



PSY 100

Introduction to Psychology
College of Education and Behavioral Sciences
Psychology Department
Western Kentucky University
Summer 2019; July 15 – August 15
M-F 9:30-11:10
GRH 3003

Instructor: Sarah Ochs, Ph.D.
Office: GRH 3046/3025
Phone: 270-745-4414

Email: Sarah.Ochs@wku.edu
Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
2:10-3:30, or by appointment

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Catalog Description: An introductory course dealing with principles of behavior, scientific methods of psychology, measurement, learning, perception, motivation, development, personality, abnormal behavior, social behavior, intelligence, and other topics. Equivalent to PSYS 100. C or better is required in this course for a major in psychology. Old GEN ED C | SB; Colonnade II SB. This is a 3 credit hour course.

Instructor Note: This is an interesting course that spans the broad field of psychology. I can (almost!) guarantee you that you will find *SOMETHING* in the course that you really connect with and enjoy learning more about. You may find some material familiar and easy to grasp, while other content may be very difficult and completely new to you. This is typical and expected. Be patient with the process of learning new information. I am here to be a resource and support to you as you begin your college career. Please reach out early and often if you require additional assistance.

II. REQUIRED TEXT/READING



Psychology (2014) from OpenStax; digital ISBN-13: 978-1-947172-07-4; Print ISBN-13: 978-1-938168-35-2 Available from: <https://openstax.org/details/psychology>

Your textbook for this course is available free online. You can view it in web view (online) and download a full PDF for free. If you prefer, you can also purchase a print version on Amazon.com or purchase an iBook version. You may use whichever format you want. The web view is most responsive and has built in links and features. If you have any questions about book options, please talk to me.

This text covers core topics in psychology and is designed to provide you with a basic foundation but we will cover several topics in more depth in class.

Note: This is a tentative, draft syllabus. A final syllabus will be distributed the first day of class.



III. GOALS

Course Goals

1. Apply the scientific method to increase knowledge of behavior and mental processes.
2. Identify and describe major theoretical perspectives in psychology.
3. Describe major concepts, models, and issues in psychology.
4. Apply psychological theory and research to real world practice.

Colonnade Goals

1. Demonstrate knowledge of at least one area of the social and behavioral sciences.
2. Apply knowledge, theories, and research methods, including ethical conduct, to analyze problems pertinent to at least one area of the social and behavioral sciences.
3. Understand and demonstrate how at least one area of the social and behavioral sciences conceptualizes diversity and the ways it shapes human experience.
4. Integrate knowledge of at least one area of the social and behavioral sciences into issues of personal or public importance.
5. Communicate effectively using the language and terminology germane to at least one area of the social and behavioral sciences.

*A complete list of course objectives for each chapter is listed on Blackboard.

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Points Possible

Chapter Quizzes (12 given, 10 highest will be used to calculate grade) 100

A brief 5-item quiz will be administered on the first class period of each new chapter. These questions will be big-picture questions that highlight the essential information from the chapter. Questions will be primarily multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, and short answer. If you keep up with the assigned readings, you should be successful on the quizzes. Your two lowest quiz grades will be dropped and only your highest ten quiz grades will be used to calculate your final grade. Each quiz is worth ten points.

Weekly Activities 100

Participation and engagement in course material is critical. We will do several in-class activities to deepen our understanding of psychology. You will have five, graded weekly activities that require you to engage more thoughtfully with an issue of interest each week. Each activity will be worth 20 points. Additional details will be provided on the first day of class.

Weekly Mini Concept Application Paper (CAP) 125

Each week, you will complete one mini concept application paper. Mini CAPs provide you with an opportunity to reflect on the material and connect it to content from other chapters, other courses, and the world around you. Each chapter will have several concept application questions available. Each week, you will select only one question from one

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chapter that is interesting to you (i.e., **only one response per week**)! Each response will be worth 25 points. CAPs will be submitted online via Blackboard. Additional details will be provided the first day of class.

Article Summary

25

An essential aspect of psychology is scientific inquiry. To expose you to this process, you will complete one article summary. You will read a peer-reviewed journal article that explores a topic related to course material. Then, you will follow a learned template to summarize the critical components of the article. Journal articles will be provided to you on Blackboard. Additional instructions will be provided in class.

Academic Success Plan

50

This is a fun and interesting project! You will use principles of psychology, as well as research-based strategies learned in LTCY (e.g., *Make It Stick*) to develop a personalized academic success plan. This plan will demonstrate your understanding of material learned in the course and, if followed, may serve as a roadmap for a successful, upcoming fall semester and beyond. Additional instructions will be provided the seventh week of class.

Exams

200

A cumulative final exam will be administered at the end of the semester. It will include primarily the assigned readings and also class discussion. An in-class review will be held to assist in your studying.

Total Points

600

V. COURSE EVALUATION PROCEDURES

Grades are assigned at the end of the course on the following scale:

90-100%	A	70-79%	C	< 59%	F
80-89%	B	60-69%	D		

VI. COURSE PROCEDURES

Blackboard: Blackboard will be used by the class. A course site has been set up in Blackboard and reference materials, class assignments, announcement, events, and other features of Blackboard will be used. An effort will be made by the instructor, when appropriate, to minimize copying by placing documents in Blackboard rather than distributing them in class in order to minimize environmental impact.

Email Etiquette: Be clear and polite in all communication. When emailing me, please include PSY 100 in the subject line and your name within the body of the email. If you do not receive a response within 24 hours, please email me again or call me. If you require an immediate response, you are welcome to call or text my cellphone from 8 am – 10 pm, Monday – Friday.

