



Principles of Psychology

The University of Toledo
Psychology Department, College of Arts and Letters
PSY 1010, 15047 004

Instructor:	Peter Mezo, Ph.D.	Email:	jason.liou@rockets.utoledo.edu
Email:	peter.mezo@utoledo.edu	Offered:	Spring 2020
Office Hours:	Tuesday, 9:30-11:30 Friday, 11-2 & by appointment	Course Website:	Blackboard Learn
Office Location:	University Hall 1064	Class Location:	Memorial Field House 2100
TA:	Jason Liou	Class Day/Time:	Tuesday & Thursday 8-9:20
		Credit Hours:	3

CATALOG/COURSE DESCRIPTION

A survey of the branches of psychology and the scientific approach to the study of behavior.

COURSE OVERVIEW

This is a General Education Social Science Core course. This course will provide an overview of psychology, psychological research basics, biological bases of behavior, perception, learning, cognition, emotion, motivation, development, psychological disorders, and an introduction to social psychology. The Learning Objectives below are based on the UT Core and American Psychological Association Undergraduate Learning Goals and Outcomes.

STUDENT LEARNING 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. overarching themes, persistent questions, or enduring conflicts in psychology, such as

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. Self-assess performance accurately

Use feedback from quizzes to realistically assess own knowledge

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

PREREQUISITES AND COREQUISITES

None

TEXTS AND ANCILLARY MATERIALS

Lilienfeld et al. (2017). Psychology: From Inquiry to Understanding, 4th edition, Pearson.

Top Hat will require a paid subscription, and a full breakdown of all subscription options available can be found here: www.tophat.com/pricing.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

We will be using two online components for this course.

1. The first is our Blackboard course website (<https://blackboard.utdl.edu>). You will complete chapter quizzes, discussions, and exams via the blackboard website. Course materials and student grades will be posted to this site as well.

If you encounter technical difficulties with Blackboard, please contact the [UT Online Help Desk](mailto:utdl@utoledo.edu) at (419) 530-8835 or utdl@utoledo.edu. The Help Desk offers extended hours in the evenings and on weekends to assist students with technical problems. When calling after hours, leave a detailed message, including your Rocket Number and phone number, and an Online Learning staff member will respond on the next business day.

Technical questions related to on-campus Internet access, virtual labs, hardware, software, personal website hosting, and UTAD account management can be directed to UT's [IT Help Desk](mailto:ithelpdesk@utoledo.edu) at (419) 530-2400 or ithelpdesk@utoledo.edu.

2. The second online component is Top Hat (www.tophat.com). We will be using the Top Hat classroom response system in class for attendance and participation. **You must have Top Hat by the second day of class. (01/23)**

You will be able to submit answers to in-class questions using Apple or Android smartphones and tablets, laptops, or through text message. You can visit the Top Hat Overview (<https://success.tophat.com/s/article/Student-Top-Hat-Overview-and-Getting-Started-Guide>) within the Top Hat Success Center which outlines how you will register for a Top Hat account, as well as providing a brief overview to get you up and running on the system.

An email invitation will be sent to you.

Should you require assistance with Top Hat at any time, due to the fact that they require specific user information to troubleshoot these issues, please contact their Support Team directly by way of email (support@tophat.com), the in app support button, or by calling 1-888-663-5491.

Always have a backup internet access identified in case of emergencies. Loss of internet will not be an acceptable excuse for missed deadlines unless the outage is widespread.

ACADEMIC POLICIES

<http://www.utoledo.edu/policies/academic/undergraduate/>



OVERVIEW OF COURSE GRADE ASSIGNMENT

A variety of assignments will be used in an effort to provide a comprehensive estimate of whether the learning outcomes have been achieved. Please note in our discussion of the syllabus during our first meeting how the course goals, learning objectives, and grading and assignments are logically interconnected. Your knowledge of the material covered in the book, supplemental materials, and lectures will be assessed with attendance, exams, quizzes, and discussions.

