

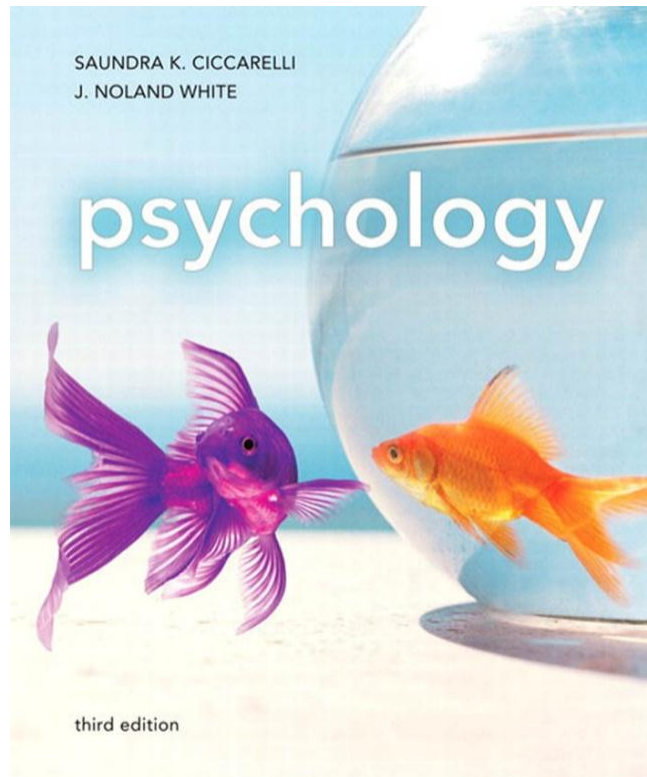
**Welcome to
Principles of Psychology
PSY 1010-007 & 008
Autumn 2013**

Instructor Information

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Office Hours: Thursday 2:00 – 5:00
Friday 2:00 – 4:00
By appointment

Course Information

Class meets: MW 3:30 PM – 4:45 PM
Building: Driscoll Alumni Center
Room: 1019
Required Text: Ciccarelli, Sandra K. &
White, J. N. (2012) *Psychology*, 3rd
Edition



**Important Note Regarding Course
Textbook:**

Shown is the standard edition cover of the required text. The version found in the UT bookstore will be a custom edition, and thus may have a different cover and say 1st edition. We will be using a UT specific software package called **MyPsychLab Plus**. Virtually the entire course (other than classroom lectures and discussion) will be contained in MyPsychLab Plus. Therefore access to this software will be required to achieve any grade. The least expensive option to access course material is to purchase access to the eBook and online materials either from the bookstore or directly at the publisher's website for about \$104. If you prefer to have a hard copy of the textbook, the custom edition with the online access will be about \$130. **Used books and books purchased from sources other than the UT bookstore or publisher's website will not contain access to MyPsychLab Plus. If you purchase a text book using either of these methods you will be required to purchase access to MyPsychLab Plus (\$104), which will likely negate any savings from purchasing the textbook in this manner.**

Basic notes on getting started in the course:

Your primary access point to all course material will be through [Blackboard](#). To optimize your experience using Blackboard you should take the following considerations:

- Use a **fast internet connection**;
 - Never use a phone modem
- Use the following browsers: **Firefox, Safari, or Chrome**
 - Never use Internet Explorer
- Click the Learner Support link if assistance is needed

You will enter MyPsychLab Plus through our course Blackboard site. Simply click the link in the column on the left-hand side of the screen called 'MyPsychLab Plus'. For your convenience, there is **a three week period of free access to MyPsychLab Plus which will last from Thursday, August 15 through Saturday, August 31**. To access this free trial, click the option entitled 'Course Home' in the column on the left-hand side of the screen. Click the 'Temporary Access' link and follow the instructions listed. After you have secured access to MyPsychLab Plus, find the Assignment Calendar tab, and have a look at the first few weeks of assignments.

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 might know), and, if you have some skepticism, you will recognize some of the difficulties in understanding behavior.

Time Commitments for this Course

To receive the highest grade you are capable in any 3-hour course, lasting a full 15 weeks (one semester), a student is expected to spend about 9-12 hours per week on the following activities:

- reading the textbook
- going through the online media materials (paying special attention to those that are specifically assigned)
- doing chapter reviews
- flash cards
- writing assignments
- studying on your own

How to Succeed in this Course

Psychology is an exciting topic, and can contribute to a better understanding of the behavior and functioning of all living organisms from both an individual and a group perspective. However, it is also a very broad topic with a great deal of information to be covered in a relatively short time period. We will move through the course material at a rapid pace throughout the semester, and it will be your responsibility to keep up on the course readings.

