

PSYC 101 – INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY
Fall 2011-Spring 2012

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Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday / 9:00-11:00 a.m.
By Appointment

REQUIRED TEXT:

Lilienfeld, S. O., Lynn, S. J., Namy, L. L., & Woolf, N. J. (2009). Psychology: From inquiry to understanding. Boston, MA: Pearson/Allyn & Bacon.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

An introduction to and survey of basic findings in the field of psychology. This course provides a general introduction to the scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. It explores such topics as the following: methods of research, physiological development of the individual, learning and memory, motivation, emotions, cognitive processes, sensation and perception, personality, behavioral and mental disorders, and individual differences. Experimental research and practical applications are stressed.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. To develop in students a foundational knowledge base in psychology; that is, a familiarity with the basic facts, principles, and concepts of psychology.
2. To broaden the students' awareness regarding the nature of psychology.
3. To promote academic and personal growth via the students' exposure to principles and concepts which may influence everyday experiences.
4. To promote students' awareness of the use of scientific methodology in the study of human behavior and mental processes.
5. To develop in students an awareness of physiological, cognitive, social, and emotional dynamics that comprise the human experience.
6. To enhance the students' perspectives regarding the complex interrelationships of heredity and environment in the development of the individual.
7. To develop in students an understanding of the nature of intelligence and other important abilities in order to facilitate an understanding of human differences.
8. To prepare students for more specialized course work in the field of psychology.
9. To create in students a positive attitude toward the field of psychology.

EVALUATION OF STUDENTS: The following grading scale can help a student determine his or her individual progress throughout the school year. There is a total possible of 500 points:

Test	Possible Points	<u>CUMULATIVE POINTS NEEDED FOR AN:</u>						
		A	B+	B	C+	C	D+	D
#1	50	45	44	40	39	35	34	30
#2	50	90	88	80	78	70	68	60
#3	50	135	132	120	117	105	102	90
#4	50	180	176	160	156	140	136	120
#5	50	225	220	200	195	175	170	150
#6	50	270	264	240	234	210	204	180
#7	50	<u>315</u>	<u>308</u>	<u>280</u>	<u>273</u>	<u>245</u>	<u>238</u>	<u>210</u>
+Teachers' 30%	150 points	135	132	120	117	105	102	90
=	500 points	450	440	400	390	350	340	300

CLASS POLICIES:

- **Each student will have 2 unexcused absences to use during the semester. Further absences will result in a deduction of 1 point per class missed. An absence will be counted if students arrive to class late or leave early. Students are responsible for obtaining missed notes, announcements, etc.
- **If you are absent the day of an exam, that grade must be made up within 1 week of the missed exam. There will be a 1 point deduction from the make-up exam score for each day that it is delayed beyond that. In addition, any assignment not submitted on time will result in a deduction of 1 point per day late.
- **The expectation in this class is that all members (each student and the instructor) will behave in a professional and honest manner. Therefore, any student who engages in an act of academic dishonesty will receive a failing grade for that assignment and will be subject to the University of South Carolina's rules and penalties. Common examples of academic dishonesty include such things as plagiarizing a paper or other written work, cheating on an exam, and signing in an absent student.
- **It is expected that all members of the class will be attentive and respectful and that no one will engage in disruptive behavior of any kind, behavior that would compromise the quality of the classroom experience. In the unlikelyhood that this should occur, the offending individual(s) will be asked to leave the classroom, and disciplinary action will be taken.
- **Cell phones, pagers, and other electronic devices must be turned OFF when in class. If one is found on, on vibrate, etc., you will be asked to leave class and will be counted absent. There is no text messaging, web-browsing, etc. during class. Failure to adhere to this rule may result in your being dismissed from class.

**Speaking out in class is only permitted after you have been recognized by the Instructor.

**No newspapers or reading materials other than your textbook are allowed on your desk.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

**It is my sincere intention that this course be both informative and enjoyable for students. If you find that you are having difficulty with the course in any way, please see me, and I will assist you in any way that I can.

**This syllabus may be amended as necessary.

