



COURSE SYLLABUS

PSY 101 31P: Introduction to Psychology (3 hours)

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. M. Katrina Smith

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COURSE SCHEDULE:

Fall Semester / Session II: October 15, 2018 – December 9, 2018

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is a survey of the field of psychology that is defined as the scientific study of behavior. Topics include the history of psychology methodology, biological foundations of behavior, sensation and perception, memory, consciousness, intelligence, development, social influences, personality, behavior disorders, and therapy.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:

Cacioppo, J. & Freberg, L. (2019). *Discovering psychology: The science of mind* (3rd ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth, Cengage Learning.

CREDIT HOUR STATEMENT

Courses offered in an 8-week session are twice as intensive as those held during a traditional full semester. Each week students should expect to spend 14 hours interacting with course content through a combination of direct instruction and out of class student work. Examples of direct instruction may include viewing or reading course lectures, engaging in class forum discussions with the course instructor and other students, viewing or reading supplementary online content required by the instructor, completing course quizzes and/or examinations, and reading instructor announcements related to course material and instructor feedback on assignments. Examples of out of class student work may include reading the assigned course textbook, doing independent library research, completing essay assignments, developing more extensive research papers, and studying in preparation for exams and quizzes.



STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

After completing this course, the student will be able to:

- * identify & differentiate among the basic methods of scientific psychology
- * demonstrate familiarity with the major terms, theories, and debates in the field of Psychology
- * apply psychological concepts to general descriptions of human behavior
- * describe the basic processes underlying a variety of psychological phenomena, including sensation, perception, development, learning, and memory
- * discuss the ways that environmental, social and biological processes contribute to psychological phenomena
- * identify factors that contribute to an individual's personality & attitudes
- * recognize different psychological disorders & treatment options

Integration with General Education:

Introductory Psychology is an elective in the General Education portion of the College's degree requirements. As such, the Student Learning Outcomes and Assessment techniques of this course are pertinent to the following General Education and College Student Learning Objectives:

A. Domain I: Communication: Students will demonstrate:

1. The effective expression of ideas through writing and speech;

B. Domain II: Critical Thinking and Inquiry: Students will demonstrate:

1. Integrative, critical thinking with inquiry based learning using evidence, logic, reasoning, and calculation
2. Knowledge of various research methodologies, information, technological, and scientific literacy
3. Independent thinking.

C. Domain III: Students will demonstrate:

1. An appreciation for the role of diversity in understanding behavior

D. Domain IV: Values and Ethics: Students will demonstrate:

1. An understanding of the role of ethics in research and practice
2. A commitment to physical and emotional wellness.

COURSE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

All assignments must be completed by the learner. Learners are expected to read and adhere to the Academic Integrity section of Reinhardt University's Academic Catalog. Cases of academic dishonesty may result in expulsion from the University, a failing grade for the course, or a failing grade for the assignment.



The following are recognized as unacceptable forms of academic behavior at Reinhardt University:

1. Plagiarizing, that is presenting words or ideas not your own as if they were your own. The words of others must be enclosed in quotation marks and documented. The source of the distinctive ideas must also be acknowledged through appropriate documentation. (NOTE: Strictly adhere to APA citation and referencing guidelines to avoid this).
2. Submitting a paper written by another student or another person as if it were your own.
3. Submitting a paper containing sentences, paragraphs, or sections lifted from another student's work or other publication; there must be written documentation.
4. Submitting a paper written by you for another course or occasion without the explicit knowledge and consent of the instructor.
5. Fabricating evidence or statistics that supposedly represent your original research.
6. Cheating of any sort on tests, papers, projects, reports, etc.
7. Using the internet inappropriately as a resource. See 3 above.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS/ASSIGNMENTS:

Knowledge of the material presented in this course will be evaluated based on the satisfactory completion of all coursework. Methods of instruction and learning include unit reading assignments, video lectures, discussion postings, individual research, and essay assignments. Learners are expected to complete all unit activities during the week they are assigned and in the manner prescribed.

Reading Assignments: Learner's are expected to complete the assigned textbook readings for each unit prior to participating in discussions and assignments.

Video Lectures: Learner's are expected to view all assigned video lectures for each unit prior to participating in discussions. The instructor reserves the right to assess an academic penalty for failure to watch lectures in entirety.

Unit Discussion Posts: Each unit discussion posting must contain a minimum of a 300 word initial response. The deadline for postings shall be published in Unit Academic Requirement Announcements. Initial postings are due by 11:59 PM on the first Thursday of the unit or as posted in the unit announcements. Learners will be penalized 10 points for late submission of an initial posting. Initial postings will not be accepted after 24 hours past the posted deadline. Initial postings must cite material from the course textbook and at least one outside scholarly source and must be formatted in accordance with APA guidelines.