In order to be successful, you must take charge of your experiences in this class. Research shows that students learn best if they are active learners (think about the material and how it applies to your life and interests), prepared for class (the material will make more sense and be easier to remember), and use strategies to improve memory (these include note taking, making outlines, and rehearsal— i.e. practice). It is your responsibility to ask questions pertaining to any unclear material. To this end, an excerpt of a textbook detailing some useful study tips and habits has been uploaded to [Blackboard](#) under the tab 'course resources'.

UT Department of Psychology Student Learning Objectives

These are based on the American Psychological Association Undergraduate Learning Goals and Outcomes. The UT Core objectives are emphasized in **blue type**.

- 1) **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:
 - i) learning and cognition
 - ii) individual differences, psychometrics, personality, and social processes, including those related to sociocultural and international dimensions
 - iii) biological bases of behavior and mental processes, including physiology, sensation, perception, comparative, motivation, and emotion
 - iv) 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**
 - i) the interaction of heredity and environment
 - ii) variability and continuity of behavior and mental processes within and across species
 - iii) free will versus determinism
 - iv) subjective versus objective observations
 - v) the interaction of mind and body
- 2) **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).
 - i) Compare and contrast major perspectives
 - ii) Describe advantages and limitations of major theoretical perspectives
 - b) Recognize different **research methods** used by psychologists.
 - i) Describe how various research designs address different types of questions and hypotheses
 - ii) Articulate strengths and limitations of various research designs
 - iii) Distinguish the nature of designs that permit causal inferences from those that do not
- 3) **Students will demonstrate an influence of psychological principles on their behavior, specifically study strategies:**
- a) Demonstrate self-regulation in **setting and achieving goals**
 - i) Regular and spaced study sessions in the form of recall practice quizzes
 - b) **Self-assess performance accurately**
 - i) Use feedback from quizzes to realistically assess own knowledge
- 4) **Students will answer short essay questions with concise clear statements that directly address the question**
- a) Demonstrate professional writing conventions (e.g., grammar, audience awareness, formality) appropriate to purpose and context

Course Policies

Cell phones and other loud devices are not permitted.

Arrive on time and do not leave early.

Please respect your peers and keep talking to a minimum during lectures.

Do not sleep (you're only wasting your time, and money).

Be attentive in class.

Ask questions.

You are expected to have read the chapters before lectures. **A thorough understanding of the material in the textbook is essential for success in this course.** You will not be able to obtain this from a superficial reading of the chapters. The terminology from the textbook should be mastered in advance of our class meetings. Lectures will follow the general structure of the assigned textbook. However, they will not be a rote repetition of the required reading, and will contain material that is not necessarily provided in the course text.

Missed classes:

If you miss a lecture, it is your responsibility to get notes, handouts and announcements from another student. Office hours will not be used to provide materials missed due to absence or tardiness. I will, under no circumstances, provide you with materials missed due to poor attendance.

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.

Changes to Syllabus

The information in this syllabus is subject to change. Changes will be announced in class and through Blackboard.

Course Requirements

My Psych Lab Plus

The MyPsychLab Plus software package will be an integral portion of the material for this course. This software package is aimed at integrating a variety of different types of media, activities, and assignments into the course design. Additionally, there are several resources available to help study and prepare for exams. **All exams will be administered through MyPsychLab Plus, and each exam will contain questions over assigned videos and demonstrations.** Exams and assignments are easily accessed through the 'Assignment Calendar' tab.

Assignments (20% of final grade)

When you access the Assignment Calendar on MyPsychLab Plus, you will notice that throughout the month there will be little 'old fashioned' alarm clocks. These are present to indicate that there is an assignment due on that date. Simply click the date that an assignment is due, and you will be able to view a link and brief description to that day's assigned material in a column to the right of the calendar. Make sure that you check for assignments on a regular basis! **Red alarm clocks indicate past due assignments. All past due assignments receive a 20% penalty for everyday they are overdue (and yes that includes weekends)!**

Each chapter will consist of several assignment types: Study Plans, Videos, Simulations, and Quick Reviews. Begin each chapter using the Study Plan. That presents you with a Pretest for the chapter, hints on where to find information on items you miss, and a Posttest for the chapter. Then watch all the assigned videos (they are short) and do any simulations assigned and take the quizzes over them. You will have **two opportunities to take these** so you can get the best possible 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, take the chapter Quick Reviews that are assigned and again you can have **two chances** to get a perfect score. These quizzes are all short and help you review and assess your learning. Some of these questions reappear in exams.

Writing Assignments (5% of final grade)

There will be one, short writing assignments associated with each chapter in the textbook. These assignments serve two main purposes: First, to promote critical thinking. One of the basic, fundamental skills we seek to promote in this course is the development of the ability to analyze ideas and arguments from multiple perspectives and organize these thoughts into a well-reasoned response. The second is to improve composition skills. The ability put organized thought into intelligible writing is one of the most valuable skills one gains through education. Unlike other assignments in this course, you will have an unlimited number of opportunities to earn the maximum points possible for these writing assignments. However, these writing assignments will be subject to the same 20% per day penalty as all other assignments.

