

THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO, DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

PSY 1010-003, PRINCIPLES OF PSYCHOLOGY

Spring 2013, Monday & Wednesday, 9:30 am – 10:45 am
Wolfe Hall, Room 1205

INSTRUCTOR

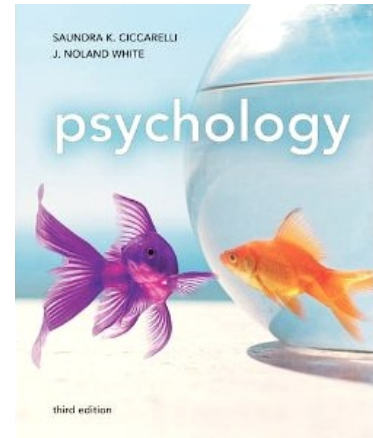
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Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday, after class or by appointment



COURSE INFORMATION

Required Text:

- Ciccarelli, S. K. & White, J.N. (2012) *Psychology* (3rd ed. or UT custom edition). Pearson.
- The cover for the standard edition is shown above; the custom edition sold at the UT bookstore may have a different cover and say 1st edition, but the authors and title should be the same.

Software:

- Blackboard (required)
- MyPsychLab+ (required)

MyPsychLab+ (plus) is different than MyPsychLab. Be sure to purchase the correct web application

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 entire discipline of Psychology and its scientific basis. You will learn about what psychologists study, how they study it, what they know and don't know, and what the difficulties are in understanding behavior.

College students should think about the facts in their textbooks and about how the facts were obtained. Even more important, they should be a little skeptical about what they hear and read about psychology (and a lot of other things, too). This is why there are thought questions included throughout the course. Thought questions require more than memorization; they require that you consider several facts and relate them to each other or apply them to common situations, and sometimes to analyze the facts logically. It is important that you work hard to understand and use the information presented to answer thought questions in a clear and concise manner.

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. demonstrate knowledge and understanding representing appropriate breadth and depth in selected content areas of psychology.
2. list evidence underlying beliefs about behavior.
3. demonstrate the influence of psychological principles on behavior, specifically study strategies.
4. answer short thought questions with concise clear statements that directly address the question.

For a detailed description of these learning objectives see the [STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES](#) document.

This course is a prerequisite for all other psychology courses

You must pass with a letter grade of C- or better in order to move onto the 2000 level courses.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

You are expected...

- to read the assigned chapters and/or readings before each class period.
- to arrive on time and not to leave early.
- to be respectful of others whether an instructor or fellow student.
- to show thoughtful and critical understanding of the assigned readings during class participation.
- to turn assignments in on time (e.g., the beginning of class) the day they are due.
- NOT to use computers/electronics for any reason outside of what we are doing in class. It is very distracting to everyone.
- NOT to use cell phones. Please turn them off.

Time commitment for this course

As for any 3-hour course, you should expect to spend at minimum 9-12 hours per week working on this course during a standard 15-week semester if you want to get the highest grade of which you are capable. (A little more than **twice** that much time is required in the 6-week summer sessions).

COURSE EVALUATION

GRADING SCALE

Percent range		Percent range	
A	92.50 – 100.00	C	72.50 – 77.49
A-	90.00 – 92.49	C-	70.00 – 72.49
B+	87.50 – 89.99	D+	67.50 – 69.99
B	82.50 – 87.49	D	62.50 – 67.49
B-	80.00 – 82.49	D-	60.00 – 62.49
C+	77.50 – 79.99	F	59.99 and below

Your course percentage is determined by dividing your weighted total points earned on graded work by the total points possible on graded work; exams are totaled and given a weight of 75%, chapter quick reviews + media assignments + quizzes are totaled given a weight of 20% and thought questions are totaled and given a weight of 5%. The weighted values are then added together to calculate your percent earned in the course.

In determining final grades, I follow proper round techniques. Please do not ask me to bump your score up (or down, though I've never received that particular request) because you are close to falling into the next letter bracket. To be fair to all students, instructors must follow proper grading practices.

- ✓ Students failing to complete the 'Psychology Research Exposure' portion of this class will automatically be given a grade of **Incomplete (IN)** for the course unless they are already failing the course, in which case they will be given a letter grade of F. If you receive a letter grade of incomplete, you have 1 semester to complete the required research. If you do not complete the credits, you will automatically be assigned a failing grade.
- ✓ If you drop this course after the end of the drop period you will earn a **W**.
- ✓ Failure to do assignments and take exams will be reported to the registrar and such non-attendance may affect your financial aid.