Learners must reply to a minimum of THREE DIFFERENT students in the class with a minimum of a 100 word response for each. The responses must be substantive in nature and add to the conversation by providing additional knowledge. You must incorporate citations and references into your responses. Responses are due no later than 11:59 PM (EST) on



Saturday or as posted in the Unit Academic Requirement announcement. Learners must also respond to any questions posed by the instructor. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Use your own words to communicate ideas and incorporate source material to support your assertions in initial posts and reply postings. **All postings and replies must adhere to APA 6th Edition guidelines regarding citations and referencing.** Learners must also employ proper grammar, punctuation, and correct spelling. Unit discussion posts will be averaged together and will account for 25% of the final course grade.

Unit Essay Assignments:

Unit essay assignments often have more than one part. Be sure to answer **each part** of each question and follow the directions for each. Use your own words to communicate ideas and incorporate source material to support your assertions. Learners must adhere to the minimum word count specified for each assignment. **Assignments must adhere to the citation and referencing guidelines contained in the 6th Edition APA Manual.** Learners must also employ proper grammar, punctuation, and correct spelling in all submissions. Unit assignments will be averaged together and will account for 40% of the final course grade. The deadline for submissions shall be published in Unit Academic Requirement Announcements. Learners will be penalized 10 points for late submissions. Assignments will not be accepted after 24 hours past the posted deadline.

Research Readings

Research is the foundation of all science, and psychology is no exception. Professionals in the field use peer reviewed journal articles to communicate the findings of their research. As part of this course, you should develop the skills needed to digest, analyze, and evaluate professional literature. Many students find this task challenging and intimidating, but developing this skill set is a process. As the first step in this journey, I have selected 3 articles that you will review. The first article will be provided, and others will require your retrieval from the library (a pdf version, retrieved through the library website is preferred). You will need to read the article and answer a set of questions that I will provide. The questions are designed to help you identify and analyze the key issues presented in the research. All writing must be individually written. **Papers with copied answers (or portions of answers) will be treated as plagiarized material.** Research readings will be averaged together and will account for 25% of the final course grade. The deadline for submissions shall be published in Unit Academic Requirement Announcements. Learners will be penalized 10 points for late submission of a research reading assignment. Submissions will not be accepted after 24 hours past the posted deadline.



Unit Quizzes:

Five quizzes will be given during the eight week session. Individual quizzes will be administered at the end of each learning unit through VCamp. Grades from quizzes will be averaged together and account for 10% of the final course grade. Deadlines for submission shall be posted in Unit Academic Requirement Announcements. Late submissions will not be accepted.

EVALUATION & GRADING:

The following grading scale will be utilized in the determination of the student's course grade:

Percentage of Points Earned	Corresponding Letter Grade
90 to 100%	A
80 to 89%	B
70 to 79%	C * <i>grade of "C" or higher is required</i>
60 to 69%	D
0 to 59%	F

FINAL AVERAGE BREAKDOWN:

Unit Discussion Posts	25%
Unit Essay Assignments (Complete)	40%
Unit Quizzes	10%
Research Paper	25%

PROJECTED LEARNING SCHEDULE:

UNIT #1 (1 Week: Monday, October 15th - Sunday, October 21st)

Getting to know the field – In the first section, you will be getting to know what the field of Psychology entails. You will learn about our history, what we study, and how we conduct research. You will find that Psychology is much more than just talking about feelings.

- **Chapter 1: Introduction to Psychology**
- **Chapter 2: Research Methods**
- **Chapter 16: Stress and coping, health and positive psychology**

UNIT #2 (2 Weeks: Monday, October 22nd – Sunday, November 4th)

In this section, we focus on the physical domain of Psychology. We examine the role of genes in behavior, understand how the brain and nervous system work, and examine how we take information from the outside world and make sense of it.

- **Chapter 3: Nature/Nurture**
- **Chapter 4: Physical bases of behavior**
- **Chapter 5: Sensation & Perception**
- **Chapter 6: Consciousness**

UNIT #3 (2 Weeks: Monday, November 5th – Sunday, November 18th)

In this section, we look at how information is processed. How do we learn? How is information stored? Why does memory fail sometimes? How do we measure intelligence? How do these things change over the course of our lives?

- **Chapter 8: Learning**
- **Chapter 9: Memory**
- **Chapter 10: Language/ Intelligence**
- **Chapter 11: Development**

UNIT #4 (2 Weeks: Monday, November 19th – Sunday, December 2nd)

In this section, you will see some of the more familiar aspects of the field. These topics may seem disparate, but these chapters have lots of things that usually interest students. For example, how do we classify and understand emotions? What motivates us to act (or stops us from acting)? Have you heard of the Milgram shock experiments or the Stanford Prison study? What steps can we take to live happier, healthier lives. In this chapter, you will be asked to do some reflection on yourself and think about how Psychology may apply to you.