Attendance:

Class attendance and participation are required and will count toward your final grade. Attendance and participation will be graded using Top Hat. If you will be absent from class you must contact the instructor and/or TA via email **before** the class you will miss, except under extenuating circumstances. Absences will be deemed excused in consultation with me. **Excused absences** may include university sponsored events and illness (your own or immediate family for whom you provide care). Contact the instructor for extended absences; if you are ill for long periods (more than four weeks), consider petitioning for a medical withdrawal.

You will begin the course with full attendance points (110 points). Each *unexcused* absence will result in a deduction of 10 points. Your final attendance and participation grade will be an overall percentage of Top Hat participation & correctness.

Class Cancellations:

Although it is unlikely that a lecture will be cancelled it is always a possibility. If something does happen where I need to cancel class I will send out an email to your UT Rockets email address.

Exams:

There will be four exams throughout the semester. The unit exams will be composed of 50 multiple-choice questions and each question will be worth 2 points (you can earn up to 100 points). You will have two hours to complete each exam. You will access and complete unit exams via the Blackboard course website in the psychology computer lab (UH5000). Exams will cover the material from class lectures and the course textbook. You will not be permitted to use your notes or book. **Keep in mind that some questions will require you to apply learned information to real world situations, consistent with the learning outcomes of the course.**

Late exams will NOT be accepted. If you know you will not be able to take an exam on any of the days it is available, you may make arrangements to take it early without penalty. Exams will be available in the psychology department computer lab (UH 5000). The best approach is to prepare early so you can take the exam a little early in case something unexpected happens.

Computer Lab Information & Rules:

Location: UH 5000

Hours:

Monday: 8:00AM – 12:30PM; 2:30PM – 6:00PM

Tuesday: 8:00AM – 4:00PM

Wednesday: 2:30PM – 6:30PM

Thursday: 1:00PM – 6:00PM

You may visit the lab to take your exam any time the lab is open when the exam is available. However, multiple instructors use this lab for proctored exams, so it does get busy. Please plan accordingly to give yourself plenty of time to complete the exam.

- Bring your Rocket ID to the lab. You will not be permitted to take the exam without a photo ID.
- Provide the proctor with the course name (Principles of Psychology) and instructor name (Peter Mezo) when checking in.
- Please be respectful of the proctor's time. They can ask you to leave and you will have to submit an unfinished exam if you are not complete when the lab closes.

Assignments:

Chapter Quizzes

Chapter quizzes will be used to help you to judge your understanding of the psychological principles and information you read about in the textbook. These quizzes are found on the Blackboard course site. You will have one hour to complete each quiz. Chapter quizzes will be worth a maximum of 15 points each. There will be sixteen



quizzes throughout the semester. You may take each of the quizzes up to five times. Your highest score of the five attempts will count toward your final grade. Late quizzes will not be accepted.

Discussion Board

To stimulate engagement of the course material, I will post 4 discussion topics to be discussed within your Discussion Group, to which you will be randomly assigned. You are responsible for engaging in the discussion through the Group Discussions in Blackboard. Your responses to the topics will be graded. Responses can be posted any time up to the due date, late responses will not be accepted. Each discussion is worth up to 100 points (for a maximum of 400 points).

To ensure your success when communicating online, take time to familiarize yourself with the "dos" and "don'ts" of [Internet etiquette](#).

Midterm Grading

Midterm grades will be provided with coursework completed up to that point. The same letter grade scale will be used as with Final Grading. The purpose of Midterm Grading is to help you get a sense of how you are doing in the course and to adjust as necessary.

Final Grading

Assignment	Total Assigned	Points per Assignment	Total Points Possible
Exams	4	100	400
Quizzes	16	15	240
Discussion	4	100	400
Attendance			110
Total			1150

Letter Grades:

A	> 93%	C	73-76%
A-	90-92%	C-	70-72%
B+	87-89%	D+	67-69%
B	83-86%	D	63-66%
B-	80-82%	D-	60-62%
C+	77-79%	F	< 60%

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 5 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 5 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/>). 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'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: Each report (worth 1 unit of research credit) will be based on a scientific research article in a psychology journal.

