

INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY
Weber State University
Psychology 1010, Spring 2011
ONLINE

Professor: Azenett A. Garza, Ph.D.
Office & Office Hours: SS 328D
By appointment mainly, but will be around Mondays & Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m. – noon or Tuesdays & Thursdays between 9:30 a.m. – 10 a.m.
Contact Information: e-mail: agarza@weber.edu
Office #: 626-6249
Cengage Now Go to: <http://login.cengage.com>
You will need a course key:
COURSE KEY: E-5R7FPCKQRHQYG
Vista enhancement Web CT <http://online.weber.edu> will need Wildcat username and password to access.
Text: Weiten, W. (2010) *Psychology: Themes and Variations*. 8th edition, Cengage, Wadsworth.

Questions that Psychology and this course address

Can anything of importance be learned about humans from studying them scientifically? How much of a role does genetics play in human behavior? How much of a role does the environment play in human behavior? How much of our thinking, learning, and problems in living are influenced by early experience? How does neurological and biological functions influence and/or interplay with our behaviors and perceptions of the world? Can human behavior change with time? Are recovered memories of sexual abuse or alien abduction real? Is eyewitness testimony reliable? Why do we dream? How much of our behavior is influenced by culture? When will attitudes predict our behaviors? Do the same experiences influence every person the same? Does any one theoretical view explain all behavior or can any behavior be explained by only one theoretical view?

Learning Objectives

This course emphasizes psychology as a behavioral science. It is designed for students interested in psychology as their field of concentration as well for those who wish to include knowledge of psychology mainly as part of their general education requirements. Its objectives are to help you acquire knowledge of the:

- vocabulary and concepts involved in describing and explaining psychological phenomena;
- basic methods used by psychologists in their investigations of phenomena;
- principles, theories, and other empirical generalizations which have emerged from psychological studies;

and to help you acquire skills in:

- interpreting psychological knowledge and applying it to daily life, everyday problems, and social issues;
- in note taking, test taking, writing, and studying.

and

- to integrate theories and research with real-life applications so as to make the study of psychology both interesting and meaningful to you
- to appreciate that all behavior is the result of a complex interaction between genetic, biological, cognitive, environmental, and social-cultural factors.

Evaluation of Course Work

Exams: There will be a total of six exams, five midterm exams and one final exam. Each exam will consist of 50 multiple choice questions. All exams will be taken using Chi Tester, which is a computerized testing program. You may take the exams from any WSU testing center during the exam period. You will have 4 days to take each exam. You may also set up a proctor to take the exams, if you are not able to make it to a WSU testing center. More information on setting up a proctor can be found at:

<http://departments.weber.edu/ce/distancelearning/testing.aspx>.

Please note that you should save your answers frequently before continuing to the next question. If you don't, you may receive a 0 on an exam because none of your responses will have been saved. All exams are to be taken with no external help (book, notes, other people, etc.). All testing centers demand that you show up NO LATER than ONE HOUR before closing time. That means you should plan enough time for you to travel to the testing center and arrive no later than one hour before closing time to be able to take the exams. Otherwise, you have unlimited time to take the exams. So, if you feel you need more than one hour to take the exam be sure to give yourself enough time to arrive to the testing center and enough time to be able to take the exam at your pace. It is highly recommended that you DO NOT wait until the last minute or day possible to take the exams. It is highly probable that you will experience some sort of difficulty at that time and no ability to resolve it in time for you to take the exams. Each exam will consist of 25 multiple choice questions PER chapter. Each exam will be worth 100 points and make up **70%** of your final grade. **MAKE-UP EXAMS ARE NOT ALLOWED. A missed exam counts as a 0. You are responsible for knowing the test deadlines.** This means try your hardest to not miss an exam. **IF you know of a conflict with the exam schedule, you may take ANY exam early. However, no exam may be taken late.** You may, however, replace your missing or lowest exam score by taking the final exam. The Final exam is not mandatory but optional and should be taken with one of two purposes ONLY. First, if you miss an exam, you may take the final exam to replace your missing exam score. If you miss more than one exam, remember that only one exam grade will be replaced by the final exam score and your second missed exam will receive a 0! Second and alternatively, if you receive a rather low score on one of the first 5 exams, you may take the final exam in the hopes that you will score higher on it and your final exam score can replace your lowest score. The final exam will only replace a previous exam if you score higher on it, otherwise, you will keep your original score. The final exam will be comprehensive (that means it will cover material from the entire course). If, however, you take the first FIVE exams (meaning, you don't miss any of them), I will drop your lowest grade. Exam questions will be taken from your textbook. Hours for the Social Science Testing Center are provided below but you could also take it from any other WSU testing center. The Social Science Testing Center is located in the Social Science Building room 36, phone # 626-6847. Be sure to bring your ID to the Testing Center or you will not be allowed to take the exam. After the exam period is over, you may review the exam on chi tester to see which questions you missed.

