPA	

Exam IV: 4-16 to 4-22, *Ch12, Ch13, & Ch15 Mastery Quizzes Due 4-22**

