

Psychology 101

General Psychology

Fall 2012

(CRN 12175, section 003; 3 credits; Tuesday & Thursday 12:30-1:45pm; Kinard 018)

Instructor Information

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Office Phone: 803-323-2469

Office Hours: TR 2:00-3:15pm; W 1:00-3:00pm, and by appointment

Required Texts

Myers, D. G. (2011). *Exploring Psychology, Eighth Edition, in Modules*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth, Cengage Learning. ISBN: 978-1-4292-1636-4

This book is also available electronically, at

<http://www.worthpublishers.com/Catalog/product/exploringpsychologyeightheditioninmodules-eighthedition-myers/formatsandpackages/valuepackages>

Additionally, our course textbook has a companion website with flashcards, quizzes, and other useful resources, at: http://bcs.worthpublishers.com/exploring8einmodules/default.asp#t_603127

Blackboard and Email

Blackboard (<http://www2.winthrop.edu/blackboard/>) will be used for announcements as well as for other relevant materials pertaining to the course. Thus, it is recommended that this site as well as your e-mail account be checked on a **daily** basis. Info about Blackboard and university email is available from Information Technology (323-2400; helpdesk@winthrop.edu).

Student Learning Goals

Touchstone/General Education Goals

PSYC 101 counts toward the social science component of Winthrop's Touchstone (General Education) Program. At a minimum, the course will meet the following General Education goals:

Goal 2: To acquire and appreciate quantitative skills.

- Understand that quantitative analysis is important to almost every endeavor of humankind.
- Understand the concept and application of quantitative relationships.

Goal 3: To use critical thinking, problem-solving skills and a variety of research methods.

- Identify sound and unsound reasoning.
- Use the library and other information sources competently.

Goal 7: To examine values, attitudes, beliefs and habits which define the nature and quality of life.

- Examine problems, issues and choices that confront citizens of the world.

Global Learning Initiative

PSYC 101 is also included in Winthrop's Global Learning Initiative. The global learning component to be addressed in this course includes: understanding cultural influences on perceptions of normal and abnormal behavior.

Student Learning Outcomes

The successful student in PSYC 101 will:

- Gain a general understanding of the field of Psychology
 - Develop an understanding of various psychological perspectives, including cultural influences (GLI goal)
 - Understand the science of psychology including methodologies and the utility of quantitative approaches (Goal 2)
- Application of course knowledge to everyday life (Goal 7)
 - Be able to not only learn the course material, but to learn how apply it to personal/social issues
- Develop skill that will facilitate further learning and reasoning (Goal 3)
 - Develop critical thinking skills
 - Learn how to search the library/literature
 - Argument development
 - Verbal and written communication

Writing Requirement and Assistance

I encourage you all to seek help from as many sources as you can to help improve your written work. I am available during my office hours (and by appointment) to provide you with additional help. Also, the Winthrop University Writing Center is an excellent resource that can help you improve the clarity and power of your writing. The Writing Center is located in 242 Bancroft and offers 30 and 60 minute sessions (they accept walk-ins, but you can call 323-2138 to make an appointment). To get the most out of your session at the Writing Center, have a draft of your paper ready along with a specific question or issue you want to address. They are especially helpful for issues related to developing a thesis, improving flow, and incorporating references into your paper.

Academic Success Center

Winthrop's Academic Success Center is a free resource for all undergraduate students seeking to perform their best academically. The ASC offers a variety of personalized and structured resources that help students become effective and efficient learners. The services available to students are as follows: peer tutoring, academic skill development (test taking strategies, time management counseling, and study techniques), group and individual study spaces, and academic coaching. The ASC is located in University College on the first floor of Dinkins Hall, Suite 106. Please contact the ASC at 803-323-3929 or success@winthrop.edu. For more information on ASC services, please visit www.winthrop.edu/success.

Lecture Notes

Partially completed lecture notes are also available on blackboard. Please print them for each module prior to the lecture for that module. The course schedule (pages 4-5 of the syllabus) explicitly lists what chapter(s) we will be covering during each class period.

