

**INTRODUCTORY PSYCHOLOGY (PSYC 1010-21976)**  
**WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY, FALL 2012**  
**MWF 10:30 – 11:20 A.M., SS 394**

<b>PROFESSOR</b>	Dr. Leigh Shaw	<b>OFFICE HOURS</b>	MWF 11:30-Noon; by appt.
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### **COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES**

This course presents an introduction to the diverse field of psychology. We will cover topics in the areas of history, research methods and ethics, neuroscience, sensation and perception, learning, memory, emotions/stress/health, personality, developmental, social and abnormal psychology. By means of reading, completing assignments, and participating in class, you will:

- 1) understand “human nature” from the perspective of scientific psychology. Specifically, you will learn what it means to think like a psychologist by using statistical and methodological knowledge to critically evaluate scientific claims and you will learn a core set of content knowledge addressing the biological, cognitive/behavioral, social/personality and developmental aspects of behavior.
- 2) apply psychological principles and research to better understand yourself and others, to solve problems, to explain social issues, and to inform public policy.
- 3) understand key psychological values (e.g., skepticism, intellectual curiosity, respect for evidence and human diversity), the limits of psychological knowledge and skills, and the necessity of ethical behavior in all aspects of the science and practice of psychology.
- 4) will engage in critical thinking about psychological terms, concepts, research, and theories and exhibit skills to professionally communicate that understanding to others via written and oral formats.

### **REQUIRED TEXTBOOK**

Your textbook is *Exploring Psychology* (8<sup>th</sup> ed.) by Myers (2011, New York: Worth). You also need access to PsychPortal, an online learning space that integrates a fully interactive eBook that you can personalize with highlighting and note-taking tools, as well as animations, tutorials, diagnostic quizzing and other study aids. PsychPortal access will enable you to complete the required chapter activities and extra credit quizzing, and to use its many study aids to enhance your learning. Thus, you must purchase either:

- (a) a non-returnable package of the loose-leaf textbook with a PsychPortal Access Card (ISBN 978-1-4292-6246-0) at the WSU bookstore for \$70.30, or
- (b) the PsychPortal Access Card to use the fully interactive eBook directly from the publisher for \$55.95 ([https://purchase.bfwpub.com/purchase/transaction/transaction.php?productId=exploring8e\\_p](https://purchase.bfwpub.com/purchase/transaction/transaction.php?productId=exploring8e_p)).

Option (a) from the WSU Bookstore gives you a “hard copy” and eBook version of the textbook for ~\$14 more than the eBook only version purchased from the publisher.

Once you have your PsychPortal Access Card, please follow the instructions below:

- a) Point your browsers to <http://courses.bfwpub.com/exploring8e.php> (Mac users will need to use Firefox).
- b) Click on the link "REGISTER AN ACTIVATION CODE."
- c) You will be prompted to follow the on-screen instructions to find your course. You will start by selecting the school's state/province, the school name, then your instructor, course, and/or section.
- d) You will enter the activation code (found in your Access Card). You will also be asked to enter your email address, choose a password (write it down somewhere safe) and you will be ready to go!

If you have any trouble during the registration process, call **1-800-936-6899** or email **techsupport@bfwpub.com**

### **COURSE WEBSITE**

- To access the course website in Canvas, go to <https://weber.instructure.com/login>. Log-in with your Wildcat username and password. From the “Courses” tab, click on “PSYC 1010”. You will be able to access the syllabus, PowerPoint handouts to aid in note taking, assignments, video guides, exam reviews, and relevant

web links. You also will be able to stay current with course announcements, your grades, and to email your professor and peers. The material available online is provided as a courtesy to facilitate note taking and comprehension of course material – it is NOT a substitute for attending class. You will be provided with information in class that is not sufficiently elaborated in the Power Points, is not provided in your text, and is critical to your success in this class. I strongly advise you to bring to class the relevant handouts to elaborate with in-class information.

- For assistance with Canvas issues, email [wsuonline@weber.edu](mailto:wsuonline@weber.edu) or call 626-6499. For assistance with usernames and/or passwords, call (626-7777) or email ([csupport@weber.edu](mailto:csupport@weber.edu)) the Help Desk.

