



## Understanding Psychology, Fall 2021

Course Title	Understanding Psychology 심리학의 이해	Course No.	36025, Sec02
Department/ Major	Psychology	Credit	3
Class Time/ Classroom	Mon 2:00~3:15, Wed 12:30~1:45 / Online (Zoom meeting room)		
Instructor	Name: Sung-Ho Kim	Department:	Psychology
	E-mail: sunghokim@ewha.ac.kr	Telephone:	2645
Office Hours/ Office Location	Mon 3:30~4:30, after many classes, or by appointment / Posco 502		

### I. Course Overview

#### 1. Course Description

This course is an broad introduction to the science of psychology: from the history of the field and its major advances, to the latest research on topics such as brain structure and function, perception, memory, intelligence, rationality, social relationship, personality, human development, mental illness, morality, sexuality, language, creativity and so on. Students will also learn about research methods and statistical techniques psychologists use to investigate the mind. The combination of time limitations and broad scope necessarily means that none of these topics can be covered in great depth - that's what upper level courses are for.

#### 2. Prerequisites

None

#### 3. Course Format

Lecture	Discussion/Presentation	Experiment/Practicum	Field Study	Other
100 %	%	%		%

Lectures will be given each week during the regularly scheduled class meeting times. Attendance and participation at lecture sessions are essential to your success in this course. You are strongly encouraged to attend all lectures and actively participate in class discussions.

To get the most out of this course, it is important that you carefully and critically study assigned readings associated with each lecture (see the course schedule below) prior to the class meeting. It will also increase your ability to take effective notes. Sometimes additional readings will be announced ahead of time in class, and will be provided electronically via Ewha Cyber Campus.



Note that the textbook is intended to be complementary to the lectures; the lectures may cover material that was not in the reading, and likewise, there may be material in the reading that is not covered in lecture. The exams will sample more heavily out of the material presented in the lectures, although questions about the textbook material may be included on the exams.

Announcement about important or urgent news (e.g., deadlines, schedule changes) will be sent to you via both Cyber Campus and your e-mails. You are responsible for checking your e-mail on a regular basis so as not to miss class announcements. If you have not registered your email address in Cyber Campus, you must do that right now.

#### 4. Course Objectives

The primary goal of this course is to introduce students to the field of psychology and the problems and issues that psychologists study. Students should learn about the major topics and approaches, critical experiments, key findings, basic vocabulary/jargon of the field, and who the leading scholars are in many of the major areas of psychology. It also aims to help students understand the impact of psychology in everyday life and enhance ability to think critically and scientifically about real-world psychological issues. These goals can be achieved best if you attend all the classes.

#### 5. Evaluation System

Midterm Exam	Final Exam	Quizzes	Presentation	Projects	Assignments	Participation	Other
40 %	40 %	%	%	%	20 %	%	%

##### 1. Attendance (penalty points)

Attendance is the responsibility of the student. Moreover it is essential to understand the concepts and processes explained in the reading material. Each student is responsible for all material presented in class. This includes announcements of exam dates, announcements of additional readings, announcement of schedule changes, etc. PowerPoint slides will be posted after each class to the Ewha Cyber campus for your convenience, but these will not be detailed enough to study from on their own. Please arrange to obtain notes from a class mate if you are absent.

Missing one class will not hurt you at all, but from the 2<sup>nd</sup> time you will lose points from your final grade as many as those you can earn from a multiple choice question in exams, and missing classes more than 5 times will result in a failure in this course.

##### 2. (40%) midterm & (40%) final exams

The exams will not be cumulative, so students will be tested only on material from the respective part of the course. The questions will be taken from lecture material and the



corresponding reading material. Exams will include some or all of the following activities:

- Multiple choice, true/false questions
- Fill in the blank
- Short answer (within one or two sentences)
- Long answer (2-4 sentences)

### 3. (20%) two short essays (1-3 pages for each)

① 1<sup>st</sup> essay topic: public news article analysis - correlation vs. causation

✎ In the “Research methods” section, you will learn how and why correlation and causation are different. The ability to distinguish between correlational and causal claims is core knowledge for scientific literacy (in both natural and social sciences), and so very important!! Unfortunately, the headlines of articles in the popular media often misrepresent the research on which they are based. Many of the headlines suggest causal relationships when, upon closer reading of the article itself, one finds that the research was correlational in nature, and the headline is not justified.

✎ In this essay, your job is to find a popular media report of scientific research which misrepresents correlational study results as causal, and discuss the possible problems of the descriptions of the target study in the news article.

✎ More detailed rubric on writing this essay will be announced in class.

② 2<sup>nd</sup> essay topic: personal experience/event analysis

✎ Analyze a personal experience of your own or something about yourself using specific psychological theories, knowledge, and perspectives you learned throughout this course.

③ Writing format:

✎ 1~3 A4 pages. DO NOT make a separate cover page. Write the essay title, your name and student id at the top of the first page, and then start your essay right below them.

✎ You need not enclose your essay in a fancy plastic folder, nor need you decorate it. Ordinary staples will be sufficient.

