

## PSY 1010 – 004: Principles of Psychology, Spring 2015

Monday & Wednesday 12:30 – 1:45, DC 1019

### Instructor

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Office hours: Tuesday 2:00 – 3:30 pm (and by appointment)

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Office hours: Wednesday 8:00 – 10:00 am

### Course Overview

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.

By the end of this class, you should be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding representing appropriate breadth and depth in the following content areas of psychology:

1. Theory and research representing each of four general domains:
  - Learning and cognition
  - Individual differences, psychometrics, personality, and social processes
  - Biological bases of behavior and mental processes
  - Developmental changes in behavior and mental processes
2. The history of psychology including the evolution of methods, theoretical conflicts, and sociocultural contexts.
3. Relevant levels of analysis including cellular, individual, group/systems, and culture.
4. Themes, persistent questions, and enduring conflicts in psychology.
5. Research methods, designs, and strengths and limitations of these designs.

### Required Textbook & Online Access

Textbook: Lilienfeld et al., *Psychology: From Inquiry to Understanding*, 3rd edition. You **must** have access to the textbook and MyPsychLab!

The least expensive option is to purchase the e-book 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 e-text from virtually any device, iPhone, iPad, Android,

computer, etc. You can enter MyPsychLab through the UT Blackboard course site (<https://blackboard.utdl.edu>). 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. This is very important! Another important note regarding browsers: do not use Internet Explorer! Firefox, Safari, and Chrome are your best bets.

Online Access: Access to MyPsychLab is required for this course. All assignments and most importantly, all exams will be accessed and completed through MyPsychLab so if you want to pass this class you will need to pay for access. Please keep a close eye on the course calendar as that will help you see when all of your assignments are due. If you have problems with MyPsychLab, contact Pearson Learner Support through the link on the MyPsychLab page.

You will also need to keep an eye on Blackboard. Course updates, announcements, and other information you may find helpful to passing this course will be posted on Blackboard. If you have trouble, click on Learner Support for help.

### **Psychology Research Requirement**

You are required to participate in research in the psychology department. If you cannot participate due to scheduling issues or would prefer not to participate, you can fulfill this requirement by writing reports on scientific articles. You **must** fulfill this requirement one way or the other. If you do not fulfill this requirement you will receive an incomplete for this class regardless of the grade you earned. Please see the links on Blackboard for additional information.

### **Course Components**

Class exams: There will be four unit exams and a comprehensive final. The final will cover the last unit (Chapters 14, 15, & 16) and will contain a cumulative portion, so it will be longer and worth more points than the other exams. These exams will be taken in the computer lab on campus with a test proctor. All exams are multiple choice. Each exam will be offered over a 2-3 day period. You may take your exam at any time the lab is open (lab availability will be posted on Blackboard). Keep in mind that many instructors use this lab for their exams, so the lab does get busy. Plan ahead and do not wait until the last day. You will need to bring a photo ID with you to the lab, and will need to know my name (either first or last) so the lab proctor can check you in faster. **Do not** arrive at the lab less than an hour before it closes for the day. **Do not** try to cheat. I know all of the proctors and they will tell me if they see you cheat. You may not use the book, notes, your phone (put it away!), etc. on the exams.

### Tentative exam dates

Unit 1 (Chs. 1, 2, 3, 4)	February 9 <sup>th</sup> - 10 <sup>th</sup>
Unit 2 (Chs. 5, 6, 7)	February 23 <sup>rd</sup> - 24 <sup>th</sup>
Unit 3 (Chs. 8, 9, 10)	March 23 <sup>rd</sup> - 24 <sup>th</sup>
Unit 4 (Chs. 11, 12, 13)	April 13 <sup>th</sup> - 14 <sup>th</sup>
Unit 5 (Chs. 14-16) & Final Exam	May 5 <sup>th</sup> - 7 <sup>th</sup>

Multimedia Video Assignments: There will be 5 assignments per unit. These will typically consist of a short video (~5 minutes) that you will need to watch, which will then be followed by a short quiz. Each assignment will be worth 5 points. You may use your book and notes when answering the quiz questions. These will be due at 11:59 pm the night before the first day the corresponding exam is offered (i.e. Unit 1 will be due February 8<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 pm). However, I encourage you to complete them as we cover that chapter's material.

