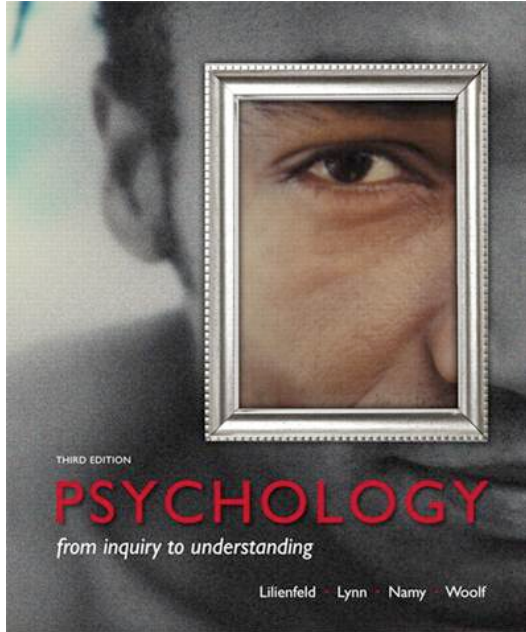


Welcome to Introduction to Psychology PSY 1010, Online Instructor: Rickye Heffner

Office: 5008 UHall, Office hours: Email for an appointment

Phone: x2710, Rickye.Heffner@utoledo.edu

http://psychology.utoledo.edu/showpage.asp?name=comparative_hear_lab



Text and Equipment

Lilienfeld et al., **Psychology: From Inquiry to Understanding, 3rd edition, with access to the eBook, audiobook, and MyPsychLab.** Pearson

The least expensive option is to purchase the ebook and online materials either from the bookstore or directly at the publisher's website for about \$75. If you prefer to have a hard copy of the textbook, you will still need to have the online access to MyPsychLab. You will be able to read the etext from virtually any device, iPhone, iPad, Android, computer, etc. The etext contains useful links for assignments and other materials that supplement the text. These links are noted in the hardcopy text and you can simply take note of them and look them up in MyPsychLab. Virtually the entire course will be contained in MyPsychLab, but you should enter MyPsychLab through the UT Blackboard course site. You will receive about two weeks of free

guest access to MyPsychLab once the course begins, but after that you will have to purchase access either with or without a hardcopy textbook. **When you get to MyPsychLab, the first thing you should do is follow the instructions to Tune Up Your Browser so that all the parts work properly.**

You will need a fast internet connection (Never use a phone modem). **Firefox and Safari** are the best browsers for use with Blackboard; I have also had success with Chrome. **Do not use Internet Explorer.** If you have trouble, click on Learner Support for help.

Once you are in MyPsychLab click on the Assignment Calendar to see when assignments and exams are due. You can click on the item right from the calendar. You can always complete assignments early, but late assignments incur a penalty. We will cover a chapter every week.

Begin each chapter by reading the text—reading the text is not specifically assigned in the calendar, but it is the first thing you should do. Then watch all the assigned videos (they are 2-7 minutes long), do any of the assigned simulations, and take any associated quizzes. You will have two opportunities to take these so you can get a perfect score. If you miss any questions the first time, re-do the assignment and try again. You will be given the correct answers for any you miss after the second attempt. Finally, complete the dynamic study modules until you get at least 75% correct with confidence. These

assignments constitute 10% of your course grade and there is a 33% penalty for every day they are late. There are no excuses for late homework and you can always complete it before the due date.

Each chapter has a chapter exam. These are used to help you study for the main exams. All the chapter exams are due two days before the main exams. You can take each chapter exam twice and you will be able to see the correct answers after the second attempt. Your highest score will be recorded. There is also a late penalty of 33% per day, again with no excuses. If you think you might be busy or called in to work, complete the chapter exams at least once before the due date. These chapter exams constitute 10% of your grade

Finally, take the main exams that cover several chapters on or before the due date. You only take these once and they constitute 80% of your grade. These must be taken in the supervised computer lab, UH5000 (open 9am - 7pm Monday through Thursday, bring your UT ID). You can take exams any time before the due date. After the due date, there is a 20% penalty per day that it is late. The penalty will be waived only for written proof of illness or other disaster.

Scope - Course Description

This is a **General Education Social Science Core** course and there are no prerequisites. This course is designed to help you gain an appreciation of the scientific basis of the entire discipline of Psychology. You will learn about what psychologists study, how they study it, what they know (or don't know), and the difficulties in understanding behavior.