Exams (75% of final grade)

All exams will be administered through MyPsychLab Plus. **Exams can only be taken in the psychology department computer lab located in room 5000 of University Hall (unless alternative arrangements are made with the instructor PRIOR to exam times).** Please be aware that there is limited seating available in the computer lab, which only has 26 computers (24 PCs, 2 Macs). Therefore, it is in your best interest to attempt exams early, rather than waiting until the last possible minute.

There will be five exams and a final exam during the semester. Each of the five exams will consist of 45 – 60 multiple choice questions, and cover three chapters worth of material. Exams will also contain one to two questions from each chapter covered previously in order to encourage students to review older material. The final exam will be cumulative, and administered any time during finals week that the psychology department computer lab has open hours.

Missing exams will be excused in this course only in the following instances: death in the immediate family, and verifiable illness. Any additional reason for missing an exam will not be excused. **A daily penalty of 20% of the total exam grade will accumulate until the assignment/exam is made up or all possible points are exhausted (5 days).** It is your responsibility to contact the professor in order to make up a missed exam.

Extra Credit (up to, but not exceeding 9 points/3% of final grade)

It is often the case that life events get in the way of studying, leading students to seek the benefit of extra credit to compensate for the occasional shortcoming. There will be opportunities for extra credit throughout the semester, **however these will be rare.** Extra credit in this course will be limited to only 3% of the final grade. **Therefore, do not rely on extra credit to earn the grade you desire!!!**

Psychology Research Exposure

To introduce students to the research methodology of psychology, all students in Principles of Psychology (PSY 1010) 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 (I) 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.**

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/>). You can access your account by simply typing in the user ID and password that were emailed to you at the beginning of the semester. If this does not work for you (e.g., if you've 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.

Writing Research Reports: Students who intend to fulfill the research exposure portion of the course must inform the instructor of their intent to do so by Friday, October 4th. Selected articles must be submitted for the instructor's approval by Thursday, October 31st. Final papers are due by Friday, December 6th. These dates are non-negotiable.

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 (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

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.

Letter Grades

Grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

Grade	Percentage Range
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	0 - 59.99

Autumn Semester Computer Lab Hours

The psychology department computer lab will be open during the following times:

Monday	9:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Tuesday	9:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Wednesday	9:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Thursday	9:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Friday	Closed

Please note: Students will not be allowed to sign in to an exam after 6:00 PM!!!

Tentative Schedule			
Week	Date	Topic	Reading
1	August 19	Syllabus/Introduction	Chapter 1
	August 21	History & Modern Perspectives	Chapter 1
2	August 26	Research Methods & Neural Structure	Chapter 1 & 2
	August 28	Brain Structure, Imaging, Sensation Basics	Chapter 2 & 3
3	September 2	No Class: Labor Day	
	September 4	Sensation and Perception	Chapter 3
4	September 9	Exam 1: (Chapters 1, 2, & 3)	
	September 11	Consciousness	Chapter 4
5	September 16	Learning: Classical Conditioning	Chapter 5
	September 18	Learning: Operant Conditioning	Chapter 5
6	September 23	Learning: Special Cases & Memory Basics	Chapter 5 & 6
	September 25	Memory	Chapter 6
7	September 30	No Class: Fall Break	
	October 2	Exam 2: (Chapters 4, 5, & 6)	
	October 4	Research Report Notification Due	
8	October 7	Thinking & Intelligence	Chapter 7
	October 9	Language & Development Basics	Chapter 7 & 8
9	October 14	Infancy through Adolescence	Chapter 8
	October 16	Adulthood & Motivation	Chapter 8 & 9
10	October 21	Motivation & Emotion	Chapter 9
	October 23	Exam 3: (Chapters 7, 8, & 9)	
11	October 28	Sexuality & Gender	Chapter 10
	October 30	Stress & Health	Chapter 11
	October 31	Research Article Approval Due	
12	November 4	Stress & Health/ Social Basics	Chapter 11 & 12
	November 6	Social Psychology	Chapter 12
13	November 11	No Class: Veteran's Day	
	November 13	Exam 4: (Chapters 10, 11, & 12)	
14	November 18	Theories of Personality	Chapter 13
	November 20	Personality & Psychological Disorders	Chapter 13 & 14
15	November 25	Psychological Disorders & Treatments	Chapter 14 & 15
	November 27	No Class: Thanksgiving Break	
16	December 2	Psychological Treatments	Chapter 15
	December 4	Exam 5: (Chapters 13, 14, & 15)	
	December 6	Research Reports Due	
17	December 9-12	Final Exam	