Wayne State University

PSY 1010, Sections 002-019
Introductory Psychology

Fall, 2004

Instructor: Dr. Marcus W. Dickson
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Office hrs: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:00am-11:00am, or by appointment
Course URL: http://www.psych.wayne.edu/~mdickson/psy1010/
Textbook URL: http://www.ablongman.com/wood5e/
Required URL: http://www.mypsychlab.com

Lecture: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:00am –9:25am
Location: 100 General Lectures

1a) The “My PsychLab” website – access is included in the cost of your textbook, if you purchase it from the campus bookstore.
2) Introduction to Psychology Laboratory Manual
3) A package of Scantron forms, F-14501 (available at the bookstore)

The book, lab manual, and Scantron forms are available at the campus bookstore.

There will also be additional assignments or readings for each week posted on the course web site. These are REQUIRED, and will be included in exams.

Course Description and Purpose:
This course will give you an overview of the field of psychology. We will be exploring the science of mental processes and behavior, including topics such as sensation and perception, learning and cognition, motivation, emotion, development, social relations, and adjustment. We will focus on both experimental areas of psychology, and on applied areas of psychology such as clinical psychology and the diagnosis and treatment of psychological disorders, and the application of psychological principles in the workplace.

Course Objectives

Introductory Psychology is part of the Undergraduate General Education Program, and its successful completion contributes toward satisfying the Life Science Laboratory requirement. The laboratory meets apart from the lecture, and a separate syllabus will be distributed during the first meeting of the laboratory, which will be the second week of classes. THE LABORATORY DOES NOT MEET THE FIRST WEEK OF CLASSES. ATTEND YOUR LABORATORY SESSION FOR THE FIRST TIME BEGINNING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 13.

Objectives for both the lecture and laboratory include;
1. Acquiring the ability to apply the scientific method to problems in psychology;
2. Developing scientific reasoning and skepticism concerning psychological and behavioral problems;
3. Developing skills in scientific writing as applied to psychological research;
4. Gaining an overview of issues within many of the main areas of psychology.

Grading in the class:
The Grading in the class:
There are a total of 800 possible points in this course. Of these 800 points, 20 come from a quiz in the second week of class, 580 come from exams based on classroom lectures, discussions, assigned readings, and activities, and 200 are based on your performance in your laboratory section. The exams are described below. Details of the laboratory exercise and points are described in the syllabus you will receive from your Teaching Assistant in the first laboratory section meeting.

Additionally, you can earn up to 30 points of research extra credit in this class. The process for earning these points is described below. You can also earn extra credit on exams, and through extra credit pop quizzes that will occur throughout the term.

The following table shows the minimum total points required (out of 800 total possible points) to earn each grade level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>711</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>648</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>632</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>552</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>544</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>anything below 480</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Exams:
There will be four exams in this course. Each exam is worth a total of 150 points (except the first exam, which is 130 points), and will be composed of 70 multiple-choice questions (each worth 2 points) and three (3) short answer questions (each worth 5 points). The maximum score for each exam is thus 155, but 100% will be considered to be 150. This allows you to miss 5 points on each exam without losing any points toward your grade. If you score more than 150 points on an exam, the extra points will be considered extra credit.

You are responsible for purchasing the appropriate Scantron forms for taking the exams. You are also responsible for bringing the Scantron form with you to exams, along with sharpened pencils. I will not have extra Scantron forms, extra pencils, or a pencil sharpener available for exams.

You MUST take all four exams.

You must have a University-approved excuse to miss an exam. If you miss an exam and do not have a University-approved excuse, you will receive a zero for that exam.