Course Pretest: The Psychology Department wants to know how much you learn in this course, so you will need to complete a course pretest. Your answers on this pretest will not affect your grade, however, everyone needs to complete this pretest. Please be sure to answer the separate question about whether you have ever had another course in psychology, either in high school or in college. Once again, this will not affect your grade in this course. The pretest will be due at the end of the first week of classes.

### Grade calculation

Exams (1 per unit, 75 points each)	300
Multimedia Assignments (5 per unit, 5 points each)	125
Cumulative Final (150 points)	150
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Total	575

### Grading Scale

A = 93 - 100	C = 73 - 76.9
A- = 90 - 92.9	C- = 70 - 72.9
B+ = 87 - 89.9	D+ = 67 - 69.9
B = 83 - 86.9	D = 63 - 66.9
B- = 80 - 82.9	D- = 60 - 62.9
C+ = 77 - 79.9	F = 59.9 and below

## **Class Policies**

Contacting Me: I am happy to help you if you are struggling with the course material. If this is the case, please either send me an email or stop by my office during office hours – that’s what office hours are for! If you cannot make it during my office hours, please send me an email and we will figure out another time to meet. Please use the email address listed above instead of contacting me through Blackboard or MyPsychLab email (I don’t check those). Please do not email me repeatedly if I do not respond within a couple of hours, I probably received your first email and will reply as soon as I can within the next 24 hours. Finally, grades will not be discussed over email. If you feel that a mistake was made with your grade, please email me to set up an appointment so we can discuss this in person.

Please remember to consider emails as formal communications between you and your instructors, and please refrain from starting your email with “Hey” or “What’s up?” Please use complete sentences with proper grammar and spelling when sending me emails. If I cannot understand your email, I won’t be able to answer your question.

Attendance: Please arrive to class on time and do not leave (or start packing your things) early. Attendance is not a part of your grade (although I may occasionally take attendance) and I do not need to know why you missed lecture. However, as exam content is mostly drawn from lecture material, students are strongly encouraged to attend lecture. I do not post audio of my lectures on the course website and I do not consent to being photographed or recorded during lectures unless you have explicit permission from the University and me to do so. This includes recording of lectures on your phone, laptop, smartpen, etc. If you miss class, ask classmates for their notes, and check MyPsychLab for additional materials on the topic. If you still have trouble with the topic, please see me or the class TA for help.

Phones: I really hope this goes without saying, but please do not talk on your phone during class. Your phone should be on silent, not vibrate. Also, please don’t text in class (yes, I can see you). The class is only one hour and fifteen minutes long, I promise you can wait that long to return that text message. If you are waiting to hear back from an urgent phone call/text please sit near the door so you can excuse yourself when your phone rings.

Eating: This class meets during lunch time and I understand that many of you may be hungry. If you can eat a snack that is quiet and mess-free (e.g., a Ziploc bag of grapes), then I do not have a problem with eating during class. If you have something that is noisy (e.g., bag of chips, candy bar) or smelly (e.g., tuna sandwich, anything hot) please wait until after class. This is not only in respect of the instructor, but also your fellow students. Also, if you do eat during class, please make sure to clean up after yourself. If I notice students not following these guidelines, or if I hear complaints from other students, I will revise this policy and will not allow eating in class.

Respect: Please be respectful to your fellow students, the instructor, and the TA. Disrespectful students may be asked to leave the classroom.

Extra Credit: I understand that sometimes life happens so I will give everyone one (and only one) extra credit opportunity. A syllabus quiz will be posted for you to complete to earn up to 15 points. This quiz will need to be completed by the due date. The best part? It's open note so you can complete the quiz with the syllabus right in front of you.

### **Late policy**

Late exams are accepted, however, each will be penalized 20% per day late. If you need to take an exam late due to an excused absence as documented by the "University of Toledo Missed Class Policy", then written documentation is required, and extra time for completion will be determined by the instructor (please see the link on Blackboard if you are unfamiliar with UT's missed class policy). Failure to notify the instructor about the absence in a reasonable time will result in the above penalty.

