

Elementary Psychology

Psychology 1101 Call # 95-590

Spring 2008 MWF 1:25-2:15pm; Instructional Plaza, room S306

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Required Text:

Weiten, W. (2007). *Psychology: Themes and Variations- Briefer version* (7th Ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth. **This textbook is bundled with a coupon for the (required) Turning Point clicker system.**

Purpose of the Course:

Psychology is the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. This course will provide a survey of the methods psychologists use to study behavior and the theories and findings drawn from this research. It will give you a broad background in the principles of psychology as well as introduce you to the major sub-disciplines within the field. While you will have the opportunity to gain some familiarity with all of the major areas of psychology in this course, you will find more detail in upper levels courses in the department.

Attendance and Class Participation:

While there is no formal attendance policy, class attendance is expected and strongly recommended. You are also expected to participate using the clicker system. ***If you do not come to class you remain responsible for all material covered in class, including class demonstrations, films, and so forth. You also remain responsible for any announcements made in class, such as changes regarding the syllabus, exam dates, or assigned readings.***

Exams:

There will be three exams during the course of the semester and one non-cumulative final, for a **total of four exams**. Exams will consist of multiple choice questions. Each exam is worth 100 points. Lecture and class discussion can not possibly cover everything contained in a textbook. Therefore, some of the material in the text will not be dealt with in class. This does not mean that the material is unimportant – only that there is not enough time to cover it in class. Also, there sometimes will be things covered in class that are not in the text. ***In other words, you should pay attention to both the text material and the class material in your studying.***

Please arrive on time. If you arrive after the first person has finished the exam, you will not be allowed to take the exam. Please bring your UGA ID to exams; you may be asked to present it. Students may not retain copies of exam questions.

Students caught cheating on exams will be punished severely, according to University regulations.

Make-Up Exams:

No make-up exams will be given, and exams will only be given during the scheduled time unless you are participating in a university event and are required to be away from campus during the exam (Documentation will be required). If you must miss an exam, contact Dr. Claffey beforehand. **IF** I determine that your excuse is acceptable (I reserve the right whether an excuse is acceptable) and you have proper documentation, I may allow you to double your middle grade from the remaining 3 exams. Please note that if you miss an exam, your grade will be entered as a 0 until you approach me with proper documentation and I decide that your excuse is acceptable.

Mini Papers:

Throughout the semester 5 mini papers (encouraging critical thinking of course topics) will be assigned for completion during class. Each paper is worth a possible 10 points and is **not able to be “made up”** if you are not in attendance during the class that it is assigned. Unless you are participating in a university event and are required to be away from campus during that class (documentation will be required), there will be no exceptions. These papers are unannounced. Do not ask me when I will be assigning them.

Grading:

Your final grade will be determined by your performance on the five mini papers and four exams:

	<u>Total Possible Points</u>
Mini papers	50
<u>Exams</u>	<u>400</u>
Total	450

Grades will be based on the following distribution:

<u>Points</u>	<u>Grade</u>
423-450	A
405-422	A-
392-404	B+
378-391	B
360-377	B-
347-359	C+
333-346	C
315-332	C-
270-314	D
0-269	F

Please note that I do not “round up” scores.

Do not ask me at the end of the semester to change your grade. Once grades are posted they are FINAL and cannot be changed except in case of clerical error.

The course WebCT site (<http://webct.uga.edu>) will allow you to check your grades and access other helpful class materials. If you have never used WebCT, you will find important information by going to the WebCT home page and clicking on “student resources.” This site will provide you with strategies for properly configuring your web browser and it includes a helpful student guide for using WebCT. UGA's main library also offers orientation sessions on WebCT, and a schedule of sessions is linked from Student Resources at the student information web site within WebCT.

Academic Honesty

All academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty" (http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/academic_honesty/academic_honesty.htm). Students are responsible for informing themselves about those standards before performing any academic work. All coursework, including exams, turned in for credit will be assumed to be the student's own independent work (e.g., no cheating or copying). Your minimum penalty for being found guilty of academic dishonesty in this course will be a grade of "F" in the course; further penalties may include a note on your transcript or expulsion.

Research Points:

The Psychology Department has a policy that students in PSYC 1101 are required to complete 6.5 credit hours of research participation. You may complete this requirement through (a) participation in research experiments, or (b) writing summaries of psychology articles. You must complete this requirement or you will receive an incomplete ("I") as your course grade - there are NO EXCEPTIONS. If you receive an "I" and the research requirement is not completed in the following three semesters, the "I" is automatically converted into a grade of "F." This research requirement will be explained in detail in a handout distributed on the first day of class. Register for participation at <http://experimentrix.com/uga>. There will be no extra credit given for completion of extra research hours.

Tentative Schedule of Topics

This outline is an approximate guide. Because material may be added or deleted, dates for particular lecture topics may be subject to change. Dates of exams will be as listed, unless changes are absolutely necessary, in which case an announcement will be made in class as soon as possible.

Date	Topic	Text Chapter(s)
Mon 1/7	Class Introduction	
Wed 1/9	Class canceled	
Fri 1/11	What is Psychology	1
Mon 1/15	Research Methods	2
Wed 1/16	Research Methods	2
Fri 1/18	Sensation and Perception	4
Mon 1/21	MLK, Jr. Day – no class	--
Wed 1/23	Sensation and Perception	4
Fri 1/25	Sensation and Perception	4
Mon 1/28	Sensation and Perception	4
Wed 1/30	States of consciousness	5
Fri 2/1	States of consciousness	5
Mon 2/4	States of consciousness	5
Wed 2/6	EXAM 1	--
Fri 2/8	Learning	6
Mon 2/11	Learning	6
Wed 2/13	Learning	6
Fri 2/15	Learning	6
Mon 2/18	Memory	7
Wed 2/20	Memory	7

Fri 2/22	Memory	7
Mon 2/25	Cognition, Language and Intelligence	8
Wed 2/27	Cognition, Language and Intelligence	8
Fri 2/29	Cognition, Language and Intelligence	8
Mon 3/3	Cognition, Language and Intelligence	8
Wed 3/5	EXAM 2	--
Fri 3/7	Developmental Psychology	10
Mon 3/10	No class – Spring break	--
Wed 3/12	No class – Spring break	--
Fri 3/14	No class – Spring break	--
Mon 3/17	Developmental Psychology	10
Wed 3/19	Developmental Psychology	10
Fri 3/21	Personality Theories and Assessment	11
Mon 3/24	Personality Theories and Assessment	11
Wed 3/26	Personality Theories and Assessment	11
Fri 3/28	Stress and Health	12
Mon 3/31	Stress and Health	12
Wed 4/2	Stress and Health	12
Fri 4/4	EXAM 3	--
Mon 4/7	Psychological Disorders	13
Wed 4/9	Psychological Disorders	13
Fri 4/11	Psychological Disorders	13
Mon 4/14	Therapies	14
Wed 4/16	Therapies	14
Fri 4/18	Therapies	14
Mon 4/21	Social Psychology	15
Wed 4/23	Social Psychology	15
Fri 4/25	Social Psychology	15
Mon 4/28	Social Psychology	15

*****FINAL EXAM: Wednesday, April 30th, 12:00pm*****