University-approved excuses for missing an exam:
1) You must attend a University-approved team, band, or orchestra function that occurs at the time of the exam. (The same day is not sufficient unless you must travel out of town.) You must let the instructor know of the event at least one week before the exam, and you must provide documentation of the function to be excused.
2) You have a religious holiday that requires that you not attend class at the time of the exam. You must let the instructor know of the holiday at least one week before the exam to be excused.
3) You are ill AND you bring the instructor a doctor’s note dated the day of the exam. **You must let the instructor know of the illness no later than the morning of the exam to be excused.**

4) A family member’s funeral occurs on the day of the exam. **You must bring a note from the funeral home indicating your attendance at the funeral.**

Failure to meet these requirements will result in a zero for the exam. If you do meet these requirements to take a make-up exam, the make-up exam may be either a multiple choice/short answer exam or an essay exam, at the instructor’s discretion.
The final exam
The final exam is on MONDAY, December 20\(^{\text{th}}\), in the regular classroom, from 8:00am until 9:30am.

According to Wayne State University policy, "Students are not required to take more than two exams in one day. A student with more than two scheduled final exams on one day may (not must) petition to the instructor of the course with the lowest number students enrolled, to arrange an alternate time for the final exam. Such petitions must be made at least one week prior to the scheduled date of the final exam."

Since Introductory Psychology is one of the largest classes offered at Wayne State, students seeking to take advantage of this policy will in all likelihood need to re-schedule the final exam from one of their other courses.

The Laboratory sessions:
Two hundred (200) points of your final grade come from the weekly laboratory sessions that accompany the lecture sessions. Your Teaching Assistant will tell you how your lab grade is determined during the first week of the lab sessions. It is essential that you attend and participate actively in the lab.

Research participation:
You are required to participate in outside research for this class. A total of three hours of research is required. You can fulfill this requirement in any or all of three ways.

Option 1: Participate in a formal research project outside of class. You may be asked to participate by a researcher who comes to your laboratory session, or a researcher may telephone you. Also, you may sign up to participate in a research study in the lobby of the Psychology Building, at 71 West Warren Ave. Studies vary in the number of hours required of you, and in how many hours of credit you will receive.

Option 2: Read a research article in a journal and answer questions on it. Each article is worth up to one hour, if done correctly. The form you need for this option is available on the course web site.

Option 3: Write a two-page paper on a newspaper or magazine story dealing with a psychology topic that is currently in the news, and relate the article to what you’ve studied in class. Each paper is worth one hour.

Option 4: Read the first two sections of the chapter in the textbook on Psychology in the Workplace (Chapter 18, pp. 594-604), and write a 4-5 page paper on how the topics discussed relate to your personal work experience. This is worth two hours of credit.

Your Teaching Assistant will explain options 2 and 3 further. You should turn in all research participation records, article write-ups, and papers to your lab instructor, who will keep track of your hours. All research credit is due is due to your Teaching Assistant by December 5.

At the end of the semester, if you have not completed the 3 hours of research participation, you will lose 10 points for each hour not completed. You must have completed all of your research participation by the beginning of the last meeting of your laboratory section.

Extra credit:
You can complete up to an ADDITIONAL 3 hours of research for extra credit AFTER you have completed the required 3 hours. Extra credit can be earned by doing any of the three options listed above. You will receive 10 points of extra credit for each extra hour of research you complete. All extra credit work is due is due to your Teaching Assistant by December 5.

Additionally, there will be occasional extra credit pop quizzes in class. You can earn up to five points of extra credit for each quiz, but you will not lose any points for wrong answers. These quizzes are not announced in advance, and are always given at 8:00am sharp. The questions come directly from the practice questions found in the student study guide.

You must have completed all of your required research hours and extra credit by the beginning of the last meeting of your laboratory section.

**Attendance:**
Attendance is not required, nor will it be recorded, for the lecture component of this course. Attendance IS required for the weekly laboratory sessions. Attendance at lab is recorded, and a portion of your laboratory points is based on attendance. The syllabus for the laboratory session will give more details on this.

**Incomplete:**
A grade of incomplete will be given in this course in *only* the most extreme and compelling of circumstances. Work not done or submitted too late will be graded as zero toward course grades. You are not allowed to take an incomplete in the course as a way to avoid failing the course.