④ Language: BOTH ENGLISH and KOREAN are equally OK, only if you make your essay readable and comprehensible.

⑤ Due dates: see class schedule below.

### 4. Psychology Experiment Participation Requirement (no credits)

As a part of this course, you are required to participate in actual psychology studies (experiments and surveys) conducted by graduate students and researchers in the psychology department.



## II. Course Materials and Additional Readings

### 1. Required Materials

**Grison, Heatherton, & Gazzaniga (2017).** *Psychology in your life* (second edition). New York, NY: Norton & Company. (Available to purchase at the ECC Kyobo book store for ₩40,000)

The previous (1st) edition of this book is also OK.

### 2. Supplementary Materials

### 3. Optional Additional Readings

## III. Course Policies

1. Phones, laptop computers, and other electronic devices can be highly disruptive to the classroom environment, and have been shown to distract us in ways that we are not consciously aware of. As such, **you are expected to switch ALL electronic devices off during the entire class session.**
2. Make-up exams will be allowed only with a Dean's excuse, and should be taken within one week of the original exam.
3. Academic Integrity: A university is a community of scholars, and I expect my students to act in ways that uphold the integrity of this community. Inappropriate actions include (but are not limited to) the following: cheating, helping another student to cheat, plagiarism, and copying from another student's work. The consequence for academic dishonesty is failure of the course.

## IV. Course Schedule

\* The course schedule may change during the term. These changes will be announced in class and/or via Ewha cyber campus. Students are responsible for keeping up with the changes.

Week	Date	Topics	Textbook readings			Remarks
			3 <sup>rd</sup> ed.	2 <sup>nd</sup> ed.	1 <sup>st</sup> ed.	
1	9/1	Intro, Overview of psychology History of Psychology	Ch1(pp.12-18)	Ch1(pp.11-15)	Ch1(pp.11-15)	
2	9/6 9/8	Foundation1: Freud-prophet or pervert	Ch13(514-518) Ch3(95-96,93-94)	Ch13(471-474) Ch3(80-81)	Ch12(429-432) Ch3(80-81)	
3	9/13 9/15	Research methods	Ch8(322-324) Ch1(22-37)	Ch8(297-299) Ch1(24-35)	Ch8(296-298) Ch1(24-35)	1 <sup>st</sup> Essay announcement
4	9/20 9/22	Chuseok (Korean thanksgiving day)				No class



Week	Date	Topics	Textbook readings			Remarks
			3 <sup>rd</sup> ed.	2 <sup>nd</sup> ed.	1 <sup>st</sup> ed.	
5	9/27 9/29	Foundation2: Skinner and Behaviorism	Ch6	Ch6	Ch6	
6	10/4 10/6	Foundation2: Skinner and Behaviorism Foundation3: Brain and nervous system	Ch2(47-70)	Ch2(40-62)	Ch2(40-62)	
7	10/11 10/13	Foundation3: Brain and nervous system	Ch3(96-99)	Ch3(83-86)	Ch3(83-86)	<i>Essay due</i>
8	10/18 10/20	Development: What is it like to be a baby	Ch4(136-150) Ch4(155-156)	Ch4(121-135) Ch4(141-142)	Ch4(119-133) Ch4(141-142)	
9	10/25 10/27	Development: What is it like to be a baby <b>Mid-term exam</b>	Ch3(94-95) Ch7(253-273)	Ch7(233-252)	Ch7(231-250)	
10	11/1 11/3	Memory system	Ch7(278-287)	Ch7(256-265)	Ch7(254-263)	
11	11/8 11/10	Cognition and Rationality What motivates us: Emotion & motivation	Ch8(296-306) Ch9(353-371)	Ch8(272-281) Ch9(324-339)	Ch8(271-280) Ch9(329-343)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Essay announcement
12	11/15 11/17	What motivates us: Emotion & motivation	Ch9(336-353)	Ch9(309-324)	Ch9(308-318)	
13	11/22 11/24	Why are people different: Personality	Ch13(513-514; 518-539) Ch13(504-512)	Ch13(469-470; 474-493) Ch13(461-468)	Ch12(427-428; 432-451) Ch12(419-424)	
14	11/29 12/1	Self and others: Social psychology	Ch12(464-490) Ch8(328-329)	Ch12(423-448) Ch8(302-303)	Ch11(383-407) Ch8(302-303)	
15	12/6 12/8	Self and others: Social psychology Mental health and good life	Ch12(491-496) Ch14(547-580)	Ch12(449-454) Ch14(499-527)	Ch11(408-412) Ch13(457-489)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Essay due
16	12/13 12/15	Mental health and good life <b>Final Exam</b>	Ch14(547-580)	Ch14(499-527)	Ch13(457-489)	
		Day reserved for delays in covering course material				

## V. Special Accommodations

\* According to the University regulation #57, students with disabilities can request special accommodation related to attendance, lectures, assignments, and/or tests by contacting the course professor at the beginning of semester. Based on the nature of the students' requests, students can receive support for such accommodations from the course professor and/or from the Support Center for Students with Disabilities (SCSD).