Monday – Thursday	7:30 AM – 8:00 PM (Must show up by 7:00 PM to take an exam)
Friday	7:30 AM – 4:30 PM (Must show up by 3:30 PM to take an exam)
Saturday	9:00 AM – 4:30 PM (Must show up by 3:30 PM to take an exam)

Homework Review Assignments: There will be 5 homework assignments throughout the semester.

These assignments will be available through Cengage Now. Homework assignments will consist of 50 multiple choice questions that will resemble exam questions and will be worth 20% of your grade. Each homework assignment is to be done individually. You may use your text and cengage resources to complete your homework. **Homework assignments not done individually will result in a grade of zero.** You will be allowed to print the homework assignment to have while you are reading and reviewing your text. Once you have figured out the answers, you can then submit your responses. Homework assignments are **due at midnight the day specified on the calendar** unless otherwise specified.

Homework assignments are to be turned in through Cengage Now. **NO LATE OR MAKE-UP ASSIGNMENTS ARE ALLOWED. YOU MUST TURN IN HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT BY MIDNIGHT THE DAY SPECIFIED ON THE CLASS CALENDAR IN ORDER TO RECEIVE ANY CREDIT.** Be sure to plan accordingly and give yourself plenty of time to turn it in. Anticipate technological difficulties and don't wait until the last minute. **Your lowest homework assignment will be dropped.** Homework

assignments will be meant to aid in your further understanding of concepts and issues learned in class and in your readings and to prepare you for exams.

Online Pre & Post Test Quizzes: During the period that we cover each chapter, a corresponding pre & post quiz will be available on cengage.com. You will take one pre-quiz and one-post quiz for each chapter that we cover. You must complete the quiz on its due date by **midnight** for the chapter. Ten pre & post test quizzes will be available through **cengagenow**. You **MUST** complete the quizzes through the **ASSIGNMENT TAB in cengage now (This means you must be registered in the course through cengage as well)**. Otherwise, your scores will not be recorded and sent to me. Therefore, you would not receive credit for them. The **three lowest pre & post quiz grades will be dropped**. Quizzes will consist of multiple choice questions and will be worth 10 points each and will be worth **5% toward your final grade**. Quizzes will be meant to keep you up to date on your readings and to prepare you for coming exams. After you complete the pre-test, you will be provided with an individualized study plan on the information you appear to not fully grasp. I strongly advise you to use that tool to help you prepare better for homework and exams. Due dates for each pre & post quiz are listed on the course calendar. You **must** complete quizzes **by midnight** of the due date. **NO LATE QUIZZES WILL BE ACCEPTED**. You will receive full credit on all pretest quizzes as long as you complete them. You may take each post-test quiz as many times before the due date as you'd like. Your highest score will be the one that counts. If you obtain at least a 75% correct or above on your post-test, you will receive full credit for the quiz. If you obtain a score of less than 75% on your post-test, you will only receive 8/10 points. Note that because you are allowed to take the post-test as many times as you'd like, you need to not wait until the last minute to complete them.

