

INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY

Psychology 045.012 – Section 006

Instructor: Dr. Sowon Hahn

Spring 2021, Thursdays 14:00-17:00

(Building # 83, Room 505)

* Classes will be conducted via Zoom.

Course Description:

This course is a broad introduction to the field of psychology. We will review several subfields of psychology such as sensation and perception, cognition, neuroscience, social psychology, developmental psychology, biological psychology, and clinical psychology. Students in this course will learn the key concepts, perspectives and research findings that shaped contemporary psychology. All the lecture notes will be uploaded to ETL before each class.

Textbook: Psychological Science (by Michael Gazzaniga), 6th International Student Edition, W.W. Norton, ISBN 0393644545, 9780393644548

Grading: Your grade in the course will be based on your score on a) two exams, b) two assignments, and c) your in-class activity participation. We will break rooms in Zoom and do small group discussions/activities each week.

Exams: There will be two exams in this course. Exam 1 will use an essay format take-home exam. Exam 2 will be either a real-time online exam or essay format take-home, depending on the situation.

Assignments: Although most of what we know about psychology has arisen from controlled laboratory experiments, it impacts your everyday life in many ways. To better understand the impact of psychology in everyday lives, you will submit two assignments. Choose two topics from the below (Essay format, 2-3 pages, double spaced), and you can also select references that are not listed here.

Topic # 1: Psychology of Happiness. Are you happy? How can you improve happiness in your life?

- Diener, E., & Seligman, M. E. (2002). Very happy people. *Psychological science*, 13(1), 81-84.
- Lyubomirsky, S. (2008). *The how of happiness: A scientific approach to getting the life you want*. Penguin.

Topic #2 Enhance your learning. Researchers suggest that testing can improve memory, and spaced learning is better than massed learning. How can you apply the research in the real world? Do you have a special technique for effective learning?

- Cepeda, N. J., Vul, E., Rohrer, D., Wixted, J. T., & Pashler, H. (2008). Spacing effects in learning: A temporal ridgeline of optimal retention. *Psychological Science*, 19(11), 1095-1102.
- Roediger, H., & Karpicke, J. D. (2006). Test-Enhanced Learning: Taking Memory Tests Improves Long-Term Retention. *Psychological Science*, 17(3), 249-255.

Topic # 3: Can you fall in love? According to some psychologists, you can fall in love with a stranger by asking each other a series of personal questions. How do think people fall in love?

- <http://www.nytimes.com/2015/01/11/fashion/no-37-big-wedding-or-small.html>
- Aron, A., Paris, M., & Aron, E. N. (1995). Falling in love: Prospective studies of self-concept change. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 69(6), 1102.

Topic # 4: Artificial Intelligence and Ethics: Sooner or later, artificial intelligence will reach a complexity level, making decisions autonomously and reprogramming itself, especially in new situations. When AI can make value-based decisions, what are ethical issues, and how can they be addressed?

- Allen, C., Wallach, W., & Smit, I. (2006). Why machine ethics?. *IEEE Intelligent Systems*, 21(4), 12-17.
- Deng, B. (2015). The robot's dilemma. *Nature*, 523(7558), 24-26.

Class Schedule:

Date	Topic / Activities	Readings
3/4	Overview Syllabus	Chapter 1 The Science of Psychology
3/11	Research Methods	Chapter 2 Research Methodology
3/18	Neuroscience and Behavior (In-class discussion: Synesthesia)	Chapter 3 Biology and Behavior Ramachandran, V. S., & Hubbard, E. M. (2003). Hearing colors and tasting shapes. <i>Scientific American</i> , 288, 52-59
3/25	Consciousness Sensation and Perception (In-class discussion: Perception and Reality)	Chapter 4 Consciousness Chapter 5 Sensation and Perception The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat
4/1	Learning (In-class discussion: How to improve learning?)	Chapter 6 Learning
4/8	Memory (In-class discussion: False Memory, Eyewitness Testimony)	Chapter 7 Memory
4/15	Exam 1	
4/22	Intelligence (In-class discussion: Present and Future of Artificial Intelligence)	Chapter 8 Thinking, Language, & Intelligence
4/29	Development	Chapter 9 Human Development
5/6	Emotion and Motivation In-class discussion: How to be happy	Chapter 10 Emotion and Motivation
5/13	Social Psychology and Personality	Chapter 12 Social Psychology & Chapter

	In-class discussion: Personality Test	13 Personality
5/20	Psychological Disorder and Treatment	Chapter 14 Psychological Disorders & Chapter 15 Treatment of Psychological Disorders
5/27	Stress and Health Assignment #2 due	Chapter 11 Health and Well-being
6/3	Exam 2	
6/10	(Alternative) Exam 2 due	