## GRADING

	<b>Points</b>	<b>~%</b>
<b>Exams</b>	<b>330</b> <i>#1-4 @ 60 points; #5 @ 90 points</i>	<b>61%</b>
<b>Homework Quizzes</b>	<b>110</b> <i>#1-4 @ 20 points; #5 @ 30 points</i>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Chapter Activities</b>	<b>50</b> <i>10 activities @ 5 points</i>	<b>9%</b>
<b>Research Participation</b>	<b>50 points</b> <i>10 research credits @ 5 points</i>	<b>9%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>540</b>	

Final grades will be assigned based on the percent of total points earned, as follows:

<b>A</b> (100 - 93%)	<b>B-</b> (82.9 - 80%)	<b>D+</b> (69.9 - 67%)
<b>A-</b> (92.9 - 90%)	<b>C+</b> (79.9 - 77%)	<b>D</b> (66.9 - 63%)
<b>B+</b> (89.9 - 87%)	<b>C</b> (76.9 - 73%)	<b>D-</b> (62.9 - 60%)
<b>B</b> (86.9 - 83%)	<b>C-</b> (72.9 - 70%)	<b>E</b> (59.9 - 0%)

## EXAMS

- There are 5 non-comprehensive exams, each covering about 1/5 of course material - including lectures, discussions, videos, and assigned chapters. Exams consist of multiple-choice questions. Exams are "closed-book" and "closed-notes". Exams 1, 2, 3 & 4 have 40 items, each worth 1.5 points for 60 total points; Exam 5 has 60 items, each worth 1.5 points for 90 total points.
- All exams will be administered via Chitestster online software (<https://chitestster.weber.edu/chi.cfm>) and will be available in the following testing centers: Social Science, Natural Science, Student Services, Union, Davis Campus, Marriott Health, Morgan, and West. All exams are proctored and require a student ID check. To take an exam, you must show up with your student ID on the correct date (see Course Schedule) at the appropriate times for the testing center you choose. You will not be allowed to take an exam without your ID or if you show up after hours (tests are issued until the closing time listed; you may remain for one hour after that time to complete your exam). The testing center hours are listed at <http://www.weber.edu/TestingCenter/> (currently listed as 7:30am-8pm MTWR, 7:30am-4:30pm F, 9am-4pm S, closed Sunday).
- It is your responsibility to know the testing center's hours of operation and to take the exam during the exam period. If you have a conflict with the exam schedule, you may take an exam early at no penalty. To do so, discuss your conflict with me so we can make arrangements. If for whatever reason, you fail to take an exam during the exam period, you may take the exam within 2 days of the close-date at a **20% penalty**. You must consult with me before taking a late exam with penalty, and late exams will be administered at my discretion.
- EXAM REVIEW SHEETS will be available online one week before the exam period.

- **IMPORTANT:** You are responsible for all assigned readings even if they are not discussed in class, and you are responsible for anything discussed in class even if it is not covered in the readings. If you miss a class, you must get the notes from another student.

## EXAM ITEM REVIEWS

- My goal is to help you learn the course material and foster your ability to think like a scientific psychologist. To this end, it is important for you to reflect on and learn from your mistakes. If you choose to truly learn the material on each exam and you seek to improve your exam score, you may do the following:
  - 1) With your textbook and notes available as a reference, log-in to Chitester to review your exam.
  - 2) On a blank sheet of paper, clearly write your name, PSY 1010-21976, EXAM (insert #) Review.
  - 3) For each item you missed, write down:
    - ✓ the **item #**
    - ✓ the **correct response** (*figure it out – use your textbook & notes!*)
    - ✓ a **2-3 sentence explanation of why you chose one of the incorrect responses**. BE HONEST!  
Perhaps you read the question too quickly, you misread the question, you didn't study that concept, you didn't read the textbook, you misunderstood the concept, you second-guessed yourself, and/or you just spaced out! This is an opportunity for you to learn from your mistakes!
- Item reviews are due **by NOON** on the due date (see Course Schedule). Early reviews are encouraged; late reviews will not be accepted. Reviews that do not include the required elements will not be considered. Due to testing center policy and final grade deadlines, item reviews can be completed only for exams 1-4.
- You may earn **0.3 points** (or 0.50%) for each missed item that you successfully review. For example, if you missed 5 items on exam 1 you would earn a 52.5/60 (87.5%). If you successfully reviewed each of the 5 items, you'd earn back 1.5 points (0.3\*5), or 5%. Thus, your final adjusted exam 1 score would be 54/60 (90%).
- I strongly advise you to take this opportunity to make the most of what may have been a personally disappointing performance on any given exam. I believe in your ability to succeed in this course and I am willing to help you do so.

## HOMEWORK QUIZZES

- You will complete 5 homework quizzes comprised of primarily multiple-choice questions about the assigned course material. Homework quizzes 1, 2, 3 & 4 have 80 items, each worth 0.25 points for 20 total points; homework quiz 5 has 120 items, each worth 0.25 points for 30 total points.
- You can download your homework assignments from the Homework Module in Canvas so that you can work the assignments at your own pace offline. You will submit your homework assignments from any computer via Chitester (<https://chitester.weber.edu/chi.cfm>). Homework quizzes are “open-note” and “open-book” and may only be attempted one time (no retakes). Go to the Homework Modules in Canvas and read the handout, “How to complete and submit your homework quizzes” for more information.
- Homework assignments are due **by 12:00 PM/NOON** on the specified due date (see Course Schedule). You may turn in your homework assignments at any point during the semester up to the due date. No late homework will be accepted, so schedule your time wisely! I strongly suggest you turn in your homework well in advance of the due date, just in case you have any problems with computer connections. *Ignorance is not an excuse*; it is your responsibility to download, print, complete, and submit homework assignments online and on time.

## CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

- In PsychPortal, you will complete a chapter activity for each of the 10 assigned chapters. Activities are varied and consist of, for example, watching a brief video or completing a simulation and then answering a short quiz.

- Activities will be graded for completion and accuracy. Each activity is worth 5 points; thus, the 10 chapter activities are worth a total of 50 points (~9% of final grade).
- Chapter activities are due online in PsychPortal **by 12:00 PM/NOON** on the specified due date (see Course Schedule). Homework quizzes and chapter activities are due at the same time. Similarly, you may turn in your chapter activities at any point during the semester up to the due date. No late chapter activities will be accepted, so schedule your time wisely! I strongly suggest you turn in your activities well in advance of the due date, just in case you have any problems with computer connections. *Ignorance is not an excuse*; it is your responsibility to submit chapter activities online and on time.

### RESEARCH PARTICIPATION CREDITS

- An important part of taking an introduction to psychology course is to understand how knowledge is psychology is acquired. Thus, 9% of your final grade will be based on research participation. You are required to complete 10 research credits (each research credit = 15 minutes of participation) to receive the full 9%.
- Research participation credit (RPC) or its alternatives must be completed no later than **Monday, November 26<sup>th</sup>**. Read the RESEARCH PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENT handout in the Course Resources Module in Canvas for more information. **THIS IS WORTH AT LEAST A FULL LETTER GRADE IN THIS COURSE! PLEASE DO NOT IGNORE THIS REQUIREMENT!!**

### EXTRA CREDIT: PSYCHPORTAL DIAGNOSTIC QUIZZING

- PsychPortal's Diagnostic Quizzing will help you pinpoint the concepts with which you are having difficulty in each chapter. You may take pre-lecture quizzes to see how well you understand material before coming to class and mastery quizzes to gauge your understanding of what you have learned. Quizzes are randomized and timed and the results direct you to reading sections, interactive activities, and other resources to help you focus study time on the important concepts you need to master. Quiz results are stored in your Personalized Study Plan.
- In addition to fostering your knowledge of course concepts, you will accrue extra points as you complete the pre-lecture and mastery quizzes for each of the 10 assigned chapters. For the assigned chapter(s), you may submit the pre-lecture and mastery quizzes according to the following schedule (*note the final due date and time are the same as the relevant chapter activities and homework*):
  - CH 1: 8/27 - 9/14 by NOON
  - CH 2 & 6: 9/15 - 10/3 by NOON
  - CH 7 & 8: 10/4 - 10/24 by NOON
  - CH 11 & 12: 10/25 - 11/9 by NOON
  - CH 5, 15, 13: 11/10 - 12/7 by NOON
- Each pre-lecture and mastery quiz completed on-time will earn 1 point. Thus, you may earn up to 20 extra points (+3.7%) with this activity. Partial or late completion of quizzes will give you no extra-credit points.
- Extra-credit points will be counted in your final grade only if you take each of the 5 exams, complete at least 4 of the 5 homework quizzes and 8 of the 10 chapter activities.

### ATTENDANCE

I do not take daily attendance; you are responsible to decide the level at which you will be engaged in this course. In my experience, attendance is positively related to course success.

## **EXCUSED ABSENCES FOR UNIVERSITY-RECOGNIZED ACTIVITIES**

Students who will be absent while representing the University in officially recognized University activities (e.g., sports, band, professional conferences) 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

## **DROPPING THE COURSE**

The cancellation deadline is September 17<sup>th</sup>; the last day to withdraw from any individual class and to completely withdraw for the semester is November 6<sup>th</sup> (see Catalog for details and instructions).

## **CLASS CONDUCT AND COURTESY**

- Please be courteous of others when arriving late or leaving early from class. Students have the right to a course that is relatively free of any unnecessary distractions that could impair their course participation. If you anticipate being late for or leaving early from class on a regular basis, see me immediately to explain the reasons for your tardiness or early departures. You also should plan to sit in an area of the classroom that will lead to the least amount of class disruption when you arrive or leave.
- Please refrain from talking during class unless you are participating in class discussion.
- Please turn off cell phones and other electronic devices in class. It is inappropriate and rude to text or use your cell phone during class. Audio recorders and computers are permitted in class for course purposes.
- Any disruptive behavior will be addressed immediately, and if the behavior does not cease you will be asked to leave the class.
- No adult or child visitors are allowed in class without prior permission.
- Refer to <http://documents.weber.edu/ppm/6-22.htm> for a description of student rights and responsibilities.