Use of Turnitin

The issue of digital plagiarism has raised concerns about ethics, student writing experiences, and academic integrity. Winthrop subscribes to a digital plagiarism detection program called Turnitin.com, which may be used to check papers submitted in this course. You may be asked to submit your papers in a digital format so that your paper can be checked against web pages and databases of existing papers. Although you may never have engaged in intentional plagiarism, many students do incorporate sources without citations; this program can alert me to your academic needs. Additional information will be provided regarding the submission of your work to turnitin.

Grading

Final course grades will depend on the four exams (100 points each; 400 total) as well as the final paper (100 points). Final letter grades will be determined as follows:

Grade earned	Percentage	Points needed
A	100 - 93.5%	500 - 467.5
A-	93.4 - 90%	467.4 - 450
B+	89.9 - 86.5%	449.9 - 432.5
B	86.4 - 83.5%	432.4 - 417.5
B-	83.4 - 80%	417.4 - 400
C+	79.9 - 76.5%	399.9 - 382.5
C	76.4 - 73.5%	382.4 - 367.5
C-	73.4 - 70%	367.4 - 350
D+	69.9 - 66.5%	349.9 - 332.5
D	66.4 - 63.5%	332.4 - 317.5
D-	63.4 - 60%	317.4 - 300
F	59.9 and below	299.9 and below

Exams

There will be a total of four exams. Each exam will only cover new material, therefore none of the exams will be cumulative per se. However, a great deal of this material in this course builds off of previous concepts, therefore a greater understanding of the earlier material will aid in the understanding of later concepts.

Final Paper

You will be required to write a final paper that uses current psychological research in a particular area (e.g., developmental, cognitive, or social psychology) to write an “advice column” providing recommendations based on the information that you learned in class or in supplemental readings. You will be asked to choose ONE of four hypothetical questions on topics related to psychology sent in by readers of a magazine about psychology (e.g., *How can I alleviate gender differences in math performance?* or *Does parental sexual orientation matter for children’s and adolescent’s development?*) The project is divided into several different steps to be carried out throughout the semester, which you will receive feedback on your written submissions to help improve the final written product. More information regarding this assignment will be given in class and posted on Blackboard.

Attendance

Daily attendance will be taken; however, it will not formally be factored into final grades. However, attendance will be used to help me make decisions regarding borderline grades. For example, if you have a borderline grade (i.e., within 0.5% of the next highest grade) and you have near perfect attendance (no more than one class missed) then your grade will be rounded up to the higher grade. In addition, perfect attendance will be rewarded with an additional 3 bonus points that will be added to your final total points.

It is extremely important that you attend each and every lecture. Regular attendance is necessary for you to fully understand the material in class. You will be best served if you complete the reading assignments before coming to class. That way lecture topics will make more sense and you’ll have the opportunity to ask questions while the reading is on your mind. **If you do miss a particular lecture, it is your responsibility to read the relevant module(s) covered for that day. I do not share my slides/notes with students, so, if you miss please contact a classmate to get the missed notes.**

PSYC 101 Buddy #1 (name, number, email): _____

PSYC 101 Buddy #2 (name, number, email): _____

Late/Make-up policies

Make-up exams and late submission of assignments will only be permitted **if proper documentation of extreme circumstances is provided**. Please review the course schedule and take note of all exam dates and let me know as soon as possible if you foresee a conflict. If circumstances can be foreseen, you must talk to me before the exam date to discuss arrangements, please contact me regarding such conflicts ASAP and no later than one week before the scheduled exam. If you do happen to miss an exam or an assignment due date you must contact me within 24 hours to discuss the missed assignment. It is your responsibility to contact me to schedule a time to make-up the exam (only if you have documentation for your absence). Make-up exams must be taken within **one week** of the missed exam.

In general, no late assignments will be accepted and no assignments will be accepted via e-mail. If you are unable to turn in an assignment in due to **extreme circumstances**, late submissions will only be permitted if you have proper documentation. In general, illness is not an excuse for missing an online (turnitin) submission, unless explicitly stated in your documentation. **All assignments will be due** at the beginning of class (or prior to class for the turnitin submissions) **on the dates mentioned in the course schedule (pages 4-5 of syllabus)**.