Time Commitments for this Course

This course is comparable in content and effort requirements to a standard classroom course. **As for any 3-hour course that lasts a full 15 weeks, expect to spend about 9-12 hours per week reading the textbook, going through the online media materials (paying special attention to those that are specifically assigned), gaining confidence with the dynamic study modules, and studying on your own if you want to get the highest grade of which you are capable.**

Student Learning Objectives - Based on the UT Core and American Psychological Association Undergraduate Learning Goals and Outcomes

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding representing appropriate breadth and depth in selected content areas of psychology:

- a. **theory** and research representing each of the following four general domains:
 1. learning and cognition
 2. individual differences, psychometrics, personality, and social processes, including those related to sociocultural and international dimensions
 3. biological bases of behavior and mental processes, including physiology, sensation, perception, comparative, motivation, and emotion
 4. developmental changes in behavior and mental processes across the life span
- b. the **history** of psychology, including the evolution of methods of psychology, its theoretical conflicts, and its sociocultural contexts
- c. **relevant levels of analysis:** cellular, individual, group/systems, and culture
- d. **themes, persistent questions, & enduring conflicts in psychology**
 1. the interaction of heredity and environment

2. variability and continuity of behavior and mental processes within and across species
3. free will versus determinism
4. subjective versus objective observations
5. the interaction of mind and body

Students will be able to enumerate evidence underlying beliefs about behavior—

- a. Recognize major **perspectives** of psychology (e.g., behavioral, biological, cognitive, evolutionary, humanistic, psychodynamic, and sociocultural).
 1. Compare and contrast major perspectives
 2. Describe advantages and limitations of major theoretical perspectives
- b. Recognize different **research methods** used by psychologists.
 1. Describe how various research designs address different types of questions and hypotheses
 2. Articulate strengths and limitations of various research designs
 3. Distinguish the nature of designs that permit causal inferences from those that do not

Students will demonstrate an influence of psychological principles on their behavior, specifically study strategies

- a. Demonstrate self-regulation in **setting and achieving goals**
Regular and spaced study sessions in the form of recall practice quizzes
- b. **Assess your own performance accurately**
Use feedback from quizzes and study plan to realistically assess own knowledge

Students will write short essays with concise clear statements that directly address an issue (essays not required this semester)

- a. Demonstrate **professional writing** conventions (e.g., grammar, audience awareness, formality) appropriate to purpose and context. This should be apparent in all of your written work and communications with the instructor including email.

Assessment of Learning

Grades will be based ~80% on Exams that cover several chapters, ~10% on Quizzes over the media assignments, and ~10% on chapter exams.

Knowledge of the material in the textbook and online material as well as successful completion of assignments will be demonstrated by correctly answering multiple choice questions about the content of the textbook and the application of concepts.

Pacing For This Course & Planning For Exams

You may work ahead of the scheduled course deadlines that appear in the course calendar in MyPsychLab, but you may not fall behind. You may work ahead to accommodate exams in other classes or a complicated life/work schedule, or you may work ahead because you wish to complete the entire course in a few weeks.

Late exams are accepted, but each day late reduces the score by 20 percentage points. Late assignments and chapter exams entail a 33% penalty for every day late. All assignments and exams are listed in the calendar in MyPsychLab.

If you must take an exam late because of a death in your family or your own illness, you will not be penalized if you document your reason. *The best approach is to **prepare early** so that you can take*

the exam a little early in case you get called to work or something else unexpected happens. Plan to have a backup computer and internet connection (friend, library, etc) in case you have technical problems at the last minute. Losing internet access at home is not an acceptable excuse unless it is a general blackout covering a wide geographic area, in which case this class will not be your biggest problem. Being prepared gives you flexibility so you can manage even when life gets complicated.

Excused absences

Absences will be reflected in missed or late exams or assignments or failure to turn in a pop quiz or in-class assignment. If you miss 2 or more weeks of classwork, or two exams, as a result of **excused** absences, you must make these up before the last day of classes. If you cannot do this you should withdraw from the course or petition for a medical or emergency withdrawal. There are deadlines for these withdrawals, so make sure you check the academic calendar for UT.