The MyPsychLab+ application does not calculate scores as precisely as needed. Because of this, I keep a separate grade book and recommend you keep track of your points separately as well. In most cases, I update my grade book within one week of the unit exams. If you would like to compare your point total to my grade book, please email me and I will forward you a grade report. Most students request a grade report

mid-term and/or before the final exam.

GRADING POLICY

Each assignment will contribute toward your final grade as follows:

Assignment	Approximate Weight
Unit Exams + Final Exam	75%
Chapter Quick Reviews + Media Assignments + Quizzes	20%
Thought Questions	5%
Total	100%

Your knowledge of how the various course concepts work together will be tested on five examinations during the semester and one final examination during finals week. The format of these will be discussed in greater detail in class. Make up examinations will not be given without proper documentation.

UNIT EXAMS

Exams directly make up the majority of your final grade. There will be 4 unit exams, each covering between approximately 100 and 150 pages of text and associated assignments. You are NOT allowed to use your textbook or notes on exams.

Exams will have between 70 and 80 questions. In most cases each question is worth 1 point. Beware that some multiple-choice questions will have several correct answers and you must have enough confidence in your knowledge to choose all of them. Others may have some pretty plausible incorrect answers and your knowledge must be firm enough for you to reject those. Know the material well and you will have no problem.

FYI: Students who have learned the assigned material and are prepared for the exam are usually able to answer 15 multiple choice style questions correctly in less than 4 minutes. If you know the material well, you can finish in about half the time allowed, leaving plenty of time for you to check your work.

The format of the exam, the location of the exam and time limits will further be explained in class prior to the first unit exam.

Review Questions. All exams, except the first one, include review questions from previous chapters. 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 information learned is important to consolidate your long-term memory, which is necessary to earn a passing score on the final exam.** I recommend you keep reviewing older material throughout the semester, focusing on understanding the key concepts for each chapter.

If you miss an exam, you may make it up during the next week, but there is a penalty of 20% for every day that the exam is late (including weekend days). If you must take an exam late because of an unexpected death in your family or your own illness, you will not be penalized if you document your reason. If you are going to miss an exam, you should email me or leave a message on my office answering machine before the exam start time.

FINAL EXAM

The final exam is made up of questions covering material from all chapters. The format of the final will be similar to the format of the unit exams. The final exam must be taken during finals week on the day (or days,

if applicable) allowed. The final exam must be completed by the due date. No make ups will be allowed. We will discuss the final exam in more detail as the semester progresses.

CHAPTER QUICK REVIEWS + MEDIA ASSIGNMENTS + QUIZZES

Throughout each chapter a number of reviews, media assignments and quizzes have been posted for you to complete in MyPsychLab+. Most all of these assignments directly affect your grade. All of these assignments will benefit your understanding of the material. As well, a number of the exam questions are directly taken from these media assignments. Please complete the assignments and submit them on the date due in order to receive full credit. A penalty of 20% will be deducted for each day an assignment is late (weekend days included). If you must submit work late because of an unexpected death in your family or your own illness, you will not be penalized if you document your reason. These assignments are worth 20% of your total grade.

THOUGHT QUESTIONS

Throughout each unit you will be required to complete 1 to 2 writing assignments. In order to answer the question you will need to incorporate information from the text and lecture to support your answers to the writing prompts. For these questions, I need to know that your answers are intentional and well thought out. Spelling and grammar will count when asked to produce a short answer style response. Poor grammar and spelling will result in at least a partial point deduction. A penalty of 20% will be deducted for each day a writing assignment is late (weekend days included). Thought questions are worth 5% of your total grade. It is possible that the exam will include 1 to 2 thought questions for you to answer.

Thought questions may be given during class, with the exam or as a take home assignment. If thought questions are given during class and you miss that particular class, you must provide a documented reason for a University excused absence in order to make up the work. Please see the student handbook for information regarding what absences are excused and unexcused.

CHAPTER STUDY PLANS

Students are required to read the assigned chapters and/or readings before each class period. I also ask that students complete the chapter study plans assigned in MyPsychLab+. I recommend that the chapter study plans be completed before the start of class on the day on which we are to begin covering that particular chapter. For example, the chapter 1 study plan should be submitted before January 15th, 9:30 am. The chapter study plans are designed to test your understanding of the material presented in the chapter. Once you submit your study plan, MyPsychLab+ will analyze your responses and advise you on how best to begin studying for the exam. Your earned score on the study plan does not directly affect your final grade but the information the study plans test you on will show up again.

