

Psychology 1 Introduction to Psychology Fall 2015, Section 1766

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Office: GC room 380H
Office hours: Mon 3:00–5:00 PM / Wed 2:30–3:00 PM
and by appointment

Please keep in mind that this syllabus is an approximation of the way the course will proceed & is subject to change.

Course Objective: This course will introduce students to the study of human behavior, specifically as it relates to research, human development, the senses and brain functions, mental illness, motivation, emotion, learning, intelligence, personality, and social interactions.

Student Learning Outcomes

Think critically about historical theories in psychology and tie them to current research methodology and research outcomes.

Required Text: David Myers and Nathan DeWall, "Psychology in Everyday Life" 3rd edition, 2014

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all classes for which they are registered, to be prompt and to remain in class for the entire time. Instructors may drop a student from a class whenever a student is absent more hours than the number of hours the class meets per week. If you are absent more than 2 times, I have the right to drop you. Withdrawal from class can affect eligibility for federal financial aid.

Cell Phones

If you bring your cell-phone to class, be sure to have it in SILENT mode so that it will not disturb others. Do NOT text or take/make calls during class, period. Do not have your phone out; I reserve the right to take it and keep it until the end of class if you are using it.

Special Instructional Accommodation

Students with disabilities who need any assistance or accommodations should contact the instructor. Students should also contact the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS) center located in SSB 320 or call 310.287.4450.

Academic Integrity

Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for respect of others' academic endeavors. When there is evidence of cheating or plagiarism in classroom work, the instructor will assign a failing grade, "F," or zero points to the examination or assignment in which the alleged cheating or plagiarism occurred. The instructor will provide the student with supporting documentation of the plagiarism or cheating charge. Instructors have the authority to use plagiarism detecting instruments such as "Turn It In" to detect academic dishonesty.

Forms of Behavior which Violate Academic Integrity

- **Cheating.** Using any materials or devices or strategies which provide undue advantage on any exam, assignment, activity or other method of assessment for a course. This includes, but is not limited to, looking at another student's exam, using phones or other communication systems to text message during exams, taking pictures or images of exams, talking with others during

exams, using Internet to find information, or any other system of inappropriate "help." Exams are to be measures of what YOU, as an individual, have learned.

- **Collaboration.** Working together on projects, papers, exams or other forms of assessment which are to be completed individually.
- **Plagiarism.** Taking anyone else's work as one's own. Presenting another's words, ideas, forms of expression, materials, or labor without proper citation, referencing, and declaration that this material originated outside the student's own work.

Standard of Student Conduct

Faculty members are charged with responsibility for building and maintaining a classroom atmosphere conducive to learning. Disruptive, disrespectful, or obstructive behavior will be dealt with in terms specific to this syllabus and in accordance with the LACCD Standard of Student Conduct. Select forms of disciplinary action appropriate to the misconduct may be taken by an instructor when there is evidence that the student's behavior interferes with classroom instruction.

The following types of disciplinary action may be taken by an instructor:

- 1) **Warning-** A verbal or written notice, given to the student by an instructor. Continuation or repetition of the specified conduct may be cause for further disciplinary action.
- 2) **Removal by Instructor** - An instructor may remove (suspend) a student from his or her class for the day of the incident and the next class meeting. During this period of removal, the student shall not return to the class from which he or she was removed without the permission of the instructor of the class.

Students may refer to the College Catalog or the online student orientation at www.wlac.edu; click "Counseling, Assessment and Orientation," then scroll down to "Orientation" for complete details regarding the aforementioned policies.

Course Requirements:

Exams – There are five exams and a cumulative final exam in this course. Each exam is composed of either 40 or 50 multiple choice questions and worth 100 points each. If you need to miss an exam due to extreme illness, you must contact me **prior** to the exam, and you must bring written proof of your illness (doctor's note). You may only make-up **one** exam, and this will be on the day of your final exam.

Research paper – The psychology department requires that each student in Psychology 1 complete a paper. This is a research paper; you may choose any topic covered in the textbook to write about. It must be 5 complete, typed, double-spaced pages with 1.0" margins in Times New Roman font, 12 point size. You will need a minimum of 3 references for this paper. You must only use websites for the paper that I approve beforehand. This paper is due Wednesday, November 25, at the **beginning** of class. I do not accept papers via email. Each day it is late, points are automatically deducted; more specific details are at the end of the syllabus.

