



PS906 Introduction to Psychology: Principles of Psychology (Online)

Instructor Information	Liandi Lou Email: Jenniferlou@163.com		
Term	December 13, 2021 - January 7, 2022	Credits	4 units
Course Delivery	The class will be delivered in the format of online. Other than recorded lecture videos, the instructor will arrange 2.5 hours' real-time interactions with students per week (via discussion forum, zoom meeting, and WeChat). The workload students are expected to complete to properly pass this course is about 10-15 hours per week.		
Required Texts (with ISBN)	Schacter, D. L., Gilbert, D. T., Wegner, D. M., & Nock, M. K. (2014). Psychology (3rd ed.). Publisher: Worth. ISBN: 978-1464106033		
Prerequisite	N/A		



Course Overview

Psychology is the science of human behavior. Thus, the study of psychology is central to understanding human experience, how we think, feel, learn, relate to each other, and change across the lifespan. This course will provide an overview of theory and research in the major areas of psychology, with an emphasis on understanding basic principles and how they can help us understand human experience and behavior. These aims will be accomplished through a variety of pedagogical methods, including lectures, discussion, and in-class experiential exercises and self-reflection.

Course Goals

By taking this course students will

1. Understand core psychological concepts and processes;
2. Critically examine theories and empirical findings across subfields of psychology;
3. Compare, contrast, and synthesize empirical and theoretical perspectives related to the study of behavior and thought using evidence-based reasoning;
4. Apply theoretical models of behavior and thought to real life settings and skills.

Lecture Materials

Lecture materials will consist mostly of Power Point slide presentations and are designed to help with understanding and organizing the material. Since there is a lot of material in the textbook, lectures will also highlight key concepts and terms in the chapters to help you focus your study efforts. I may occasionally provide short videos or video lectures in addition to Power Point slides. You will need to have the Microsoft Power Point program to view lecture slides.

Attendance – I expect you to attend each scheduled class and be on time. If you are late to class, you will not receive full credit for the day. Any student who exceeds **FOUR** unexcused absences will be a candidate for withdrawal from the course, for you have missed a significant portion of our class meeting time. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to get in touch with a classmate to find out what you missed.

Late Assignments – Deduction of 10% of the maximum mark for each calendar day after the due date.

Makeup Assignments – There are no makeup assignments allowed, with exceptions allowed in critical emergency circumstances (i.e. student has been hospitalized) with documented proof. In order to be fair to all classmates, makeup assignments at the end of the semester to boost your course grade are not allowed. It is important that you complete assigned work on time throughout the semester. Please note that exams cannot be made up for any reason.



Grading Policy

Quizzes: 5 @ 20 points each	100 points
Writing Assignments: 2 @ 50 points each	100 points
Exams: 2 @ 100 points each	200 points

Quizzes

There will be 5 quizzes. Quizzes cannot be made up for any reason. Each quiz will be worth 20 points.

Exams

There will be a midterm and a comprehensive final exam during the semester. Exams will be composed of multiple choice and essay questions. Exams will cover material from lecture slides and the textbook. The chapters and material covered on each exam can be found on the course schedule at the end of this syllabus. Exams will consist of recall AND application of terms, theories, and concepts. Because lectures may cover material not included in the textbook, carefully following along with lecture materials will maximize your success on exams! Each exam will be worth 100 points.

Writing Assignments

There are two out of class writing assignments. The writing assignments are due on the date indicated in the course schedule. Failure to submit on time will result in a 5-point grade penalty for each class period that the assignment is past due. What you will learn from this assignment is important. For this reason, you are encouraged to hand it in no matter how late it might be. The minimum grade for a completed assignment is 55 percent. Assignments not completed will earn a score of 0 percent. The latest date at which I will accept this assignment is 3:00pm on January 5th, 2022.

Grading Scale is as follows

Number grade	Letter grade	GPA
90-100	A	4.0
85-89	A-	3.7
80-84	B+	3.3
75-79	B	3.0
70-74	B-	2.7
67-69	C+	2.3
65-66	C	2.0
62-64	C-	1.7
60-61	D	1.0
≤59	F (Failure)	0



Class Schedule

Date	Lecture	Readings	Assignment
Day 1	Introduction and Course Overview	Chapter 1	
Day 2	Critical thinking and methods in Psychology	Chapter 2	
Day 3	Neuroscience and behavior	Chapter 3	
Day 4	Sensation and perception	Chapter 4	Quiz One
Day 5	Development	Chapter 11	
Day 6	Development	Chapter 11	
Day 7	Consciousness	Chapter 5	Quiz Two
Day 8	Memory	Chapter 6	Assignment #1 due
Day 9	Learning	Chapter 7	
Day 10	Cognition	Chapter 9	Quiz Three
Day 11	Midterm Exam		Midterm Exam
Day 12	Language	Chapter 9	
Day 13	Intelligence	Chapter 10	
Day 14	Emotion, Stress and Health	Chapter 8&14	Quiz Four
Day 15	Psychological Disorders	Chapter 15	
Day 16	Treatment and Psychological Disorders	Chapter 16	
Day 17	Personality	Chapter 12	Assignment #2 due
Day 18	Social Psychology	Chapter 13	Quiz Five
Day 19	Social Psychology	Chapter 13	
Day 20	Final Exam		Final Exam