Late assignments will not be accepted, unless for an excused absence that covers the entire time the assignment has been available. Assignments for each unit will be posted at the beginning of the unit (the exam period of the previous unit). This means that you will be given 2-4 weeks to complete about an hour's worth of work. I know how easy it is to procrastinate, but don't procrastinate on these assignments. Given that most of this course will be completed using the computer, with the exception of in-person class time, students should expect that technological issues may occur at any time. Students are encouraged to complete their assignments early in case a technological issue does occur. Late assignments due to technological issues, be it computer, internet, printer, etc., will not be accepted. If you are faced with a technological issue, UT has multiple computer labs on campus available for your use. The only exception to this policy will be if there is a large technological glitch which ends up covering a large geographic area. If this is the case, then this class will be the least of our worries and an extension will be given to everyone.

### **University of Toledo Policy Pertaining to Academic Integrity**

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Among the aims of education are the acquisition of knowledge and development of the skills necessary for success in any profession. Activities inconsistent with these aims will not be permitted. Students are responsible for knowing what constitutes academic dishonesty. If students are uncertain about what constitutes plagiarism or cheating they should seek the instructor's advice.

Examples of academic dishonesty include, but are not limited to:

- Plagiarizing or representing the words, ideas or information of another person as one's own and not offering proper documentation;

- Giving or receiving, prior to an examination, any unauthorized information concerning the content of that examination;
- Referring to or displaying any unauthorized materials inside or outside of the examination room during the course of an examination;
- Communicating during an examination in any manner with any unauthorized person concerning the examination or any part of it;
- Giving or receiving substantive aid during the course of an examination;
- Commencing an examination before the stipulated time or continuing to work on an examination after the announced conclusion of the examination period;
- Taking, converting, concealing, defacing, damaging or destroying any property related to the preparation or completion of assignments, research or examination;
- Submitting the same written work to fulfill the requirements for more than one course.

### Disability Accommodations

Reasonable accommodations will be made for anyone with a disability that may require some modification of seating, testing, or other class requirements. Students must contact the Office of Accommodations (Rocket Hall 1820) for an evaluation and a form specifying what course accommodations are judged reasonable for that student. Please contact the instructor after class or during office hours so that appropriate arrangements may be made.

The contact information for the Office of Accommodations is as follows:  
 Campus Address: Rocket Hall 1820, Mail Stop #342  
 Phone Number: 419.530.4981  
 Web: <http://www.utoledo.edu/utlc/accessibility/>

### Course Schedule

Date	Topic	Reading
1/12	Course Overview, Textbook & Sona Presentations	
1/14	Psychology & Scientific Thinking	Chapter 1
1/19	<b>No Class</b> – Martin Luther King Jr Day	
1/21	Psychology & Scientific Thinking; Research Methods	Chapter 2
1/26	Research Methods; Biological Psychology	Chapter 3
1/28	Biological Psychology	Chapter 3

2/2	Sensation & Perception	Chapter 4
2/4	Sensation & Perception; Consciousness	Chapter 5
2/9	Consciousness	
2/11	Learning	Chapter 6
2/16	Learning; Memory	Chapter 7
2/18	Memory	
2/23	Thinking, Reasoning, & Language	Chapter 8
2/25	Thinking, Reasoning, & Language	
3/2	Thinking, Reasoning, & Language	
3/4	Intelligence & IQ Testing	Chapter 9
3/9	<b>No Class</b> – Spring Break	
3/11	<b>No Class</b> – Spring Break	
3/16	Intelligence & IQ Testing; Human Development	Chapter 10
3/18	Human Development	
3/23	Emotion & Motivation	Chapter 11
3/25	Emotion & Motivation	
3/30	Stress, Coping, & Health	Chapter 12
4/1	Stress, Coping, & Health	
4/6	Social Psychology	Chapter 13
4/8	Social Psychology	
4/13	Personality	Chapter 14
4/15	Personality	
4/20	Psychological Disorders	Chapter 15
4/22	Psychological Disorders	
4/27	Psychological & Biological Treatments	Chapter 16
4/29	Psychological & Biological Treatments	

**Cumulative Final Exam: May 5<sup>th</sup> – May 7<sup>th</sup>**

\*The schedule and procedures in this course are subject to change at the instructor's discretion.