Extra Credit Options:

You have the option participating in research for extra credit. Extra credit must be turned in by **April, 12th**.

Research participation: You may participate in research projects being conducted in the psychology department, face to face or online. Online research opportunities will be announced through WebCT. You may do up to 2 hours of research participation. Please see additional handout for more specific information as to how to do this. All research participation must be completed by **April, 12th**. **ABSOLUTELY NO LATE EXTRA CREDIT WILL BE ALLOWED.**

What is the workload expectation for this course?

In this course, in addition to the 42 hours spent "in class" (For an online class this means looking at power point presentations, completing quizzes, reviewing study plans, checking announcements or e-mails regularly) or taking exams, you should spend a minimum of 126 hours doing "homework" through the 14 week semester, which include reading the text and documents, completing homework, and studying for exams. That equals 135 hours, which is the university standard in-and-out-of-class workload expectation for a three-hour course under the semester system. This is roughly equivalent to 3 hours outside of class per hour spent in class, which is about 9 hours per week.

Student Disability Weber State University is committed to equal opportunity in education for all students, including those with documented physical disabilities or documented learning disabilities. Weber State University policy states that it is the responsibility of students to 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. The instructor will meet with the student and staff members of the SSD to formulate a written plan for appropriate accommodations, if required.

Calculation of Grades

5 Exams	100 pts. ea.	70% of your grade
5 Homework	50 pts ea.	20% of your grade
Pre-Post Online Quizzes	10 pts ea.	10% of your grade

Final Grade

A	94-100%
A-	90-93%
B+	87-89%
B	84-86%
B-	80-83%
C+	77-79%

Final Grade

C	74-76%
C-	70-73%
D+	67-69%
D	64-66%
D-	60-63%
E	0-59%

Final Grades: Please note that due to the policy in which assignments are dropped in most of the categories, and extra points are usually awarded in exams, final grades are not “rounded up or curved”. Meaning that if you have an 89.9 in the class, you will not be rounded up to an A-, rather you will receive a B+. In the **ONLY** circumstance in which a grade will be rounded is if **ALL** assignments and exams have been completed.

Grade Appeals: If, after reviewing an exam, you think a question is open to more than one interpretation; e-mail me a document in word format with your challenge to me. You will be allowed to review each exam through ChiTester for one week after the last day to take each exam. The challenge must be submitted within a week after the exam and must explain how the question could be interpreted so that one of the other answers (the one you chose) would be as “correct” as my answer. I will return the challenges with comments either accepting or rejecting the challenge. I encourage you to utilize this option if you feel strongly about a test question. Your challenge must include the following (if any of these components are missing, your challenge will automatically receive no credit): 1) your name 2) the number of the question that you are challenging and what the question is generally asking 4) the CORRECT answer (according to me) 5) YOUR answer, and 6) why YOUR answer is as “correct” as the CORRECT answer. NOTE: Good challenges include citations from lecture notes, text (with page numbers), or assigned articles. Challenge points are almost never given for arguments based on your own life experience, on the simple assertion that your answer is correct, etc. THIS IS THE ONLY WAY that your concerns will be addressed. ONLY written questions and comments THAT YOU SUPPORT will be evaluated. At times, your professor may determine that a particular question is problematic due to the number of students missing an exam question; she will then give points back for that particular question. Thus, no challenge will be necessary for that particular question.

Dropping the Course.

You may completely withdraw from the semester at any time. Please be aware of the dates in which “W”s are assigned and such.

Academic Dishonesty

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:

Sociology and social psychology are distinct disciplines. Sociologists "study groups, from small to very large" (Myers, 2005, p. 6). Social psychologists, by contrast, "study average individuals – how one person at a time thinks about others, is influenced by them, relates to them" (Myers, 2005, p. 6).

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.

ACADEMIC PROBATION

Students who believe that a poor grade in this course may lead to their dismissal from Weber State University should contact me BEFORE the first exam about strategies to improve their class performance. Contacting me after the final exam will not be helpful since extra-credit projects and test retakes are not to be available in this course.

