

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

Professor: Azenett A. Garza, Ph.D.
Office & Office Hours: SS 328D
 By appointment mainly, but will be around Mondays & Fridays, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., also available through phone or chat through scheduled time.
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Yourpsychportal: Go to <http://courses.bfwpub.com/schacterbriefle.php>
 You may purchase or register your activation there.
Website: <http://faculty.weber.edu/agarza> or
 Web CT <http://online.weber.edu> will need Wildcat username and password to access.
Text: *Introducing Psychology* (2011) by Daniel Schacter, Daniel T. Gilbert, & Daniel M. Wegner. Worth Publishers.

Some of the 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 to be able to apply 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 60% 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 yourpsychportal under the ASSIGNMENT Tab. Homework assignments will consist of 50 multiple choice questions that will resemble exam questions, will be worth 50 points each and **will be worth 20% of your grade.** Each homework assignment is to be done individually. You may use your text and yourpsychportal resources to complete your homework. **Homework assignments not done individually will result in a grade of zero.** You should print out 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. You may also answer a few questions at a time, save those answers without submitting the assignment. Be sure to SUBMIT the assignment before the deadline and once ALL questions have been answered. Do save your answers, if you are answering a few at a time but don't submit until your assignment is completed. Homework assignments are **due at 11:55 p.m. the day specified on the calendar** unless otherwise specified. Homework assignments are to be

turned in through yourpsychportal. **NO LATE OR MAKE-UP ASSIGNMENTS ARE ALLOWED. YOU MUST TURN IN HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT BY 11:55 p.m. 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-lecture & Mastery Quizzes: During the period that we cover each chapter, a corresponding pre-lecture & Mastery quiz will be available on Yourpsychportal on the ASSIGNMENT tab. You will take one pre-lecture quiz and one mastery quiz for each chapter that we cover. Ten pre-lecture & Mastery test quizzes will be available through *Yourpsychportal*. **The two lowest pre-lecture & Mastery quiz grades will be dropped.** Quizzes will consist of multiple choice questions and will be worth 10 points each and will be worth **20% toward your final grade.** Quizzes will be meant to keep you up to date on your readings, prepare you for class discussions 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-lecture & Mastery quiz are listed on the course calendar. You **must** complete quizzes **by 11:55 p.m.** 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 Mastery 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 the Mastery, you will receive full credit for the quiz. If you obtain a score of less than 75% on the Mastery quiz, you will only receive 8/10 points.

Study Activities and Materials: In order to help you understand the material better and to prepare you for exams, there are various study aides available to you. In Psychportal, under the COURSE MATERIALS TAB, if you click on STUDENT RESOURCES and select "All student resources" and then choose the chapter you are working on. You will see that Psychportal has various things to offer you to help you understand the material such as: Concepts in Action*, PsycSim5*, PsyInquiry*, Video Tool Kit, Animations, Flash cards, Chapter Objectives, and Chapter Outlines. None of these study aids will be required or graded. You will be allowed to do any of these activities as many times as you like. They are meant to help you practice and learn the material in various formats. I strongly encourage you to use these tools available to you to help you think about the material more deeply and elaborate on the material being covered. The resources with * are some of my favorite ones which I think are very much worthwhile.

Extra Credit:

The **only** available extra credit will be the possibility of participating in two research hours. So, don't even ask!

Research Participation: An important part of taking an introduction to psychology class is to understand and experience how knowledge in psychology is acquired. Therefore, **you may earn up to 2% added to your final grade** based on the amount of research participation you accrue. You may complete up to 8 research credits to receive full credit (2%). Every 15 minutes of participation is worth 1 research credit. Please see <http://www.weber.edu/wsuiimages/psychology/StudentResearchReq2010.pdf> for specific information as to how to do this. You will be informed through WebCT of most research opportunities that are available online. So, if interested, this extra credit could be completed solely on-line although you are strongly encouraged when possible to complete at least one research credit face-to-face on campus. Research opportunities will be posted caddy corner of the Psychology department (SS 370) and right next to the big Psychology Department Bulletin. Research participation or its alternatives must be completed by **Nov. 18th. ABSOLUTELY NO LATE EXTRA CREDIT WILL BE ALLOWED.** A list of participation in research will be provided to professor by Human Subjects Committee but it would behoove you to keep a copy of all proof of research participation as a backup. It is extremely important that you **ALWAYS** provide your full name, W# in the following format (W12345678) and my name (professor's name) when participating in research so that you may receive credit for your research participation.

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 84 hours doing "homework" through the 14 week semester, which include reading the text and documents, completing homework, and studying for exams. That equals 126 hours, which is the university standard in-and-out-of-class workload expectation for a three-hour course under the semester system. For an online class, this is roughly equivalent to 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

Exams	100 pts ea.	60% of your grade
Homework	50 pts ea.	20% of your grade
Pre & Post Quizzes	10 pts ea.	20% 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 fact in which extra points are usually awarded in exams, some low grades are dropped, and the extra credit assignment available, 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 up is if **ALL** assignments and exams have been completed .

Grade Appeals:

You are welcome to review each exam for 2 weeks after its deadline. Each exam will be available on ChiTester for review from any computer. If, after reviewing an exam, quiz, or homework back, you think a question is open to more than one interpretation, e-mail me your challenge to me. The challenge must be submitted within two weeks 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 3) the CORRECT answer (according to me) 4) YOUR answer, and 5) 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.

Excused Absences for University-Recognized Activities. "Students who will be "absent" (meaning, you will be out-of-town for a school related activity) while representing the University in officially recognized University activities (sports, band, professional conferences, etc.) must notify

the instructor ten days prior to absence. Students will be permitted to make up both assignments and examinations in consultation with their instructors.