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Participation Policy: Students are expected to attend and participate in all classes.

In the event that the university cancels classes, students are expected to continue with readings as originally scheduled. Any assignment scheduled during those missed classes, such as an exam or paper, will be due at the next class meeting unless other instructions are posted on the course website.

Due Dates and Late Assignments: I appreciate students who work diligently and adhere to course deadlines. There will be no make-up quizzes, exams, or weekly activities with the exception of a documented emergency. Any assignments submitted after the start of class will be deducted 10 percentage points for every day that they are late. Papers not submitted in person to the instructor must be initialized by a member of the Psychology Department staff with the time and date received.

Class Conduct: I expect that all students in this class will put forth their best effort. Doing so will include attending class sessions, arriving in a timely manner, reading and completing assignments prior to the start of class, listening when others talk, asking questions and actively engaging in the material, practicing academic integrity which includes doing one's own work, turning in assignments on time, having conversations with classmates that are on-topic. At all times, students are to be respectful of others' opinions and values, even if very different from your own.

Electronics: Cellphone use is prohibited in class, including the use of cellphone cameras. Students are strongly encouraged to use a note-taking method that works best for them. Laptop computers and tablets will be allowed for note-taking unless it becomes an issue (e.g., searching other sites, not taking notes, social media), at which time the student will be instructed to put the device away for the remainder of the semester.

Academic Honesty: All students are expected to conform to the WKU Academic Integrity Policy. Refer to the policy outlined in the Student Code of Conduct which includes academic dishonesty, plagiarism, and cheating. Student work may be checked by plagiarism detection software. An incident of any kind of academic dishonesty may lead to serious consequences.

Accommodations: In compliance with University policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center located in Downing Student Union, 1074. The phone number is 270.745.5004 [270.745.3030 V/TTY] or email at sarc@wku.edu. Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a faculty notification letter (FNL) from The Student Accessibility Resource Center.

Student Assistance: Should you require academic assistance with your WKU courses, The Learning Center (located in the Downing Student Union, 2141) provides free supplemental education programs for all currently enrolled WKU students. The Learning Center at Downing Student Union offers certified, one-on-one tutoring in over 200 subjects and eight academic skill areas by appointment or walk in. Online tutoring is offered to distance learners. TLC is also a quiet study area (with side rooms designated for peer-to-peer tutoring) and a computer lab to complete academic coursework. Please call TLC in the Downing Student Union at (270) 745-

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5065 for more information or to schedule a tutoring appointment. www.wku.edu/tlc

Writing Center Assistance: The Writing Center has locations in Cherry Hall 123 and in the Commons at Cravens Library on the Bowling Green campus. The Writing Center also offers online consultations for students who live at a distance or who cannot visit during our operating hours. Writing tutors have been trained to provide helpful feedback to students at all phases of a writing project: they can *help you* brainstorm ideas, structure your essay, clarify your purpose, strengthen your support, and edit for clarity and correctness. But they will not revise or edit the paper *for you*. See instructions on the website (www.wku.edu/writingcenter) for making online or face-to-face appointments. Or call (270) 745-5719 during our operating hours (also listed on our website) for help scheduling an appointment.

Title IX Misconduct/Assault Statement: Western Kentucky University (WKU) is committed to supporting faculty, staff and students by upholding WKU's Title IX Sexual Misconduct/Assault Policy (#0.2070) at

<https://wku.edu/eoo/documents/titleix/wkutitleixpolicyandgrievanceprocedure.pdf> and Discrimination and Harassment Policy (#0.2040) at https://wku.edu/policies/hr_policies/2040_discrimination_harassment_policy.pdf.

Under these policies, discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct based on sex/gender are prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson, 270-745-5398 or Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe, 270-745-5429 or Joshua Hayes, 270-745-5121. Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a faculty member, WKU faculty are "Responsible Employees" of the University and **MUST** report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center at 270-745-3159.

*Note: I reserve the right to make changes, additions, or deletions to any part of this syllabus. However, if this happens, I will notify you of all changes in class and will also post an updated syllabus on Blackboard, with the changes noted.

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VII. TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Day and Date	Readings	Assignments and Activities
1	M 7.15		Intro. to the Course; Syllabus Activity
	TU 7.16	Ch. 1: Introduction to Psychology	
	W 7.17	CH. 2: Psychological Research	
	TH 7.18	Ch. 3: Biopsychology	
	F 7.19	Ch. 3: Biopsychology	
2	M 7.22	Ch. 5: Sensation and Perception	Article Summary Instructions Reviewed
	TU 7.23	Ch. 6: Learning	
	W 7.24	Ch. 6: Learning	
	TH 7.25	Ch. 8: Memory	
	F 7.26	Ch. 8: Memory	
3	M 7.29	Ch. 10: Emotion and Motivation	
	TU 7.30	Ch. 10: Emotion and Motivation	Midterm Exam
	W 7.31	Ch. 9: Lifespan Development	
	TH 8.1	Ch. 9: Lifespan Development	
	F 8.2	Ch. 7: Thinking and Intelligence	
4	M 8.5	Ch. 7: Thinking and Intelligence	
	TU 8.6	Ch. 11: Personality	Article Summary Due
	W 8.7	Ch. 11: Personality	
	TH 8.8	Ch. 15: Psychological Disorders	
	F 8.9	Ch. 15: Psychological Disorders	Academic Success Plan Due
5	M 8.12	Ch. 12: Social Psychology	
	TU 8.13	Ch. 12: Social Psychology	
	W 8.14		Reflection and Review
	TH 8.15		Final Exam

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