PRACTICE EXAMS

One way to help you succeed on the exams is to take the practice exams. Practice exams assess your understanding of the material and provide you instant feedback as to how you would score on an exam at that time. It is recommended that you always go back to the textbook and study the material covering questions you miss on the practice exams. You may not see the exact questions on the unit exam that appear on the practice exam, however, the concepts covered will likely show up. Practice quizzes also help you prepare for taking timed, computer based exams. Practice quizzes do not directly affect your grade but they will help you to identify what concepts need your attention.

All chapter reviews + media assignments + quizzes and exams are listed on the calendar in MyPsychLab+. I have also provided a quick overview of each month in blackboard. Please see the 'Quick View Calendars' Tab.

The following blurb has been provided by the psychology research coordinator and is a requirement for all sections of PSY 1010. If you have specific questions about the requirement, please contact the research coordinator by email (psychresearch@utoledo.edu).

PSYCHOLOGY RESEARCH EXPOSURE

To introduce students to the research methodology of psychology, all students in Principles of Psychology at the University of Toledo (Bancroft Campus) must accumulate 4 units of research credit during the semester. **Students failing to do so will automatically be given a grade of Incomplete (IN) for the course***. These 4 units of research credit may be obtained in any combination of two different ways: (1) participating in psychology experiments and/or (2) writing research reports. Students may be able to earn additional points (i.e., extra credit) by participating in additional research experiments or writing additional reports. The decision to offer any extra is under the discretion of the course instructor.

1) Participation in Psychology Experiments: Students earn research credit based on the duration of each research session. For example: A session that lasts 30 minutes or less is worth one-half (0.5) credit. A session that lasts between 31 and 60 minutes is worth one (1.0) credit. A session that lasts between 61 and 90 minutes is worth one (1.5) credit. And so on...

To sign up for an experiment, you will need to login to the psychology department's research sign-up system on the internet (<http://utoledo.sona-systems.com/>). To access your account, simply type in your Rocket ID number into both the "Password" and "UserID" spaces on the front page. If this does not work for you (e.g., if you have added the course after the semester began), you may need to request a new account on the bottom left hand of the front page.

If it is necessary for you to miss an appointment because of illness or some other emergency, you must cancel your appointment at least **2 hours before** the experiment. All cancellations must be done via the department's research web page. If you miss a scheduled appointment without canceling or contacting the experimenter, your absence will be designated an "unexcused no show". If you fail to show up (i.e., you are designated an "unexcused no show") for 3 experiments, you will lose your privilege to sign up for additional experiments and be prompted to contact the system administrator. If an experimenter fails to show up for a session but you do not, you will still receive credit for participating. If this happens, you must wait at least 10 minutes and then contact the Research Coordinator at: psychresearch@utoledo.edu.

2) Writing Research Reports: Each report (worth 1 unit of research credit) will be based on a scientific article in a psychology journal that is pre-approved by the instructor. Each paper should be no more than 2-3 pages in length and will be judged on the basis of clarity, spelling, grammar, and content.

You are to summarize and critically evaluate the article by:

- ✓ Identifying the purpose of the study (So, why did the authors conduct this study?)
- ✓ Stating the hypotheses in the study
- ✓ Summarizing in sufficient detail the method used (procedure, materials, and participants)
- ✓ Reporting the results from the study and the general conclusions

Empirical articles must be obtained through Google Scholar or PsycINFO.

To locate PsycINFO, go to OhioLINK and then, click the following links:

Library Databases

Listed by name, P-Q

Scroll down to PsycINFO 1967- (present)

Empirical articles may be on any psychological topic you choose, but they must be an original scientific study (not a review article). Ideally, you should select a few before you submit them to your instructor for approval just in case one (or more) is not approved.

* If a student is failing the course, they will receive a letter grade of F not IN.

ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION

Exams will cover material found in the textbook and information provided during lecture. Lectures are designed to review a portion of the concepts presented in the text and to build on a sample of the concepts covered in the text. New material that parallels and/or helps to clarify text concepts will be introduced during lectures. Information presented in the textbook and/or during lecture may show up on the exams. For this reason, attending and participating in class will benefit your grade.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY will result in a grade “0” on the assignment and possibly the course.