Academic Dishonesty

PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING

Although no written work is required in this class, plagiarism may not appear to be as relevant but you need to be aware of what plagiarism means. Cheating or copying work from others, however, is something that could occur in this class and if caught, you will receive the consequences outline here.

Plagiarism or **cheating** is an act of academic dishonesty and a violation of University Standards and the Student Code of Conduct. Please refer to the WSU Student Code for a description of Cheating and Plagiarism are: http://www.weber.edu/ppm/Policies/6-22_StudentCode.html.

Ignorance is not an excuse; understanding and avoiding academic dishonesty is your responsibility. Cheating in this class **will result in a grade of zero for the assignment. It may further result in failure of the course. Regardless of the outcome**, the Dean of Students will be notified of the incident. Therefore, it could have serious implications for your academic career (e.g., academic probation, suspension, or expulsion).

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
Aug. 22 - 26	<i>Chapter 1 Evolution of a Science</i>	Chapter 1 pretest Due 8/26 by 11:55 p.m.
Aug. 27 – Sep. 1	<i>Chapter 2 Methods in Psychology</i>	Syllabus Quiz Due 9/1 & Chapter 2 pretest Due 9/1 by 11:55 p.m.
Sep. 2 – 7	Review	Ch. 1 & 2 Mastery Quizzes Due 9/7
Sep. 8 - 12	EXAM 1 available	Homework 1 Due 9/7 by 11:55 p.m.
Sep. 13 - 17	<i>Chapter 3 Neuroscience of behavior</i>	Exam 1 available thru Sep. 12
Sep. 19 - 22	<i>Chapter 8 Consciousness</i>	Chapter 3 pretest Due 9/17 by 11:55 p.m.
Sep. 23 - 27	Review	Chapter 8 pretest Due 9/22 by 11:55 p.m.
Sep. 28 – Oct. 1	EXAM 2 available	Ch. 3 & 8 Mastery Quizzes Due 9/27
Oct. 3 - 6	<i>Chapter 6 Learning</i>	Homework 2 Due 9/27 by 11:55 p.m.
Oct. 7 - 11	<i>Chapter 5 Memory</i>	Exam 2 available thru Oct. 1
Oct. 12 - 15	Review	Chapter 6 pretest due 10/6 by 11:55 p.m.
Oct. 17 - 20	EXAM 3 available	Chapter 5 pretest due 10/11 by 11:55 p.m.
Oct. 24 - 27	<i>Chapter 10 Development</i>	Ch 6 & 5 Mastery Quizzes Due 10/15 by 11:55 p.m.
Oct. 28- Nov. 1	<i>Chapter 15 Social Psychology</i>	Homework 3 Due 10/15 by 11:55 p.m.
Nov. 2 - 5	Review	Exam 3 available thru Oct. 20
Nov. 7 - 10	EXAM 4 available	Chapter 10 pretest Due 10/27 by 11:55 p.m.
Nov. 11 - 15	<i>Chapter 11 Personality</i>	Chapter 15 pretest Due 11/1 by 11:55 p.m.
Nov. 16 - 19	<i>Chapter 12 Psychological Disorders</i>	Ch 10 & 15 Mastery Quizzes Due 11/5 by 11:55 p.m.
Nov. 21-28	Review	Homework 4 Due 11/5 by 11:55 p.m.
Nov. 29 – Dec. 2	EXAM 5 & FINAL EXAM available	Exam 4 thru Nov. 10
Dec. 3 - 8	Comprehensive FINAL Available	Chapter 11 pretest Due 11/15 by 11:55 p.m.
		Chapter 12 pretest Due 11/19 by 11:55 p.m.
		Ch. 11 & 12 Mastery Quizzes Due 11/28
		Homework 5 Due 11/28 by 11:55 p.m.
		Exam 5 available thru Dec. 2
		Final Exam available thru Dec. 8

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 Mastery 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 the sympathetic system vs. the parasympathetic system?” vs. “I don’t get Chapter 3.”). 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 psychportal.
- ▶ **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, psychportal, 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 your academic progress in this class.

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

- *** Note1: Remember Final Exam is optional and/or may be used to replace missing or lowest exam score.** Note2 remember to drop lowest exam, if you don't miss any exams or if you take the final exam.

Pre & Mastery Quiz Ch. 1 _____ & _____
 Pre & Mastery Quiz Ch. 2 _____ & _____
 Pre & Mastery Quiz Ch. 3 _____ & _____
 Pre & Mastery Quiz Ch. 8 _____ & _____
 Pre & Mastery Quiz Ch. 6 _____ & _____
 Pre & Mastery Quiz Ch. 5 _____ & _____
 Pre & Mastery Quiz Ch. 10 _____ & _____
 Pre & Mastery Quiz Ch. 15 _____ & _____
 Pre & Mastery Quiz Ch. 11 _____ & _____
 Pre & Mastery Quiz Ch. 12 _____ & _____

- Remember to drop the lowest 2 scores.
- Homework #1 _____
- Homework #2 _____
- Homework #3 _____
- Homework #4 _____
- Homework # 5 _____ *** Note the lowest homework will be dropped.**

Class Participation # 1 _____

Class Participation # 2 _____

Class Participation # 3 _____

Class Participation # 4 _____

Class Participation # 5 _____

Class Participation # 6 _____

Class Participation # 7 _____

Class Participation # 8 _____

Class Participation # 9 _____

Class Participation # 10 _____

- Remember to drop the lowest 3 scores.

Research Credit #1 _____

Research Credit #2 _____

Research Credit #3 _____

Research Credit # 4 _____

Research Credit #5 _____