## **REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION**

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act [ADA], any student requiring accommodations or services due to a disability must contact Services for Students with Disability (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. Furthermore, I wish to offer any qualified student with a disability the opportunity to meet with me privately to discuss receiving reasonable accommodation. Such accommodation will be afforded based on the specific disability and as agreed in writing. This statement in no way asks that students identify themselves as having a disability; however, a request for reasonable accommodation can be granted if a student makes his or her disability known. Please refer to the following web site for the Services for Students with Disabilities Handbook: [http://departments.weber.edu/ssd/handbook/hb\\_07.htm](http://departments.weber.edu/ssd/handbook/hb_07.htm)

## **PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING**

Whenever you try to pass someone else's work off as your own, you are cheating! All work submitted in this course must be your own and be written exclusively for this course. Refer to the following website for a complete list of infractions that may constitute cheating [http://www.weber.edu/ppm/Policies/6-22\\_StudentCode.html](http://www.weber.edu/ppm/Policies/6-22_StudentCode.html)  
The use of sources (ideas, quotations, paraphrases) must be properly documented in written and oral communications. "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:

Contrary to Plato and Descartes who assumed that knowledge is innate or inborn, Locke proposed that “the mind at birth is a blank slate—a “white paper”—on which experience writes” (Myers, 2005, p. 3). This notion helped lay the foundation for empiricism, or “the view that knowledge originates in experience and that science should, therefore, rely on observation and experimentation” (Myers, 2005, p. 4).

#### *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 in Canvas 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. Any cheating or plagiarism 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.

### **FINAL POINT**

Course schedule and exam dates may change; it is your duty to attend class to learn about changes. This syllabus is our contract: it details your obligations to me, and mine to you.

### COURSE SCHEDULE

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Chapter</b>	<b>Assignments (due by 12:00 PM/NOON)</b>
1	8/27	Expectations!		
	8/29	Course Overview		
	8/31	History of Psychology	1	
2	9/3	<b>NO CLASS: Labor Day</b>		
	9/5	History of Psychology		
	9/7	How to Think Critically...	Appendix A, C	
3	9/10	How to Think Critically...		
	9/12	How to Think Critically...		<i>Practice HW</i>
	9/14	How to Think Critically...		<i>HW #1, CA 1 &amp; Extra Credit</i>
	<b>9/14-17</b>	<b>EXAM 1</b>		
4	9/17	<b>NO CLASS: Exam 1</b>		
	9/19	Biology of Mind	2	
	9/21	Biology of Mind		
5	9/24	Biology of Mind		<i>EX 1 Reviews</i>
	9/26	Biology of Mind		
	9/28	Sensation and Perception	6	
6	10/1	Sensation and Perception		
	10/3	Sensation and Perception		<i>HW #2, CA 2, CA 6 &amp; Extra Credit</i>
	10/5	<b>NO CLASS: Exam 2</b>		
	<b>10/3-5</b>	<b>EXAM 2</b>		
7	10/8	Learning	7	
	10/10	Learning		
	10/12	Learning		
8	10/15	Memory	8	<i>EX 2 Reviews</i>
	10/17	Memory		
	10/19	<b>NO CLASS: Fall Break</b>		
9	10/22	Memory		
	10/24	Memory		<i>HW #3, CA 7, CA 8 &amp; Extra Credit</i>
	10/26	<b>NO CLASS: Exam 3</b>		
	<b>10/24-26</b>	<b>EXAM 3</b>		
10	10/29	Emotions, Stress, & Health	11	
	10/31	Emotions, Stress, & Health		
	11/2	Emotions, Stress, & Health		<i>EX 3 Reviews</i>
11	11/5	Personality	12	
	11/7	Personality		
	11/9	Personality		<i>HW #4, CA 11, CA 12 &amp; Extra Credit</i>
	<b>11/9-12</b>	<b>EXAM 4</b>		
12	11/12	<b>NO CLASS: Exam 4</b>		
	11/14	Development	5	
	11/16	Development		
13	11/19	Development		<i>EX 4 Reviews</i>
	11/21	Social Psychology	15	
	11/23	<b>NO CLASS: Thanksgiving</b>		
14	11/26	Social Psychology		<i>Research Credits</i>
	11/28	Social Psychology		
	11/30	Psychological Disorders	13	
15	12/3	Psychological Disorders		
	12/5	Psychological Disorders		
	12/7	Psychological Disorders		<i>HW #5, CA 5, CA 15, CA 13 &amp; Ex. Credit</i>
	<b>12/7-11</b>	<b>EXAM 5</b>		