

**Psychology 1010**  
**Introductory Psychology**

Fall 2009  
MWF 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM  
SS 394

**Professor's Name:** Dr. Matthew Schmolesky

**Professor's e-mail:** MSCHMOLESKY@WEBER.EDU

\*\*(This is BY FAR the best way to contact me)

**Professor's Office Phone:** 801-626-8745

**Office Hours:** MWF 1:30 – 2:30 PM; also by appointment

**Office Location:** SS 356

**Class Web Site:** <http://www.online.weber.edu>

**I. Textbook:** Weiten, Wayne. PSYCHOLOGY: Themes and Variations, Briefer Edition, (7<sup>th</sup> Ed.), Belmont, CA: Wadsworth. (2006/2007)

**II. Web CT – the Course Website**

You are required to become familiar with and use the course website via WebCT: <https://www.online.weber.edu/> I will post documents on this site (e.g. copy of syllabus, powerpoint files, grades, etc.) and will occasionally email students with announcements. For technical issues (e.g. having difficulties accessing WebCT or downloading a document) contact computer support by: a) calling 626-7777, or b) emailing [csupport@weber.edu](mailto:csupport@weber.edu), or, c) go to Lampros Hall and ask for assistance. I do not have answers to questions on WebCT technical issues.

**III. Course Objectives**

- A. To learn about 'human nature' and behavior from the perspective of the discipline of scientific psychology.
- B. To introduce students to the field of Psychology, its different specializations and sub-areas, and psychological methods used in research, teaching and practice. Specifically, this class covers the general topics of: the biological basis of behavior, learning, motivation, sensation, perception, memory, thought, knowledge, language, social psychology, consciousness, research methods and statistics, personality, and psychological disorders and their treatments.
- C. To integrate theories and research with real-life applications so as to make the study of Psychology both interesting and meaningful to the students.
- D. To encourage students to prepare themselves for the real-life application of their degree if they major in Psychology by educating them about different careers in psychology, graduate school in psychology, and applications of psychology in other careers.
- E. To appreciate that all behavior is the result of a complex interaction between genetic, biological, cognitive, environmental, and social-cultural factors.

#### IV. Course Grade

##### A. Examinations (80% of final grade)

1. Five exams will be taken during the course of this semester and will collectively account for 80% of your final grade (i.e. each individual exam will constitute 16% of your final grade).
2. The fifth and final exam will be taken on Dec. 4-10. No exams may be taken after Thursday Dec. 10
3. All exams will be taken via Chitester online software and will be available in multiple testing centers: Davis, Kaysville, Lampros, Marriot Health, Morgan, Social Sciences, Student Services, and West. Note: The Science Building Testing Center does not currently support computer based testing. You will have 2 days to take each exam. Please note the testing center hours listed on the WSU web site (for the Social Science Center currently listed as: 7:30am to 8pm Monday to Thursday, 7:30am-4:30pm Friday, 9am-4pm Saturday). **YOU MUST ARRIVE AT LEAST ONE HOUR** before the testing center closes or they will not permit you to take the exam. You must have your student ID. A practice exam will be available on Chitester by the second week of class so you can become familiar with the software before Exam One.

##### B. Make-up Examinations/Missing Exams

If you know of a conflict with the exam schedule, you may take ANY exam early but **must notify me in writing of your intention to do so as early as possible**. IF FOR ANY REASON YOU MISS AN EXAM you must notify me in writing immediately. You may take the exam one day late (for a 10 point deduction) or two days late (for a 20 point deduction). You will not be able to take an exam three or more “business days” (i.e. days the testing center is open, Mon.-Sat.) after the scheduled dates and will receive a zero for this exam.

##### C. Homework Assignments (10% of final grade)

Six pass/fail homework assignments will be given during the course to highlight key psychological concepts and facilitate group discussion. One “failed” homework assignment will be dropped; each of the five remaining assignments will be worth 2% of the final course grade. No excuses will be accepted for missing or late assignments. Assignments must be typed and handed in at the beginning of class on the due date. Assignments handed in any time 5 minutes after class begins will be considered late and not accepted.

##### D. Research Participation (10% of final grade)

An important part of taking an introduction to psychology class is to understand and experience how knowledge in psychology is acquired. Therefore, 10% of your grade will be based on research participation. You will need to complete 8 research credits to receive full credit. More detailed and specific information is

contained in a handout that is posted on WebCT. **For this course, research participation (or alternatives) must be completed one week before the final class meeting date.**

**E. Extra Credit Opportunities**

Each exam will have an extra credit opportunity included with the questions. These are questions that require you to integrate information and go above and beyond what you normally would learn for the exam. You may earn up to 4 percentage points for each exam through the exam extra credit.

**F. Grading Scale**

The course grade will be assigned according to the scale indicated below:

<u>Numeric Score</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
93-100	A
90-92	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
67-69	D+
60-66	D
Below 60	E

**V. Course Outline:**

<u>CLASS DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READING (pgs)</u>
August 24	Intro to the Course	
August 26, 28, 31	The Evolution of Psychology	Chap. 1
August 31, Sept 2, 4	The Research Enterprise in Psychology	Chap. 2 Appendix B
September 7	No class – labor day	
September 9	Review Session	
<b>Sept. 9-10</b>	<b>EXAM 1 (Chaps. 1, 2)</b>	<b>~~WORTH 100 Points</b>
September 11, 14, 16	Biological Basis of Behavior	Chap. 3
September 18, 21, 23	Sensation and Perception	Chap. 4
September 25, 28	Variation in Consciousness	Chap. 5
September 30	Review Session	
<b>Sept. 30-Oct. 1</b>	<b>EXAM 2 (Chaps. 3, 4, 5)</b>	<b>~~WORTH 100 Points</b>
Oct. 2, 5, 7	Learning	Chap. 6

