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# General Psychology

PSY 101 – Wesleyan College

Syllabus

Summer 2023, May 29 - June 30

## Professor Contact Information

**Professor:** TBA

**Office Hours:** By Appointment

**Contact Information:** TBA

**Text/ISBN:** The sciences of psychology, By Laura King, 4th Edition, ISBN: 9781260216547

\*Additional readings and resources will be distributed in class.

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## Policies and Procedures

### Course Description

This is an introductory survey course in the academic discipline of psychology using basic principles and concepts utilized to understand behavior and the mind. The major areas of study include learning, perception, motivation, emotions, personality, abnormal behavior, psychotherapy, social influences, biological functioning of the nervous system, and testing measurements.

### Course Goals

Research methods; child, adolescent, and adult psychology; psychological testing; personality, and abnormal psychology; psychotherapy; social psychology; applied psychology; history of psychology; and physiological processes, principles of learning and memory, human perception, and cognition.

### Credit Hours

3

### Course Objectives

This course will provide you with a general introduction to the field of psychology. At the end of this semester, a student in this course should be able to

- Recognize the major perspectives within the field of psychology and identify findings relevant to those perspectives.
- Use theories and research findings to describe and predict behavior and mental processes both in the



laboratory and real-life settings.

- Explain the role of behavioral research techniques in creating a scientific study of psychology.
- Summarize and interpret articles based on psychological research.
- Describe ethical principles that guide psychologists in research and therapy.

### Course Requirements

- Required weekly textbook reading (chapter assignments can be found in the course outline)
- Required that you find time each week to work on your presentation. Final presentations will not be due until the end of the semester but the presentation will take research and preparation before delivering the final presentation.
- Required Exam at the end of every week within the semester.

### Participation and Grading

Grades will consist of exams, thought papers, and a presentation. The final grade in this class will be based on the cumulative points you earn this semester.

**Exams: (100 points each)** The exams will be 50 multiple-choice questions (2 points each). The exams will cover the material covered in class in addition to the reading assignments for each section and the assigned chapters.

My exams are based on understanding and applying concepts that we cover in the class. I do not ask questions based on memorization. As a study technique, I suggest that you create examples of the concepts as you go through your reading. This will help you be in the practice of being able to identify and apply the various concepts in this class.

**Thought papers: (50 points each)** The thought paper will consist of a critical analysis of a topic covered in class and its application to the real-world. Thought papers should be 1- 2 pages in length (double spaced). The purpose of a thought paper is to provide you a brief opportunity to demonstrate your understanding of the assigned topic.

**Presentation: (100 points):** Each student will be required to give a 10 minute presentation on a topic selected from a sign up list at the beginning of the semester. Each student, in essence, will teach the material related to this specific topic. During this student-led class discussion/presentation you must provide a description of the problem, a description of the concept being applied, and an application of the material. Presentations can be recorded and submitted in a similar way to how I provide the lecture videos for our class.

**Study Assignments: (optional study tools)** I have provided a set of optional activities. These will not count towards your grade in the class but I highly encourage them to help make sure you are grasping the major concepts in the class and to study for the exams. Each optional assignment will be focused on helping you either identify and apply the concepts from the lectures and reading or will be used as a review activity in exam preparation.

<b>Course Grading:</b>	
Exam 1 @ 100 points	100
Exam 2 @ 100 points	100



Exam 3 @ 100 points	100
Exam 4 @ 100 points	100
Exam 5 @ 100 points	100
Thought Papers 2 @ 50 points	100
Presentation @ 100 point	100
<b>Total Points: 700 points</b>	

Grades are based on a total of 700 points (100%).

#### Grade Points Needed

A	(90%)	630
B	(80%)	560
C	(70%)	490
D	(60%)	420
F	(below 60%)	419.9 and below

#### Grading Scale

The grading scale in the class will be as follows:

A=90-100%

B=80-89%

C=70-79%

D=60-69%

F=59% And Below

**"A"** grades are given for outstanding work. You are doing extremely well. The student has exceeded expectation.

**"B"** grades are given for above average work. You are doing very well. Improvements will be toward higher refinements of concept.

**"C"** grades are given for average work. You are meeting an acceptable level or expectation. Improvements will be towards acceptable levels of project requirements.