Information in the Textbook

You must understand the text, so keep a dictionary handy and use the glossary. There are flash cards available in MyPsychLab and you can add your own. For example, you will need to know what *subjective* means, the difference between *affect* and *effect*, and whether phenomena is a singular or plural word. Even spelling is important. Merriam-Webster's pronouncing dictionary is linked on the course menu.

There will be five exams and the entire text will be covered. Here are the dates of the last days that each exam can be taken. These are also shown in the Assignment Calendar and on the home page in Blackboard. You can always take an exam a few days early.

Course Pretest- Take this the first day of class; it lets us compare how much you know at the beginning and end of the course. It will not affect your grade.

Chapter 1 – 4 Sept 18

Chapter 5 – 7 Oct 9

Chapter 8 – 10 Oct 30

Chapter 11 – 13 Nov 20

Chapter 14 – 16 Dec 11

Comprehensive Final – Dec 18

If you miss an exam, you can make it up but there is a penalty of 20% for every day that it is late. If you must take an exam late because of a death in your family or your own illness, you will not be penalized if you document your reason. *The best approach is to **prepare early** so that you can take the exam a little early in case you get called to work or something else unexpected happens. Plan to have a backup computer and internet connection (friend, library, etc) in case you have technical problems at the last minute. Being prepared gives you flexibility so you can manage even when life gets complicated.* If, because of extraordinary

circumstances, you are allowed to retake an exam, the second score will be the one recorded and the first score is automatically erased.

Review Questions. All exams except the first one include review questions from previous chapters. These usually involve critical thinking and the scientific approach to studying behavior. A quick review should help you answer these and the frequent reviews will help you when it comes time to study for the Final exam. **Reviewing is important to consolidate your long-term memory.**

Course Pretest and Posttest: I want to know how much you learn in this course. Accordingly, there will be a Course Pretest given the first week of the course. Be sure to answer the separate question about whether you have ever had another course in psychology, either in high school or in college. These will not affect your grade in this course but will help us evaluate how well the course is working.

Grading Scale*

A = 92.5 - 100%

A- = 90 - 92.49%

B+ = 87.5 - 89.99%

B = 82.5 - 87.49%

B- = 80 - 82.49%

C+ = 77.5 - 79.99%

C = 72.5 - 77.49%

C- = 70 - 72.49%

D+ = 67.5 - 69.99%

D = 62.5 - 67.49%

D- = 60 - 62.49%

F = 59.9% and below

W - if you withdraw from the course after the end of the drop period.

IN - Incomplete grades are only assigned in extraordinary circumstances beyond the student's control and only if the student has completed at least 10 exams with a passing grade. Under no circumstances will a student be allowed to retake an entire course in order to complete this course.

Not Attending - Failure to do assignments and take exams will be reported to the registrar and such non-attendance may affect your financial aid.

*The percentage is determined by dividing your total points by the total points possible on assignments and exams; assignments and chapter exams are totaled and given a weight of 10% each, exams are totaled and given a weight of 80%.

Topics for class discussion

If you have questions or comments about human or animal behavior that we are studying, please email me and I will answer either in class or by email. In class, I want to cover not only topics that I think students find difficult, but also topics that you have questions or doubts about. Please submit your suggestions for class discussion by 10 am on Monday before the class meets. [Anyone can submit topics, but you may be specifically assigned that task in class.](#)

If you still have questions about how this course works after reading the syllabus carefully, please email me so I can clarify it. If you need technical help with Blackboard, contact the

help desk at Learning Ventures. If you have trouble logging in to MyPsychLab, let me know and also contact the Support service at MyPsychLab-Mastering. Such problems are almost always due to Browser settings so follow the instructions carefully.

Who is this invisible instructor? To learn more about me, go to my [web page](#)

There you will find lists of scientific publications about my research (there are some surprises there--how many of your other instructors have done experiments with elephants, cows, pigs, and bats!)? I have a few interests outside teaching: I love to garden (my favorite plants are beans), and I am a Master Gardener. I have a flock of lovely hens. I recently took a Distance Learning course from OSU so I am much better at seeing courses from a student's point of view. I have achieved a life goal—to become a grandmother (three times). I am also a black belt in Shaolin Kempo Karate although I don't practice as much as I used to.

You may now be ready to take the first test in this course. Take the Course Pretest immediately and answer the question about Prior Psychology Courses. These will not affect your grade but they will show me how much you learn in this course and how much you already know about psychology. . . . and remember to be a little skeptical.