

Psychology 100
Introductory Psychology
Spring 2014

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“Body and soul are not two different things, but only two different ways of perceiving the same thing.

Similarly, physics and psychology are only different attempts to link our perceptions together by way of systematic thought.”

- Albert Einstein



Texts

Wade, C. & Tavris, C. (2011) Psychology (10th edition).

Learning to Think Critically: The Case of Close Relationships - Available on our Bb site.

Class Organization

My goals for you:

- 1) I hope you will gain a better understanding of the science of psychology. I think this will be an advantage to you no matter what your chosen occupation. Psychological information is often critical in understanding the many experiences and feelings you will have throughout your life.
- 2) I hope that your ability to analyze and evaluate scientific information will grow enabling you to utilize this information in your everyday life.
- 3) Finally I hope you have a great time in this course; learning about why people and animals behave the way they do should be a lot of fun. So relax, (but not too much), get ready to question all those “truths” you hold so dear, and have a good semester.

My expectations:

- 1) I expect you to be polite and considerate of your peers and me (e.g., arrive on time, turn off cell phones, use laptops and tablets for note taking only; any other use during class and your device will be banned.)
- 2) I expect you to be an independent learner. It is impossible to cover in class all the course material so you will need to read and learn on your own.

Attendance: The class will meet 2 times a week and although attendance is not required, it is strongly recommended. It is rare for a student to earn an “A” in my class without attending class regularly because the exams will include items based on information found only in my lectures and I will often give you hints as to what might appear on the exam. I will take attendance so that I can learn everyone’s names and to possibly help you earn a higher grade (See Calculating your grade). In addition, from time to time, there will be some fun and interesting class exercises you can participate in which will help you understand some of the basic concepts in psychology.

Blackboard (Bb): Please make sure that you visit our class BlackBoard site:

[SP14 PSYC OX 100 02A1: PSYC OX100: Introductory Psychology - Spring 2014](#) . To get to the Bb site, go to: <http://classes.emory.edu> and log in using your University Network ID and the password that you use for OPUS.

I will post your syllabus, review sheets, and any changes in assignments, test dates, and office hours on this conference. In addition, I have a number of illustrations and fun web sites on Bb. I hope that our class conference will also be a place where we can continue discussions started in class, so visit often and post frequently.

Calculating your grade: The final grade will be based on 4 exams, none of which will be comprehensive and each worth 100 points for a possible total of 400 points. I give make-up tests (which are typically all essays) only for officially excused absences. I will assign a letter grade to the total points accumulated during the semester so at no point will I compute an average grade. An “A” requires a minimum of 360 points, a “B” 320, a “C” 280, a “D” 240, and anything below 240 points is an “F”. If your total puts you a few points (3 or less) below a higher grade, I will take into consideration your attendance and participation when assigning your grade. Please make sure that you are familiar with the College’s Honor Code.

Knowledge fills a large brain; it merely inflates a small one.

Sydney J. Harris

The mind is like a parachute - it works best when it is open.

Unknown

Reading Assignments

Section I (6 lecture days)

Chapter 1. What is Psychology

Chapter 2. How Psychologists Do Research

Chapter 3. Genes, Evolution, and Environment

Chapter 4. The Brain: Source of Mind and Self

Exam I - Monday, February 10

Section II (6 lecture days)

Chapter 5. Body Rhythms and Mental States

Chapter 6. Sensation and Perception

Chapter 11. Emotion, Stress, and Health (Material from pgs. 409 - 426 will not be on this exam)

Handbook. Learning to Think Critically – **On Bb**

Chapter 12. Motivation

Exam II – Wednesday, March 5

Section III (6 lecture days)

Chapter 7. Learning and Conditioning

Chapter 10. Memory

Chapter 9. Thinking and Intelligence

Chapter 13. Development Over the Lifespan

Chapter 14. Theories of Personality

Exam III – Monday, April 7

Section IV (6 lecture days)

Chapter 8. Behavior in Social and Cultural Context

Chapter 11. Read only pgs. 409 – 426 (Stress)

Chapter 15. Psychological Disorders

Chapter 16. Approaches to Treatment and Therapy

Exam IV(Final Exam) - Wednesday, May 7, 10 – 11:30