**"D"** grades are given for below average work. You are under-achieving in quality and/or motivation. Improvements will be towards acceptable level of project requirements.

**"F"** grades are given for failure. You are not reaching the expected level for college work. Improvements are to review goals, seek assistance and increase efforts.



You may track your running point total throughout the term via our course site. Please be aware, however, that the course grade you see in the site will reflect only assignments and activities you have already completed and that your professor has graded.

### **Academic Integrity**

Wesleyan's College expects student to show integrity in all of their work. Cheating, plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, inventing or falsifying information, turning in work for more than one class without authorization, or helping someone else are all violations of the Honor Code and are not tolerated. Any of these forms of cheating will not be tolerated and will be grounds for a grade of zero on the exam or assignment and a grade of F for the course, in addition to any penalties imposed by the Provost.

### **Potential Changes to Course Schedule**

The following week-to-week schedule is a general plan for the course. Deviations may be necessary and will be announced in advance via announcement and/or e-mail. Students should check their course site announcements and emails at least once every twenty-four hours throughout the term to watch for updates regarding this course.

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## **Course Schedule**

Outline is tentative and subject to change.

### **Week 1: (The Science of Psychology)**

- Introduction
- Ch.1 What is Psychology?
- Ch.2 Research Methods
- Exam **(Due: Saturday)**

### **Week 2: (Biological Foundations)**

- Ch. 3 Biology
- Ch. 4 Sensation
- Ch. 9 Human Development
- PAPER ASSIGNMENT: Thought Paper 1 **(Due: Friday)**
- Exam **(Due: Friday)**

### **Week 3:(Mental Processes)**

- Ch. 5 Consciousness
- Ch 6 Learning
- Ch. 7 Memory
- Exam **(Due: Friday)**

### **Week 4: (Driving Forces)**

- Ch. 10 Motivation and Emotion
- Ch. 12 Personality



- Ch. 13 Social Psychology
- PAPER ASSIGNMENT: Thought Paper 2 (Due: Friday)
- Exam (Due: Friday)

#### **Week 5: (Abnormal Behavior)**

- Ch. 14 Industrial and Organizational Psychology
- Ch. 15 Psychological Disorders
- Ch.16 Therapies
- Ch. 17 Health Psychology
- Topic Presentations (Due: Thursday)
- Exam (Due: Friday)

#### **Civility in the Academic Community**

Students, faculty, and staff are expected to treat one another with respect in all interactions both during class meetings and on the Moodle course site. Rude, disruptive and/or disrespectful behaviors as determined by a faculty member interfere with other students' rights and with the professor's ability to teach. Therefore, any student exhibiting unacceptable behaviors during a class meeting or Moodle collaborative activity will be asked to leave and will be counted absent for that class period or activity. Failure to cooperate with this process will result in disciplinary action that may include withdrawal from the class or dismissal from the College. Violations will be reported to the Provost.

#### **Disabilities Statement**

Wesleyan College is committed to equal education, full participation and access to facilities for all students. Any student who requires reasonable academic accommodations, use of auxiliary aids or facility access for a class must first register with Disability Resources by contacting Jill Amos, Director of Disability and Advocacy Services, [jamos@wesleyancollege.edu](mailto:jamos@wesleyancollege.edu) or (478) 757-5219. If reasonable accommodations are established, students should request Accommodation Letters from Disability Resources then schedule an appointment to meet with the professor to determine how the accommodations will be implemented for each class as early in the semester as possible. Accommodations require advance notice to implement and will not be retroactively administered for the semester. Accommodations that decrease the integrity of a course will not be approved.

#### **Privacy in Teaching & Learning Spaces**

In order to promote an environment in which ideas may be freely expressed, the interior offices; in-person and virtual classrooms; and Moodle course sites at Wesleyan are private spaces. The unauthorized creation of photographic images, audio recordings, or video recordings of students or faculty in these spaces is considered to be disruptive behavior which may result in a student's removal from class according to the professor's discretion. The distribution of unauthorized images or recordings, or of class meeting recordings shared by a professor for instructional purposes, without the express written permission of the College is strictly prohibited and is subject to disciplinary action by the Provost of the College.