University policy will be followed when such circumstances arise. I have posted a handout with information regarding academic dishonesty on blackboard under the ‘Academic Resources’ tab. I also recommend reading the University’s policy on academic dishonesty in the student handbook. If you have any questions about what is considered cheating or plagiarism, please ask. Being unfamiliar with the University policy will not be accepted as an excuse.

ODDS + ENDS

OFFICE OF ACCESSIBILITY

Students registered with the Office of Accessibility **need to contact me during the first week of classes.** Students who need to take their exams with the Office of Accessibility should be sure to organize all scheduling and paperwork in a timely manner. If you have any questions regarding test scheduling, please contact the Office of Accessibility. Additionally, if you feel you may qualify for services provided by the Office of Accessibility, please contact them for more information. For contact information, see the ‘Academic Resources’ tab on blackboard.

STUDENT ATHLETES

Student athletes who will miss class due to an excused sports absence should contact me **at least one week prior** to the missed class. If possible, make arrangements even sooner.

QUESTIONS + COMMENTS

If you have questions or comments about human or animal behavior that we are studying, please raise these in class – they make the course more interesting.

EXTRA CREDIT

I do allow for a certain amount of points earned through extra credit. I do not offer extra credit for participating in extra research activities. Most all of my extra credit is earned by demonstrating knowledge of the information covered in class and/or in the textbook.

CHANGES TO SYLLABUS

The information in this syllabus is subject to change. The schedule may change according to our pace. Changes will be announced in class. You are responsible for all class announcements.

If you still have questions about how this course works after reading the syllabus carefully, please email me so I can clarify. If you need technical help, contact the help desk at Learning Ventures (Blackboard IT) or MyPsychLab+ Support. If you have questions regarding the research requirement, please contact the research coordinator.

TENTATIVE READING + LECTURE SCHEDULE

Week	Date	Assigned Reading	Lecture Topic
1	Jan 6		Happy snow day!
	Jan 8		Happy snow day!
2	Jan 13		Introduction & Course Overview
	Jan 15	Ch. 1	The Science of Psychology
3	Jan 20		Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday No Classes
	Jan 22	Ch. 2	The Biological Perspective
4	Jan 27	Ch. 3	Sensation + Perception
	Jan 29		
5	Feb 3		Unit 1 Exam
	Feb 5	Ch. 4	Consciousness: Sleep, Dreams, Hypnosis + Drugs
6	Feb 10	Ch. 5	Learning
	Feb 12	Ch. 6	Memory
7	Feb 17		
	Feb 19	Ch. 7	Cognition
8	Feb 24		
	Feb 26		Unit 2 Exam
9	Mar 3		<i>Spring break ☺</i> No classes
	Mar 5		<i>Spring break ☺</i> No classes
10	Mar 10	Ch. 8	Development Across the Life Span

	Mar 12		
11	Mar 17	Ch. 9	Motivation + Emotion
	Mar 19		
12	Mar 24	Ch. 12	Social Psychology
	Mar 26		
13	Mar 31		Unit 3 Exam
	Apr 2	Ch. 10 + Ch. 11	In class discussion: Sexuality + Gender & Stress + Health
14	Apr 7	Ch. 13 – Ch. 15	Psychological Disorders + Therapies
	Apr 9		
15	Apr 14		
	Apr 16		Unit 4 Exam
16	Apr 21		Final Exam Review
	Apr 23		Final Exam Review

The University assigned final exam date is Tuesday, Apr 29th starting at 10:15 am and ending at 12:15 pm. We will discuss the exam date in class as the semester progresses.

CHAPTERS BY UNIT

Unit 1

- Chapter 1: The Science of Psychology
- Chapter 2: The Biological Perspective
- Chapter 3: Sensation + Perception

Unit 2

- Chapter 4: Consciousness: Sleep, Dreams, Hypnosis + Drugs
- Chapter 5: Learning
- Chapter 6: Memory
- Chapter 7: Cognition

Unit 3

- Chapter 8: Development Across the Lifespan
- Chapter 9: Motivation + Emotion
- Chapter 12: Social Psychology

Unit 4

- Chapter 10: Sexuality + Gender
- Chapter 11: Stress + Health
- Chapter 13: Theories of Personality
- Chapter 14: Psychological Disorders
- Chapter 15: Psychological Treatment

Note on Unit 4: We will cover in class the basic information you need to know for the exam for chapters 10 + 11. These chapters will not be covered via lecture but an in class discussion. We will discuss the details prior to the start of the unit. As well, chapter 13 will not be tested on directly but it will be helpful in your understanding of chapters 14 and 15 so I ask you to read it and be familiar with the information provided.