Grading: Each exam is worth 100 points. The research paper is worth 100 points. This totals a maximum of 700 points. Grades will be determined as follows:

A (90 - 100%)	= 700 - 630 points
B (80 - 89%)	= 629 - 560
C (70 - 79 %)	= 559 - 490
D (60 - 69 %)	= 489 - 420
F (below 60%)	= below 420

Calendar:

Week 1 – Aug 31/Sep 2:	Introduction to course / Ch 1 Psychology's Roots
Week 2 – Sep 7/9:	Holiday! (no class) / Ch 1 cont'd & Ch 2 Biology of Mind
Week 3 – Sep 14/16:	Ch 2 Biology of Mind
Week 4 – Sep 21/23:	<u>Exam 1</u> / Ch 3 Development over the Lifespan
Week 5 – Sep 28/30:	Ch 3 cont'd / Ch 4 Gender and Sexuality
Week 6 – Oct 5/7:	Ch 4 cont'd / <u>Exam 2</u>
Week 7 – Oct 12/14:	Ch 6 Learning
Week 8 – Oct 19/21:	Ch 7 Memory / Ch 8 Thinking
Week 9 – Oct 26/28:	<u>Exam 3</u> / Ch 9 Motivation
Week 10 – Nov 2/4:	Ch 9 cont'd / Ch 10 Stress and Health
Week 11 – Nov 9/11:	Ch 11 Personality / Holiday!! (no class)
Week 12– Nov 16/18:	Ch 11 cont'd / <u>Exam 4</u>
Week 13 – Nov 23-25:	Ch 12 Social Psych
* PAPER DUE Wednesday, Nov 25*	
Week 14 – Nov 30/Dec 2:	Ch 13 Psychological Disorders
Week 15 – Dec 7/9:	Ch 14 Therapy / <u>Exam 5</u>

Final Exam: Monday, Dec 14 at 1:45 PM

Important College Deadlines:

Last Day to Drop without a “W” is Friday, September 11

Last Day to Drop with a “W” is Friday, November 20

Research Paper:

The psychology department requires that each student in Psychology 1 complete a paper. You may NOT use a paper you turned in for any other class.

You may choose any topic covered in the textbook to write about. It will be at least 5 complete, typed, double-spaced pages with 1.0" margins (left indented only, not block formatted) in Times New Roman font, 12-point size. Do not skip spaces between paragraphs (Microsoft Word now automatically puts 1.5 space between paragraphs so you will need to change this).

The paper can be longer than 5 pages of research. If you choose not to include a cover sheet, then on the first page, I only want your name and the paper title – nothing else should be there – no date, no class name, not my name.

You will write the first page (only) as an autobiographical or biographical statement of why you are specifically interested in your topic. For example, let's say your father is an alcoholic and you chose alcohol as your research topic. You will write the first page about your experiences with your father as an alcoholic, etc. The next four pages must be a synopsis of the research you read. You can not use interviews or stories of people as evidence of empirical research. Also, if you write a conclusion that only repeats what you have already written or is your opinion, this does not count towards the required four pages of research. You must include a 6th page that will be a list of all of your references (a bibliography).

This is a research paper, so you must write it in essay format, without bullet points, lists, or subsection titles. You will not write an abstract. You do not need a header/footer or page numbers. You need a minimum of **3** references for this paper, which may **only include** journal articles and *approved* websites. Do not use any type of book as a reference. Your references should be no older than 2005.

You are not allowed to use websites for the paper until I approve the site beforehand. A few exceptions to this include: psychologicalscience.org, apa.org, NIMH.gov, NIDA.gov, and any website I directed you to in the classroom. You can't use any ".com" because there is no one to govern the truth of many of these sites. This means you can't even use wikipedia.com or any other "wiki" site!

When you are using someone else's work to write your paper, you **must** give them credit. You must cite your references in *every* paragraph of your paper; this should be done in either APA format (see www.apastyle.org and the way your textbook is written) or in MLA format. APA format means you include the author's last name and the year of publication ONLY of the article inside parentheses when you are referencing work they presented. The following is an example of a sentence from a paper on depression: Many times depression is linked to anxiety (Myers, 2007).

The important thing to remember here is NOT TO PLAGIARIZE the information. CITE your references in EVERY paragraph, and USE YOUR OWN WORDS! Please do not copy word for word from your references unless you put it in quotation marks. You may not use quotes longer than one sentence, and you may not have more than 5 quotes in the paper.

You must summarize what you have read using plain English. Do not write scientific jargon (such as lists of prescription drugs or the ingredients of drugs) that is not understandable without a medical degree. If you do not use all of your own words, and do not properly cite your sources, this is plagiarizing and grounds for cheating. I will either give your paper back to you to re-do OR I will simply give you a zero.

I will use an online program to check for plagiarism, so please DON'T do it!