**Cheating and Academic Integrity:**
The Department of Psychology views all acts of academic dishonesty including cheating and plagiarism as gross violations of appropriate student conduct and supports the use of disciplinary actions in response to all acts of dishonesty. The complete version of the Departmental policy statement can be found online at the following address: [http://www.psych.wayne.edu/undergraduate/ugradacadishonesty.htm](http://www.psych.wayne.edu/undergraduate/ugradacadishonesty.htm).

As noted in the policy, instructors have a wide range of options when cheating or other academic integrity violations are discovered. At a minimum, the exam or paper in question will be counted as a zero. Other possible consequences include academic probation, failure of the course, a notation of cheating on your university transcript, or dismissal from the university.

**If you are having difficulty with the material, or not doing well in class**
If you are having difficulty with some specific aspect of the material for the class, or for the class as a whole, your first step should always be to talk with your Teaching Assistant. If they are unable to help you, or if you would like additional assistance, contact the course instructor. Additionally, you can always get assistance from the Academic Success Center at Room 2100 of the Adamany Undergraduate Library, 577-3165. Finally, remember that when you purchase the textbook, you also purchased access to Tutor Center helpline, which is open in the evenings, and is staffed by psychologists who can help you with the material from your textbook.

**Falling behind:**
It sometimes happens that students find themselves unable to keep up with the demands of the semester. If that happens to you, for whatever reason (family matters, personal issues, health, and so on), it is best to speak to me or to your Teaching Assistant as early in the semester as possible. **Don’t** wait until the semester ends to seek assistance.
"Extra" extra credit assignments, make-ups, and do-overs:
Extra credit assignments "just for you" at the end of the semester or after, make-ups of missed lab assignments, and do-overs for exams, papers, or other assignments are not permitted. You’re better off not even asking.

Posting of grades:
During the semester, you can always check your grades with your Teaching Assistant, who will bring the gradebook to each meeting of your laboratory section. At the discretion of the Teaching Assistant, grades may also be posted on Blackboard during the semester.

Final grades will be posted on Wayne State University's Pipeline System.

Dropping the class:
If you decide to drop this course for any reason, you are allowed to do so up until the last day of the semester (Thursday, December 16th). To do so after October 4th, you will need to go to the Main Office in the Psychology Department (Room 214), and they will sign the drop slip on my behalf, and stamp the form with the departmental stamp. You do not need to see me in order to get my signature – the Main Office can sign your form on my behalf.

If you drop the course after October 4th, a “W” will appear on your transcript.

If you drop the course after September 20th, you are contractually obligated to pay for the course, regardless of whether a “W” appears on your transcript or not.

Requests for reconsidering a grade:
If you feel that a paper or other work you submitted was improperly evaluated, you can ask to have it reviewed and the grade reconsidered. To do this, prepare a written statement (one or two paragraphs) explaining what you believe to be erroneous about the grade. While I am decidedly unreceptive to being asked to review work simply because a poor grade was received, I truly appreciate the opportunity to correct a mistake. Please recognize that a new grade could be lower or higher than the original grade.

Students with disabilities:
If you have a documented disability and wish to discuss academic accommodations with me, you must contact me within the first two weeks of the semester. After that date, requests for accommodations may not be honored.

Office hours:
Regular office hours are listed on this syllabus, and any changes will be announced in class. I am quite willing to meet at times other than regular office hours, preferably by appointment. E-mail is generally the best way to get in touch with me.

Privacy of student records:
Federal law prohibits disclosure of any student academic records or other personally identifiable information to any person other than the student, unless the student gives written permission. This means that student performance cannot be discussed with a student’s parents, siblings, friends, classmates, or any other non-University staff person without that student’s written permission. This prohibition extends to student grades, special requests, current and past course registrations,
Policies regarding classroom behavior:

This is a large lecture class, with over 400 people registered. Some basic guidelines for courtesy in the classroom will help everyone, myself included, benefit from the classroom experience. Some of these guidelines may seem obvious to you, but I’ve encountered people oblivious to these basics of courtesy many times over the years.

