

PSYC 101 – INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY
Fall/Spring 2011-2012

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Telephone: (803) 313-7025
Office Hours: By appointment

Class Schedule: Monday-Friday / 2:00-3:30 PM

REQUIRED TEXT:

Baron, R. A., & Kalsher, M. J. (2008). Psychology: From science to practice (2nd ed.). Boston, MA: 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.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

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:

Students will be evaluated by their performance on 5 exams and 4 written homework assignments. Exams will be in multiple choice, short answer, and/or short essay format and will cover lectures, text readings, films, and other supporting materials. Each student's lowest exam grade will be dropped before the final course grade is calculated. Attendance is required and can affect students' final grades.

GRADES:

There will be a total of 290 points possible.

Grading will be based on the following:

Exam #1.....	50 points
Exam #2.....	50 points
Exam #3.....	50 points
Exam #4.....	50 points
Exam #5.....	50 points
Homeworks(4).....	40 points

GRADING SCALE:

90-100%.....	A
87-89%.....	B+
80-86%.....	B
77-79%.....	C+
70-76%.....	C
67-69%.....	D+
60-66%.....	D

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 and pagers are to be in silent mode and out of sight (i.e. in a purse, pocket, or backpack) during class.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

**It is my sincere intention that this class 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.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Topics</u>	<u>Readings</u>
January		
11	*Introduction / Overview	
12	*Introduction to Psychology	Chapter 1
17	‘ ‘ ‘ ‘ ‘ ‘ ‘	“ “
18	*Biological Bases of Behavior	Chapter 2
19	**EXAM #1**	Chapters 1, 2
24	*Sensation and Perception	Chapter 3
25	*States of Consciousness	Chapter 4
26	*Learning	Chapter 5
31	**EXAM #2**	Chapters 3, 4, 5
February		
1, 2	*Memory and Cognition	Chapter 6
7, 8	*Human Development	Chapter 7
9	*Motivation and Emotion	Chapter 8
14	**EXAM #3**	Chapters 6, 7, 8
15, 16	*Personality and Intelligence	Chapter 9
21	*Health, Stress, and Coping	Chapter 10
22	**EXAM #4**	Chapters 9, 10
23	*Study Period	
28	*Mental Disorders	Chapter 11
29	*Psychological Treatments	Chapter 12
March		
1	**EXAM #5**	Chapters 11, 12, 13
6, 7	*Grading Period	