- **Chapter 7: Emotions/Motivations**
- **Chapter 12: Personality**
- **Chapter 13: Social Psychology**

UNIT #5 (1 Week: Monday, December 3rd – Sunday, December 9th)

In our final section, we will explore both typical and atypical aspects of our psychological. Most people will be impacted by, or care for someone who is impacted by, a disorder (depression, anxiety, substance abuse, developmental disorders, dementia, schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, eating disorders, etc.). Would you know how to recognize the symptoms? What types of treatments are available? How effective are those interventions? This is the section that most people will associate with the field of Psychology. Having seen all of the pieces that came before it in the course, you will be able to appreciate how complex it is to answer these questions.

- **Chapter 14: Disorders**
- **Chapter 15: Therapy**

ONLINE ATTENDANCE AND WITHDRAWAL POLICY:

Students are accountable for all required work in each of their courses. They must assume full responsibility for class attendance in a way satisfactory to the instructor and for work missed because of absence. Since class sessions function not merely for individual learning but also for group interaction, absences can become a serious problem both for the individual and for the group.

Online courses are generally delivered over a period of eight weeks with activities and assignments specified for each week. An online week is defined as being Monday 12:00 AM (EST) through Sunday at 11:59 PM (EST). Deadlines for attendance are based on Eastern Standard Time.



A student will be considered in attendance for a given week of online instruction if he or she participates in the course. Participation is defined as posting a response to a discussion assignment or submitting a completed course room activity/assignment during the online week prior to Sunday at 11:59 PM (EST).

Initial Course Participation

A student who fails to participate during the first 8 calendar days of a course shall be administratively dropped from the course.

Ongoing Course Participation

Ongoing course participation is satisfied through the continued completion of course room activities, such as written assignments, quizzes, or discussion question responses. Students who do not participate in a course for 7 or more consecutive days are not satisfying ongoing course participation.

Students who are not satisfying the ongoing course participation requirement shall be notified by a University representative via University email. The learner must resume participation in the course within 3 calendar days following the sending of the notification.

Students who do not resume participation in the course will be administratively withdrawn from the course and be issued a grade of “W” or “F”.

A grade of “W” will be issued if an administrative or voluntary withdrawal occurs before 11:59 PM on Monday of the fifth week of the course.

A grade of “F” will be issued if an administrative or voluntary withdrawal occurs after 11:59 PM on Monday of the fifth week of the course.

Students may be impacted academically and financially in the case of voluntary and administrative withdrawals. It is the student’s responsibility to understand these implications.

Online Academic Support Services

Reinhardt University offers academic support services for online students through BrainFuse HelpNow. Services include access to live tutors, writing lab assistance, and study center resources. These resources are offered at no additional charge and are available on demand at: http://www.brainfuse.com/highed/helpNow.asp?a_id=68F429E2&ss=&t=

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a documented disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Academic Support Office (ASO).

Reinhardt University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. Therefore, if you are seeking classroom accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act, you are required to register with the Academic Support Office (ASO). ASO is located in the basement



of Lawson Building. Phone is 770-720-5567. To receive academic accommodations for this class, please obtain the proper ASO letters/forms.

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT:

Reinhardt University does not discriminate in any of its policies, programs, or activities on the basis of race, color, age, culture, national origin, socioeconomic status, gender, religious belief, sexual orientation, physical (dis)ability or genetic information.

RESEARCH READING INFORMATION

As part of Units 2, 3, and 4, you will have the opportunity to read professional peer-reviewed journal articles. These exercises are designed to help you learn to extract the important details from what can be difficult material. For each article, I have selected a reading for you. For the first one, I give you the article in a pdf file. For the later assignments, I will give you the information that you need to retrieve the article for yourself, using the library website.

Your task, after reading the article will be to answer 10 questions about the material. All responses should be typed. You may use the question document as a template and add your responses below the questions. The most common feedback that I give on these assignments is that I need more detailed information. So, please be sure to include as much information as you can. Be sure, however, that you are providing answers in your own words and not accidentally copying chunks of the original material. I find that many students struggle with plagiarism on this part of the course.

The completed research reading assignments must be uploaded to V-CAMP no later than 11:59 PM on last day of the Unit (as listed above): September 9th, 23rd, and October 7th.

TIPS FOR SUCCESS:

- Conduct independent study on what it means to be a “critical thinker”.
- Save sources from discussion posts and completes...students may be able to use these in the paper and it saves time!
- Start work on your project now...do not procrastinate...it will be due before you realize it and you'll stress yourself out if you wait to start the week the paper is due.
- Have your paper proofed before submission by the Brainfuse Writing Lab. We all make mistakes and it is best to have another set of eyes look the product over.
- Exceed the minimum requirements...don't just do enough to get by...seek to stand above the rest by exceeding and surpassing expectations.
- Study APA formatting and seek help from the instructor..