

Course Syllabus
Introductory Psychology
Fall 2002

Instructor: Dr. Edward J. Rickert

Class meetings: Tuesday, Thursday 11:30-12:45

Seney Hall 215

Office Hours: Tuesday/ Thursday 10:30-11:30 and by appointment

Text: Wade, C., & Tavris, C. (2000). **Psychology**. 7th edition. Prentice Hall.

Course Description and Objectives.

This course provides introductory coverage of a broad, diverse discipline. Psychology is a bridge science that spans the discourses of the natural and the human sciences. As a science it maps the relation between physiology and cognition and between cognition and behavior. It is then both the science of behavior and the science of mind. You are expected to learn its vocabulary, its approaches to studying mind and behavior, the origin and content of its major theoretical issues, and an acquaintance with its methodologies. A further purpose of this course is your developing an appreciation of scientific inquiry and acquiring a skeptical and critical attitude toward all generalizations and inferences.

Instruction

The text introduces a wide variety of topics some of which are highly detailed. Read the material before it is discussed in class and then again following the lecture. Class meetings will be structured as lecture/discussion. You will be invited to participate so be prepared. Questions are encouraged. We will not have the time to talk about every item in the text; nevertheless, you are responsible for knowing all of textual material. I will from time to time cover material of especial interest or relevance that is not present in the text. You are responsible for that material as well.

Your responsibilities

You are expected to: Attend class

Read all of the assigned material

Take all exams and quizzes

Participate in class discussion

Adhere to the Honor Code

Inform me at least one week in advance of your absence

resulting from a previously made university commitment or religious holiday

Class attendance: You are expected to attend every class. Attendance will be taken randomly during the term. Examinations and quizzes are evidence of attending class. Three or more unexcused absences without prior approval are reported to the Dean. If you have perfect attendance, 10 bonus points will be added to your overall final score.

Reading assignments: Your grade is based on 3 examinations and 5 quizzes. The unannounced quizzes are given during the first 10 minutes of class. They consist of multiple choice and true/false items. The scores of 4 of the 5 quizzes will be summed with the scores of the examinations to determine your course grade. The lowest quiz will not be counted. The highest possible score on Exams 1 and 2 is 75 point each. The highest score possible on the Final is 110 points. Thus, there are 300 points possible. The grading system is:

90/100% A

80/89% B

70/79% C

60/69% D

The format of the exams is short essay, fill-in-the-blank, matching, multiple choice, and true/false.

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Introductory Psychology

August	29	Orientation/What is Psychology?	Chapter 1
Sept	3	Psychological Research	Chapter 1 & 2
	5	Biological Basis of Behavior/Evolution	Chapter 3
	10	Biological Basis of Behavior/Brain	Chapter 4
	12	Biological Basis of Behavior/Brain	Chapter 4
	17	Bio-rhythms	Chapter 5
	19	Sensation & Perception	Chapter 6
	24	Special Project Day	
	26	Sensation & Perception	Chapter 6
Oct	1	Exam 1	
	3	Conditioning/Learning	Chapter 7
	8	Conditioning/learning	Chapter 7
	10	Social Behavior	Chapter 8
	15	Social Behavior	Chapter 8
	17	Thinking	Chapter 9
	22	Intelligence	Chapter 9
	24	Memory	Chapter 10
	29	Memory	Chapter 10
	31	Memory/Emotion	Chapter 10/11
Nov	5	Exam 2	
	7	Motivation/ Biological	Chapter 12
	12	Motivation/Social	Chapter 12
	14	Personality Theories	Chapter 13
	19	Cognitive & Moral Development	Chapter 14
	21	Gender & Adolescence	Chapter 14
	26	Health Psychology	Chapter 15
	28	Thanksgiving	

Dec	3	Psychological Disorders	Chapter 16
	5	Psychological Disorders	Chapter 16
	10	Treatment & Therapy	Chapter 17
	16	FINAL EXAM	9:00-12:00