Oct. 9, 12, 14	Human Memory	Chap. 7
Oct. 16	No class – Fall Break	
Oct. 19, 21	Cognition and Intelligence	Chap. 8
Oct. 23	Review	
<b>Oct. 23-24</b>	<b>EXAM 3 (Chaps. 6, 7, 8)</b>	<b>~~WORTH 100 Points</b>
Oct. 26, 28	Motivation and Emotion	Chap. 9
Oct. 30, Nov. 2, 4	Stress Health and Coping	Chap. 12
Nov. 6, 9, 11	Social Behavior	Chap. 15
Nov. 13	Review	
<b>Nov. 13-14</b>	<b>EXAM 4 (Chaps. 9, 12, 15)</b>	<b>~~WORTH 100 Points</b>
Nov. 16, 18, 20	Psychological Disorders	Chap. 13
Nov. 23, 25, 30 [[No class Nov. 26-27: Thanksgiving]]	Treatment of Psychological Disorders and Closing	Chap. 14
Dec. 2	Trends and topics in psychology today	Supplemental materials
Dec. 4	Review	
<b>Dec. 4-10</b>	<b>EXAM 5 (Chaps. 13, 14, supplemental materials)</b>	<b>~~WORTH 100 Points</b>

NO CLASSES: Sept. 7, Oct. 16, Nov. 26-27

## **VI. Additional Information**

### **A. Attendance**

Attendance is not required for this class but is **STRONGLY** encouraged and will be monitored. Ten percent of your final grade is composed of homework assignments that will be announced in class; there will be no option for “make-up” assignments if these are missed. Also, anything discussed in class may be included on an exam, even if that information is not found in the textbook or online resources. Thus, it is in everyone’s best interest to attend. **\*\*IF** you miss class, there are two things you can do to get the material you missed. You may get the outline from the PowerPoint on WebCT, and/or you may get notes from a classmate. **DO NOT not email me or come to my office to ask what you missed.** It is your responsibility to attend class or, if you cannot, contact a classmate to catch up. Please **DO** email me or come to my office for any other purpose if you think I can be of help.

### **B. Class Contact**

Often it is necessary to miss a part or all of class. When that happens, or when you have questions that you cannot answer on your own, it is helpful to have the name and number of another student in class that you can contact. Please use the space below to write down the name, email, and phone number of at least two students in this class. AND you can use WebCT to email anyone in the class.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR CLASSMATES:

_____	_____
Name	Phone or Email
_____	_____
Name	Phone or Email

**C. Class Courtesy**

This is a large class, so please be courteous of others when coming late to or leaving early from class. Do not make a habit of arriving late or leaving early as many (including me) find it very distracting. The following behaviors are rude when they take place during class time: a) holding private conversations, b) sleeping, c) reading other material, or d) doing other work. Drinking (but not eating) in class is permitted, so long as it is not disruptive to the learning environment. **\*\*POLICY FOR ELECTRONIC DEVICES: ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES ARE TO BE OFF AND OUT OF SIGHT/REACH DURING CLASS AND TESTS.** Any disruptive behavior will be addressed immediately, and if the behavior does not cease, you will be asked to leave class. **Students repeatedly engaging in rude behavior will be counseled to drop the course.**

**D. Grade Appeals**

If, after receiving an exam back during class, you think a mistake has been made in the grading of **your** exam, please do not ask about this during class. Write/type down on a sheet of paper what your questions are, provide reference to notes in class or specific pages from the book, and turn in these questions to the instructor at the end of the class period. You will receive a response, and any grade adjustment necessary, within one week. You may also do this with the writing assignment. **THIS IS THE ONLY WAY** that your concerns will be addressed. **ONLY** written questions and comments **THAT YOU SUPPORT** will be evaluated.

**E. Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism/Cheating**

I encourage students to work and study together whenever possible. **However, students must hand in their own work.** Whenever you try to pass off someone's work that is not your own, that is cheating. If you cheat on **ANY** assignment (even extra credit), you will receive a grade of **E (Failing) for the**

**course.** Plagiarism is when you represent someone else's ideas or words as your own. For a very detailed description of plagiarism, please go to the web site and review the PLAGIARISM description. You are responsible for knowing what constitutes plagiarism. ANY plagiarism (even unintentional) will result in a failing grade in the course. Please refer to the following web site for a complete listing of infringements that constitute cheating:

<http://documents.weber.edu/ppm/6-22.htm>.

#### **F. 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.

#### **G. Students' Rights and Responsibilities**

Please refer to the following web site for a complete listing of all WSU student rights and responsibilities: <http://documents.weber.edu/ppm/6-22.htm>

### **VII. Testing Center Hours**

All exams will be taken in the Social Sciences Testing Center, located in the basement of the Social Sciences building (SS 036). In order to take an exam, you must show up on the correct date at the appropriate times (NOTE: you must arrive at least one hour before closing) with a form of picture ID and 10 cents for the scantron. You will not be allowed to take the exam without a picture ID or if you show up after hours. Please see the Social Science Testing Center hours listed at: <http://departments.weber.edu/testingcenter/hours.htm>

### **VIII. Grade Record**

Please keep a record of the grades you receive on each exam and assignment. You may also access your grades using the MY GRADES tool on WebCT. Grades are updated within 1 week of the end of every exam.

**NOTE: The course syllabus provides a general plan for the course.** I am committed to following the syllabus but there is no guarantee that I will. Altering the syllabus may also mean changing the nature or timing of exams/assignments. **By continuing in the course after reading the syllabus, you are indicating that you accept the terms of the syllabus.** November 3rd, 2009 is the last day to drop with a W.