



General Psychology

PSY 101 – Wesleyan College

Syllabus

Summer 2024, May 13 - June 14

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.

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.

Course Requirements

- Required weekly textbook reading (chapter assignments can be found in the course outline)
- Required weekly assignments (Homework and live-chat participation)
- Required Exam at the end of every week within the semester.

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. All assignments will be due by 11:59 AM Beijing time on the day listed.

Please let me know immediately if an emergency or unforeseen circumstance prohibits you from completing an assignment or exam. In this situation, let me know why you need an extension (it must be an unforeseen emergency such as being in the hospital) and when you request to complete the assignment (give me a requested due date – keep in mind I cannot accept any assignment after 11:59 AM on Friday, Week5).

Please note that you cannot “redo” any assignments in this class and I will not give out individual bonus point opportunities. I have built-in several bonus opportunities into the course to compensate for a bad grade or missed opportunity. Take advantage of the offered bonus points.

Exams: (100 points each) The exams will be 34 multiple choice questions (2.5 points each) and three short answer questions (5 points each). The exams will cover the material covered in class and all reading assignments. I encourage you to thoroughly read each assigned chapter, watch each lecture video, and work through any practice opportunities before taking the exam.

My exams are based on understanding and applying concepts covered in class. I do not ask questions based on memorization. As a study technique, I suggest you create examples of the concepts as you read. This will help you be in the practice of being able to identify and apply the various concepts in this class.

Exams 1-4 are based only on the specific week’s material. Exam 5 is our final exam and will include the most missed concepts from the first four exams and the material from week 5. **Exams 1-4 will be due on Sunday each week, The Final Exam (Exam 5) will be due by noon on Friday, Week 5.**

Weekly Activity: (20 points each)

I will provide you with one weekly activity each week of the course. This will include homework activities over the current weeks topics and two live chat meetings.

Live Chat Details

Live chats will occur during week 2 and week 4 via zoom. You have the option of attending the live chat and participating or completing a make-up activity.



Option One Attending the Live Chat:

- Must have camera on
- Must participate in the discussion of the material
- Will receive 5 additional bonus points for active participation

Option Two Complete The Live Chat Make-up Opportunity:

- Available after the live chat (you will need to watch a recording of it so it cannot be completed early)
- Answer questions about the live chat that will be submitted via Moodle
- No chance to earn bonus points with this option

You do not need to check with me about missing the live chat or tell me which option you select.

Weekly Activities are due by Friday at noon each week.

Course Grading:	
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
Total Points Available	600

****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

“A” grades are given for outstanding work. You are doing extremely well. The student has exceeded expectation.

“B” grades are given for above average work. You are doing very well. Improvements will be toward higher refinements of concept.

“C” grades are given for average work. You are meeting an acceptable level or expectation. Improvements will be towards acceptable levels of project requirements.

“D” grades are given for below average work. You are under-achieving in quality and/or motivation. Improvements will be towards acceptable level of project requirements.

“F” grades are given for failure. You are not reaching the expected level for college work. Improvements are to review goals, seek assistance and increase efforts.

You may track your running point total throughout the term via our course site. Please be aware, however, that the course grade you see in the site will reflect only assignments and activities you have already completed and that your professor has graded.

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.

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 (Due: Friday)
- Exam 1 (Due: Sunday)

Week 2: (Biological Foundations)

- Ch. 2 Biology of Mind
- Ch. 6 Sensation and Perception
- Ch. 5 Developing Through the Life Span
- Week 2 Activity (Due: Friday)
- Exam 2 (Due: Sunday)

Week 3:(Mental Processes)

- Ch. 3 Consciousness and the Two-Tack Mind
- Ch. 7 Learning
- Ch. 8 Memory
- Week 3 Activity (Due: Friday)
- Exam 3 (Due: Sunday)

Week 4: (Driving Forces)

- Ch. 11 What Drives Us
- Ch. 13 Social Psychology
- Ch. 14 Personality
- Week 4 Activity (Due: Friday)
- Exam 4 (Due: Sunday)

Week 5: (Abnormal Behavior)

- Ch. 12 Emotions, Stress, and Health
- Ch. 15 Psychological Disorders
- Ch. 16 Therapies



- Week 5 Activity
- Final Exam

(Due: Friday)

(Due: Friday)

Civility in the Academic Community

Students, faculty, and staff are expected to treat one another with respect in all interactions both during class meetings and on the Moodle course site. Rude, disruptive and/or disrespectful behaviors as determined by a faculty member interfere with other students' rights and with the professor's ability to teach. Therefore, any student exhibiting unacceptable behaviors during a class meeting or Moodle collaborative activity will be asked to leave and will be counted absent for that class period or activity. 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.

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 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.

Privacy in Teaching & Learning Spaces

In order to promote an environment in which ideas may be freely expressed, the interior offices; in-person and virtual classrooms; and Moodle course sites at Wesleyan are private spaces. The unauthorized creation of photographic images, audio recordings, or video recordings of students or faculty in these spaces is considered to be disruptive behavior which may result in a student's removal from class according to the professor's discretion. The distribution of unauthorized images or recordings, or of class meeting recordings shared by a professor for instructional purposes, without the express written permission of the College is strictly prohibited and is subject to disciplinary action by the Provost of the College.