Cell phones and Laptops

Please be respectful and ensure that cell phone ringers are turned off during class. Also, no matter how much you try to hide it, I can see you texting, again, please be respectful. Students are permitted to use laptops in class for the purposes of note taking only. Engaging in non-course related activities during class may result in the loss of the privilege to use a laptop. Please see the CAS policy found at: <http://www2.winthrop.edu/artscience/AppropriateUseApprovedPolicyMar2010.pdf> for more information regarding the appropriate use of electronics.

Special Needs

Winthrop University is dedicated to providing access to education. If you have a disability and require specific accommodations to complete this course, contact Services for Students with Disabilities at 323-3290. Once you have your official notice of accommodations, please see me before the first class assignment.

Student Code of Conduct

As noted in the Student Conduct Code, "Responsibility for good conduct rests with students as adult individuals." Any form of academic misconduct, including cheating and plagiarism, will not be tolerated and will result in a failing grade for the assignment and/ or the entire course as appropriate. You are expected to do your own work and give credit to others as appropriate when you include it in your own work. The policy on student academic misconduct is outlined in the "Student Conduct Code Academic Misconduct Policy" online <http://www2.winthrop.edu/studentaffairs/handbook/StudentHandbook.pdf> and advice for avoiding plagiarism may be found at <http://www2.winthrop.edu/wcenter/handoutsandlinks/dontplag.htm>. All students are bound by the Student Conduct Code at Winthrop, which contains information about academic misconduct and may be found at www.winthrop.edu/studentaffairs/Judicial/judcode.htm

Syllabus Change Policy

If we need to make modifications to the syllabus, I will post them on Blackboard and announce them in class.

Tentative Course Schedule

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Assigned Reading</u>	<u>Lecture Topic</u>	<u>Assignment Due</u>
Tuesday	21-Aug	Module 1	Introduction to the History and Science of Psychology	
Thursday	23-Aug	Module 2 & 3		
Tuesday	28-Aug	Modules 4 & 5	Biology of Mind	
Thursday	30-Aug	Module 6		Choose final paper topic
Tuesday	4-Sep	Module 7	Consciousness	

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Assigned Reading</u>	<u>Lecture Topic</u>	<u>Assignment Due</u>
Thursday	6-Sep	Module 10		
Tuesday	11-Sep	Module 17	Sensation	
Thursday	13-Sep	Study!!!	Exam 1	
Tuesday	18-Sep	Module 11	Nature, Nurture, and Human Diversity	
Thursday	20-Sep	Module 12		Article 1 summary
Tuesday	25-Sep	Modules 14	Development	
Thursday	27-Sep	Module 15		
Tuesday	2-Oct	Modules 20 & 21	Learning	
Thursday	4-Oct	Module 22		Potential article submission
Tuesday	9-Oct	Study!!!	Exam 2	
Thursday	11-Oct	Modules 23 & 24	Memory	
Tuesday	16-Oct	Modules 25 & 26		Article 2 summary
Thursday	18-Oct	Modules 32	Motivation	
Tuesday	23-Oct	Module 33		
Thursday	25-Oct	Modules 35 & 36	Emotion, Stress, and Health	
Tuesday	30-Oct	Modules 37 & 38		Article 3 summary
Thursday	1-Nov	Study!!!	Exam 3	
Tuesday	6-Nov	GO VOTE- no class!		
Thursday	8-Nov	Modules 40 & 41	Personality	
Tuesday	13-Nov	Module 42		
Thursday	15-Nov	Modules 43 & 44	Social Psychology	
Tuesday	20-Nov	Modules 45 & 46		
Thursday	22-Nov	Thanksgiving break- no class!		
Tuesday	27-Nov	Modules 32 & 33	Psychological Disorders & Therapy	
Thursday	29-Nov	Module 34	Final Papers Due	
Friday	7-Dec	Study!!!	Final exam 11:30am	