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
- ✓ What type of sample was used?
- ✓ Summarizing in sufficient detail the method used (procedure, materials, and participants)
- ✓ Reporting the results from the study and the general conclusions
- ✓ What is your reaction to this research?

There are specific articles that all students must use when writing reports. To view the article options and to submit your reports, go to the following URL web link:

https://utpsych.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_aYmmYtMMQIX0mdD

This link will be used to submit ALL reports. That is, if you are submitting multiple reports, you will use this same link to review/summarize different articles. Please make sure to complete all questions in the survey form to receive credit. If you have questions, email the Research Coordinator at: psychresearch@utoledo.edu.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Policy Statement on Non-Discrimination on the Basis of Disability (ADA)*

The University is an equal opportunity educational institution. Please read [The University's Policy Statement on Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability Americans with Disability Act Compliance](#).



Students can find this policy along with other university policies listed by audience on the [University Policy webpage](http://www.utoledo.edu/policies/audience.html/#students) (<http://www.utoledo.edu/policies/audience.html/#students>).

Academic Accommodations

The University of Toledo embraces the inclusion of students with disabilities. We are committed to ensuring equal opportunity and seamless access for full participation in all courses. For students who have an accommodations memo from Student Disability Services, I invite you to correspond with me as soon as possible so that we can communicate confidentially about implementing accommodations in this course. For students who have not established affiliation with Student Disability Services and are experiencing disability access barriers or are interested in a referral to healthcare resources for a potential disability or would like information regarding eligibility for academic accommodations, please contact the [Student Disability Services Office](http://www.utoledo.edu/offices/student-disability-services/) (<http://www.utoledo.edu/offices/student-disability-services/>) by calling 419.530.4981 or sending an email to StudentDisability@utoledo.edu.

ACADEMIC AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Please follow this link to view a comprehensive list of [Student Academic and Support Services](http://www.utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/departments.html) (<http://www.utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/departments.html>) available to you as a student

SAFETY AND HEALTH SERVICES FOR UT STUDENTS

Please use the following link to view a comprehensive list [Campus Health and Safety Services](#) available to you as a student

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Dates	Reading	Topic	Assignments	Due
1	1/21 1/23	CH1	Introduction Scientific Thinking		
2	1/28 1/30	CH2	Research Methods	Quiz 1 Quiz 2	1/30 11:59pm
3	2/4 2/6	CH3 CH4	Biological Psychology Sensation & Perception	Quiz 3 Quiz 4	2/6 11:59pm
4	2/11 2/13	CH5	Consciousness	Quiz 5 Discussion 1	2/13 11:59pm
5	2/18 2/20	CH6	Learning	Exam 1 CH1-4	2/20 6:00pm
6	2/25 2/27	CH7 CH8	Memory Thinking, Reasoning, & Language	Quiz 6 Quiz 7	2/27 11:59pm
7	3/3 3/5		Thinking, Reasoning, & Language	Quiz 8	3/5 11:59pm
8	3/10 3/12		Spring Break		
9	3/17 3/19	CH9	Intelligence & IQ Testing	Quiz 9 Discussion 2	3/19 11:59pm
10	3/24 3/26	CH10	Human Development	Exam 2 CH5-8	3/26 6:00pm

11	3/31 4/2	CH11	Emotion & Motivation	Quiz 10 Quiz 11	4/2 11:59pm
12	4/7 4/9	CH12	Stress, Coping, & Health	Quiz 12 Discussion 3	4/9 11:59pm
13	4/14 4/16	CH13	Social Psychology	Quiz 13	4/16 11:59pm
14	4/21 4/23	CH14 CH15	Personality Psychological Disorders	Exam 3 CH9-12	4/23 6:00pm
15	4/28 4/30	CH16	Psychological Treatments	Research Quiz 14 Quiz 15 Quiz 16 Discussion 4	Research: 5/1 5:00pm Quizzes: 4/30 11:59pm
Final	5/4 – 5/7		Final Exam Week	Exam 4 CH13-16	5/7 6:00pm