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# General Psychology

PSY 101 – Wesleyan College

Syllabus

Summer 2024, July 1 - August 2

## Professor Contact Information

**Professor:** TBA

**Office Hours:** By Appointment

**Contact Information:** TBA

**Text/ISBN:** Myers, D. G., & DeWall, C. N. (2020). Psychology. Thirteenth Edition. New York, Worth Publishers. ISBN: 1319132103

\*Additional readings and resources will be distributed in class.

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## Policies and Procedures

### Course Description

This is an introductory survey course in the academic discipline of psychology using basic principles and concepts utilized to understand behavior and the mind. The major areas of study include learning, perception, motivation, emotions, personality, abnormal behavior, psychotherapy, social influences, biological functioning of the nervous system, and testing measurements.

### Course Goals

Research methods; child, adolescent, and adult psychology; psychological testing; personality, and abnormal psychology; psychotherapy; social psychology; applied psychology; history of psychology; and physiological processes, principles of learning and memory, human perception, and cognition.

### Credit Hours

3

### Course Objectives

This course will provide you with a general introduction to the field of psychology. At the end of this semester, a student in this course should be able to

- Recognize the major perspectives within the field of psychology and identify findings relevant to those perspectives.
- Use theories and research findings to describe and predict behavior and mental processes both in the



laboratory and real-life settings.

- Explain the role of behavioral research techniques in creating a scientific study of psychology.
- Summarize and interpret articles based on psychological research.
- Describe ethical principles that guide psychologists in research and therapy.

### Participation and Grading

Grades will consist of exams and weekly activities. The final grade in this class will be based on the cumulative points you earn this semester.

<b>Course Grading:</b>	
Exam 1 @ 100 points	100
Exam 2 @ 100 points	100
Exam 3 @ 100 points	100
Exam 4 @ 100 points	100
Exam 5 @ 100 points	100
Weekly Assignments 5 @ 50 points	100
<b>Total Points Available</b>	<b>600</b>

*\*Any bonus points earned will be added to the overall point total*

Grades are based on a total of 600 points (100%).

#### Grade Points Needed

A	(90%)	540
B	(80%)	480
C	(70%)	420
D	(60%)	360
F	(below 60%)	359.9 and below

### Grading Scale

The grading scale in the class will be as follows:

A=90-100%

B=80-89%

C=70-79%

D=60-69%

F=59% And Below



### Bonus Opportunities

Although I may be able to grant extensions on assignments if there is an emergency or unforeseen situation, I cannot allow anyone to retake an exam or redo an activity. To help students who may have struggled with an exam or an activity, I will offer bonus opportunities on occasion and two opportunities to complete an analysis of research paper. These papers are not required but are designed to give more depth into topics in week 2 and week 4 and provide an additional opportunity to earn points.

**Analysis of Research Papers: (10 BONUS points possible each –20 in total)** The course lectures and the textbook include many examples of psychological research findings. You must read and analyze a summary of two original journal articles for this course. Prompt and detailed instructions will be provided. Analysis papers should be 1-2 pages long (double-spaced). **Analysis of Research Papers can be completed at any point in the semester but are due by the end of week 4 (noon on Friday).**

**I will not accept any late analysis of research papers since these are optional bonus opportunities.**

### Academic Integrity

Wesleyan's College expects student to show integrity in all of their work. Cheating, plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, inventing or falsifying information, turning in work for more than one class without authorization, or helping someone else are all violations of the Honor Code and are not tolerated. Any of these forms of cheating will not be tolerated and will be grounds for a grade of zero on the exam or assignment and a grade of F for the course, in addition to any penalties imposed by the Provost.

### Potential Changes to Course Schedule

The following week-to-week schedule is a general plan for the course. Deviations may be necessary and will be announced in advance via announcement and/or e-mail. Students should check their course site announcements and emails at least once every twenty-four hours throughout the term to watch for updates regarding this course.

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## Course Schedule

Outline is tentative and subject to change. More details will be provided as the dates approach.

### Week 1: (The Science of Psychology)

- Introduction
- Student Preface: Student Success
- Prologue –The Story of Psychology
- Ch. 1 Thinking Critically With Psychology
- Week 1 Activity –Experimental Design
- Exam 1

### Week 2: (Biological Foundations)

- Ch. 2 Biology of Mind
- Ch. 6 Sensation and Perception



- Ch. 5 Developing Through the Life Span
- Week 2 Activity
- Exam 2

### **Week 3:(Mental Processes)**

- Ch. 3 Consciousness and the Two-Tack Mind
- Ch. 7 Learning
- Ch. 8 Memory
- Week 3 Activity
- Exam 3

### **Week 4: (Driving Forces)**

- Ch. 11 What Drives Us
- Ch. 13 Social Psychology
- Ch. 14 Personality
- Week 4 Activity
- Exam 4

### **Week 5: (Abnormal Behavior)**

- Ch. 12 Emotions, Stress, and Health
- Ch. 15 Psychological Disorders
- Ch. 16 Therapies
- Week 5 Activity
- Final Exam

### **Civility in the Academic Community**

Students, faculty, and staff are expected to treat one another with respect in all interactions. In the classroom, rude, disruptive and/or disrespectful behaviors as determined by a faculty member interfere with other students' rights and with the instructor's ability to teach. Therefore, any student exhibiting unacceptable behaviors during a class will be asked to leave and will be counted absent for that class period. Failure to cooperate with this process will result in disciplinary action that may include withdrawal from the class or dismissal from the College. Violations will be reported to the Provost's Office.

### **Disabilities Statement**

Wesleyan College is committed to equal education, full participation and access to facilities for all students. Any student who requires reasonable academic accommodations, use of auxiliary aids or facility access for a class must first register with Disability Resources by contacting Jill Amos, Director of Disability and Advocacy Services, [jamos@wesleyancollege.edu](mailto:jamos@wesleyancollege.edu) or (478) 757-5219. If reasonable accommodations are established, students should request Accommodation Letters from Disability Resources then schedule an appointment to meet with the professor to determine how the accommodations will be implemented for each class as early in the semester as possible. Accommodations require advance notice to implement and will not be retroactively administered for the semester. Accommodations that decrease the integrity of a course will not be approved.