

General Psychology
PSY 120
Course Policy and Evaluations
Spring 2007
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OFFICE HOURS

Office hours will be scheduled as needed. I will be available both immediately before and after classes. Feel free to schedule an appointment with me as needed.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an introduction to the science of behavior and cognitive processes. It provides the student with an understanding of contemporary psychological concepts and theories, and focuses on a bio-social view of man and other animals. In addition, the course offers a survey of psychological methods and history with an emphasis on the role of organismic, environmental and social factors in the psychological process.

EXAMINATIONS

Students will have several opportunities to demonstrate, in examinations, their knowledge of the course content. The examinations will be objective and will consist of material from the text and class/lecture discussions. In addition to general knowledge of the material in the course, the examinations will also test the application of the knowledge.

My policy is not to give make-up examinations. Exceptions to this policy include (1) student's illness (must have a doctor's note), (2) severe illness of close relative, or (3) death in the family.

GRADES

Your grade in the course will be the mean of all the examinations on the following scale:

A = 93 - 100	C+ = 77 - 79
A- = 90 - 92	C = 73 - 76
B+ = 87 - 89	C- = 70 - 72
B = 83 - 86	D = 60 - 69
B- = 80 - 82	F = 59 and below

CLASS PARTICPATION

Students are expected, encouraged and welcomed to ask questions, make comments, and begin discussions. Please feel free to participate in class. You will maximize your learning through this process. Your grade will reflect class participation; having questions answered or points clarified will assist you on the exams.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Students are required to participate in and understand the research process. With this in mind, students will be expected to complete three assignments.

1. *Library Tutorial*: To foster your learning, you will be required to attend a tutorial session in Reeves Library on information literacy specific to psychology. The tutorial will take place during a regularly scheduled class time. As part of the assignment, student will pull five sources on any chosen topic.
2. *Research Experience*: You are required to participate in one hour of research as a subject in Psychology Student research. This will allow you to experience research methods in action and learn about the type of research conducted within the field of psychology. After participating you will submit a short one-page reaction summary focusing on your experience as a subject and the methodology of the experiment.
3. *Primary Source Reading*: You will have the opportunity to read an article related to the field of psychology in any subject matter. Following, you will write a 1-2 page paper on the research conducted. Type of methodology and hypotheses of the research must be highlighted. This paper will be due at the last week of class.

EVALUATION

Your grades will be based on the following chart:

Exams:	60%
2 research papers:	30%
Participation:	10%

ATTENDANCE

The student is expected to attend all classes. Classes will begin on time. No differentiation is made between excused and unexcused absences. You will be permitted 3 absences before your grade will be affected. If you are late 3 times, it will count as one absence.

There will be a deduction of 2 percentage points from your grade for each class missed after the three allowed. For example, 4 absences = -2 percentage points; 4 absences = -4 percentage points; and 6 absences = -6 percentage points.

REQUIRED TEXT

Davis, S.F., & Palladino, J.J. (2006) Psychology (5th edition). Upper Saddle River: Prentice Hall.

SCHEDULE

- Test # 1 – Chapter 1 – Psychology, Research and You
Chapter 2 – Behavioral Neuroscience
Chapter 3 – Sensation and Perception
- Test # 2 - Chapter 4 – States of Consciousness
Chapter 5 – Learning
Chapter 6 – Motivation and Emotion
- Test # 3 - Chapter 7 – Memory
Chapter 8 – Thinking, Language and Intelligence
Chapter 9 – Development Across the Lifespan
- Test # 4 - Chapter 10 – Sex and Gender
Chapter 11 – Personality
Chapter 12 – Psychological Disorders
Chapter 13 – Therapy

EXTRA CREDIT

Extra credit will be available as a participant in ongoing research. Details will be available when research projects get underway.