

Psychology 1010: Introduction to Psychology
M-W-F: 8:30-9:20 OR Online
Weber State University - Spring, 2012
Syllabus and Course Outline

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Office Hours: Drop-In or By Appointment

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. 8th Edition with PsychPortal Access

****PsychPortal is required - all assignments are to be submitted on PsychPortal****

Please see handout for instructions to get PsychPortal Access.

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:

<u>Modality</u>	<u>Point Value</u>	<u>Percent of Total Grade</u>
Exam I	150	15
Exam II	150	15
Exam III	150	15
Exam IV	150	15
Exam V	150	15
Research Participation	100	10
<u>10 Mastery Quizzes</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>15</u>
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

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 from the beginning of the semester until the deadline noted on your course outline and in PsychPortal. Please note that you will need to bring a picture ID (e.g. driver's 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.

Since you will be able to access the exams from any computer for such a long period of time, late exams will result in a 20% penalty unless the circumstances are extremely dire and well-documented (e.g. a doctor's note). It will be your responsibility to contact me **PROMPTLY** to discuss postponing an exam, and the exam **MUST** be completed **within 2 business days of the closing date** or you will receive a zero. The decision to allow

postponement of an exam or whether to impose a penalty is at the sole discretion of the instructor.

Mastery Quizzes

Mastery Quizzes for each chapter will be available on PsychPortal. Each quiz will be available from the beginning of the semester until the date noted on the course outline. You will have unlimited time to complete each assignment, 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. Please refer to the Research Participation document found under the Course Materials tab of PsychPortal. 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 and on PsychPortal. 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.**

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.

Your instructor uses the gradebook through PsychPortal. You are strongly

encouraged 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 communicate with 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 contact the class as a whole. I recommend that you check your PsychPortal account on a regular basis to receive these announcements. **YOU WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR KNOWING THE INFORMATION COMMUNICATED IN CLASS AND ON PSYCHPORTAL.**

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

- Week 1*
1/2-1/6
Ch1 (Thinking Critically with Psychological Science) &
Ch5 (Developing through the Lifespan)
- Week 2*
1/9-1/13
Ch's 1 & 5 Continued
- Week 3*
1/16-1/20
MLK Holiday - No Class Monday
Ch's 1 & 5 Continued
Ch's 1 & 5 Mastery Quizzes and Exam I Due Friday, 1/20 -
No Class on Friday
- Week 4*
1/23-1/27
Ch2 (The Biology of Mind) & Ch11 (Emotions Stress and
Health)
- Week 5*
1/30-2/3
Ch's 2 & 11 Continued
- Week 6*
2/6-2/11
Ch's 2 & 11 Mastery Quizzes and Exam II Due on
Monday, 2/6. No Class on Monday
Ch7 (Learning) & Ch9 (Language and Intelligence Only)
- Week 7*
2/13-2/17
Ch's 7 & 9 Continued
- Week 8*
2/20-2/24
Presidents' Day Holiday - No Class Monday
Ch's 7 & 9 Mastery Quizzes and Exam III Due on
Friday, 2/24. No class on Friday
- Week 9*
2/27-3/2
Ch13 (Disorders) and Ch14 (Treatment)
- Week 10*
3/5-3/9
Ch's 13 & 14 Continued
- Spring Break 3/12-3/16 - ENJOY!*
- Week 11*
3/19-3/23
Ch's 13 & 14 Mastery Quizzes and Exam IV Due on
Wednesday, 3/21. No class on Wednesday.

Week 12 *Ch 12 (Personality) and 15 (Social Psychology)*
3/26-3/30 *Ch's 12 & 15 Continued*
NCUR - No Class Friday. Attend Conference for Extra
Credit

Week 13 *Ch's 12 & 15 Continued*
4/2-4/6

Week 14 *All Research Participation & Extra Credit Due on*
4/9-4/13 *Friday, 4/13*

****Chapters 12 & 15 Mastery Quizzes and Exam V Due on 4/19/12*