1) Turn off cell phones, pagers, PDAs, etc., prior to class. If you are awaiting a phone call related to some particular emergency (e.g., a relative is in the hospital going through surgery) and you need to take a call during class, let me know prior to class, set the phone to vibrate or the softest ring volume possible, and sit close to a door, so that you can immediately step outside when it rings. Otherwise, there should not be any phones ringing in class. Should you forget to turn off your phone and it does ring in class, turn the ringer off quickly, and either step outside to take the call, or (better) do not answer it.

2) Children are welcome in class, provided that they are quiet and not disruptive to those around them. Recognize that there are topics in Psychology that require mature discussion of sensitive issues (e.g., human sexuality, drug use and abuse, psychological disorders and their treatments), and some of these topics may not be appropriate for children. Additionally, children are not allowed to attend class on the days of exams, as the risk of disruption to the parent/guardian or to other students is too great.

3) There will be many points during the semester when we have discussions in small groups, and your lab will also have small group interaction. In a class of this size, and with the diversity of background that will exist in the class, there will undoubtedly be differences of opinion and perspective. You are not required to agree with your classmates. However, you are required to treat your classmates, teaching assistants, and instructor with respect and courtesy, even when they advocate positions with which you strongly disagree.

4) If you arrive late, or need to leave class early, sit at the end of a row near a door, so that you may do so quietly. Class will begin promptly at 8:00am, and if you do arrive late and an activity or extra credit quiz is already in progress, you may not have the opportunity to participate in that activity or quiz.

5) Even with a large class, I’ll ask lots of questions. You’ll be better able to answer, and better able to participate in and benefit from classroom discussions, if you have read the assigned readings before class. You’ll also be better able to hear and to participate if you sit closer to the front, rather than sitting at the far back part of the lecture hall.

6) Psychology is really about what people do, and why they do it. This is really fascinating stuff, even though there may be times when you don’t see the fascinating part of it. You will enjoy the class more, and studies have shown you will do better in the class, if you try to think about how the day’s material relates to your life, or the lives of people you know. Try it – you’ll find that the material takes on a whole new level of meaning.
# COURSE SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assigned Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 7</td>
<td>Introduction and course overview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 9</td>
<td>Chapter 1: Introduction to Psychology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Sept. 14     | SYLLABUS QUIZ  
Psychological Methods                                      |
| Sept. 16, 21 | Chapter 2: Biology and Behavior                         |
| Sept. 23, 28 | Chapter 3: Sensation and Perception                     |
| Sept. 30     | Chapter 4: States of Consciousness                      |
| Oct. 5       | EXAM 1 (Introduction, Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4)             |
| Oct. 7       | Chapter 5: Learning                                    |
| Oct. 12      | Chapter 6: Memory                                      |
| Oct. 14, 19  | Chapters 9 and 10: Child Development, and Adolescence and Adulthood |
| Oct. 21      | Chapter 13: Health and Stress                          |
| Oct. 26      | EXAM 2 (Chapters 5, 6, 9, 10, 13)                      |
| Oct. 28, Nov. 2 | Chapters 7 and 8: Cognition and Language, and Intelligence and Creativity |
| Nov. 4, 9    | Chapter 11: Motivation and Emotion                     |
| Nov. 11, 16  | Chapter 14: Personality Theory and Assessment          |
| Nov. 18      | Chapter 12: Human Sexuality and Gender, and pp. 607-610 Gender issues at work |
| Nov. 23      | EXAM 3 (Chapters 7, 8, 11, 14, 12)                     |
| Nov. 25      | NO CLASS – THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY                        |
| Nov. 30, Dec. 2 | Chapter 15: Psychological Disorders                   |
| Dec. 7       | Chapter 16: Therapies                                  |
| Dec. 9, 14   | Chapter 17: Social Psychology                          |
MONDAY, Dec. 20 EXAM 4 (Chapters 15, 16, 17)
8:00am – 9:30am

There will also be additional assignments or readings for each week posted on the course web site. These are REQUIRED, and will be included in exams.