Students who do not perform well on the first exam should contact me immediately to determine ways in which to help improve your scores for the rest of the course. Contacting me because you are unhappy with your grade after the third or final exam will be of no avail. At that point in time, it is too late to do anything to improve your grade since test retakes are available in this class.

This Syllabus:

This syllabus is our contract. It details your obligations to me, and mine to you. Please record any changes in requirements or deadlines on it. Announcements made through class announcements or emails "count" just as much as policies outlined in the written syllabus.

Staying registered in this class indicates that you have understood this syllabus and agree to abide by the guidelines of this class and to be evaluated accordingly.

Dates	Recommended Reading Schedule	Due Dates
Jan. 3- 7	<i>Chapter 1 Evolution of Psychology</i>	Introduction of Self Due 1/7 Chapter 1 pretest Due 1/7
Jan.8 –Jan.13	<i>Chapter 2 Research in Psychology</i>	Syllabus Quiz Due 1/12 Chapter 2 pretest Due 1/13
Jan.14 – 18	Review	Ch. 1 & 2 posttests Due 1/18 Homework 1 Due 1/18 midnight
Jan. 19 - 22	EXAM 1 available	Exam 1 DUE Jan. 22 (Sat) by midnight
Jan. 24 - 28	<i>Chapter 3 Biological Basis of Behavior</i>	Chapter 3 pretest Due 1/28
Jan. 29 –Feb. 3	<i>Chapter 5 Variations in Consciousness</i>	Chapter 5 pretest Due 2/3
Feb. 4 - 7	Review	Ch. 3 & 5 posttests Due 2/7 Homework 2 Due 2/7
Feb. 8 - 11	EXAM 2 available	Exam 2 DUE Feb. 11 (Fri) by midnight
Feb. 12 - 17	<i>Chapter 6 Learning</i>	Chapter 6 pretest due 2/17
Feb. 18 - 24	<i>Chapter 7 Memory</i>	Chapter 7 pretest due 2/24
Feb. 25 - 28	Review	Ch 6 & 7 posttests Due 2/28 Homework 3 Due 2/28
Mar. 1 - 4	EXAM 3 available	Exam 3 DUE Mar. 4 (Fri) by midnight
Mar. 5 - 10	<i>Chapter 10 Human Development</i>	Chapter 10 pretest Due 3/10
Mar. 11, 21-24	<i>Chapter 15 Social Behavior</i>	Chapter 15 pretest Due 3/24
Mar. 25-28	Review	Ch 10 & 15 posttests Due 3/28 Homework 4 Due 3/28
Mar. 29 – Apr. 1	EXAM 4 available	Exam 4 Due Apr. 1 (Fri) by midnight
Apr. 2 - 7	<i>Chapter 11 Personality</i>	Chapter 11 pretest Due 4/7
Apr. 8 - 13	<i>Chapter 13 Psychological Disorders</i>	Chapter 13 pretest Due 4/13
Apr. 14 - 16	Review	Ch. 11 & 13 posttests Due 4/16 Homework 5 Due 4/16
Apr. 18 -21	EXAM 5 & FINAL EXAM available	Exam 5 & Final Exams are Due Apr. 21 (Thurs) by midnight

NOTE: This schedule is unlikely to change but if necessary it will and it is your duty to keep up with class announcements and e-mails to learn about the changes. Test dates rarely change, however, material to be covered in test might change.

How can I be successful in this course?

- ▶ **Set up a study schedule, study regularly and keep up.** Do not put off studying until the last moment. Remember that you will have pre & post-test quizzes to take. In order to be prepared for them, you must begin studying immediately. For the exams, it is very difficult to “cram” several chapters into your head in one night of frantic studying. Also be sure to allow for study breaks and only study for the amount of time in which you can be alert and awake. You should find a place to study in which there is minimum distractions. Reward yourself with small rewards every time you study to keep you motivated.
- ▶ **Ask questions and participate in class.** Do not be afraid to ask questions of the instructor. More than likely, other students in the class have the same questions and concerns. A great place to ask questions will be in the general class questions. That way, everybody will benefit from your question and my response. If you can, try to ask a specific/direct question rather than a very general one (e.g., “What is the difference between exchange vs. equitable relationships?” vs. “I don’t get Chapter 6.”). Please respect your colleagues and be open to perspectives different from your own. You should expect the same respect from all others in the class.
- ▶ **Read the book.** Read intelligently- a good guideline is to begin examining the chapter by skimming the titles and headings so that you will have an idea about what the chapter will cover. Create questions from the headings that the subsequent material will answer. Then read each paragraph and summarize it in your own words by answering the question posed. If possible, add any personal examples (from your own or friends’ life, from TV shows or movies, or newspapers, novels, etc.) that illustrate the concepts being discussed or devise mnemonics to remember the information being covered. You should print out the slides posted on WebCT and the learning objectives after you have read the chapter once. Then, read the chapter a second time more carefully as you look for the information listed on the learning objectives and you fill in the gaps on the power points. Next, pencil in any questions that arise as you look over them and post your questions for clarification. Read the chapter once more. Next, go through each question that you created and see if you can answer the question out loud in your own words. Do not move to the next section until you have mastered that material. Also, be sure to utilize all the learning resources available through Cengage NOW.
- ▶ **Integrate notes from book, power point and your own outline.** Create your own outline integrating your text and power point notes, so that the organization of the material fits your perception and understanding of the material. Work from this outline when you study for an exam. **Short on time?** Write questions and summaries in the margins of your text and power point notes as you read them.
- ▶ **Study with someone else.** Studying with someone else or studying with a group is usually helpful; try to secure a study partner or a study group. This can be done on-line through the chat portal I have created in Vista WebCT. You can e-mail your classmates and set a time and date in which you can meet to talk about the material. You can question each other and clarify information together. Oftentimes one student’s knowledge can complement another student’s knowledge from the class. Many times a peer can explain things better than the text or the instructor. Ask each other questions and practice explaining concepts to each other. Be sure to ask for examples of concepts and application of the concepts.
- ▶ **Don’t skip too many days without logging into WebCT, Cengage NOW, reading, studying, etc.** Cramming is not an effective way to study and waiting until the last minute to complete assignments will only hurt your grade. It is important that you schedule regular times every day or every other day to work on the class. Everyone has a million and one

things to do.....we all have busy lives. You will need to prioritize time for this class in order to do well. Just because it is an online class does not mean that it is an easy class.

▶ **Learn from your mistakes.** Take a look at the missed questions on your homework, quizzes and study aids and find out why you missed the questions you did. Did you not come to class? Did you not read the book? If you find out what went wrong, you can often correct it.

Start your studying and organization of information on the FIRST day!!!

Grade Record

Please keep a record of the grades you receive on all of your work. This will help insure that you are always aware of you academic progress in this class.

Exam #1 _____
Exam #2 _____
Exam #3 _____
Exam #4 _____
Exam #5 _____
Final Exam _____

*** Note: Remember Final Exam is optional and/or may be used to replace missing or lowest exam score.**

Pre & Post Quiz #1 _____ & _____
Pre & Post Quiz #2 _____ & _____
Pre & Post Quiz #3 _____ & _____
Pre & Post Quiz #4 _____ & _____
Pre & Post Quiz #5 _____ & _____
Pre & Post Quiz #6 _____ & _____
Pre & Post Quiz #7 _____ & _____
Pre & Post Quiz #8 _____ & _____
Pre & Post Quiz #9 _____ & _____
Pre & Post Quiz #10 _____ & _____

*** Note the 3 lowest Post Test Quizzes will be dropped.**

Homework #1 _____
Homework #2 _____
Homework #3 _____
Homework #4 _____
Homework # 5 _____ *** Note the lowest homework will be dropped.**