



## **PSY 100**

*Introduction to Psychology*  
College of Education and Behavioral Sciences  
Psychology Department  
Western Kentucky University  
OnDemand

**Instructor:** Sarah Ochs, Ph.D.  
**Office:** Gary Ransdell Hall 3046

**Email:** Sarah.Ochs@wku.edu  
**Phone:** 270-745-4414 (office)

**Blackboard:** <https://blackboard.wku.edu/>

### **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(s): PSYS 100. This is a 3-credit hour course.

### **II. REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS**

Ciccarelli, S. K. & White, J. N. (2018). *Psychology: An Exploration* (4<sup>th</sup> edition), Pearson.

Print ISBN: 9780134517964, 0134517962

eText ISBN: 9780134637044, 0134637046

#### ***READ THIS BEFORE YOU BUY ANYTHING:***

Your course assessments and activities are an extension of the textbook. The textbook for this course is an online e-book with many engaging features. You will need it to prepare for your assessments and complete your activities.

This class participates in the WKU Store's "Day One Access" program. As part of this program, the e-book version of the required textbook will be preloaded on your Blackboard account. Blackboard is the online platform for delivery of this web course. The cost of the e-book is about \$80 and will be placed on your student bill approximately one week following your enrollment in the course. Students who stay enrolled in Day One Access are also eligible to purchase an optional low-cost loose-leaf copy of the textbook.

Required materials will be delivered to you automatically by enrolling in this course. There is a process for students to opt-out of purchasing the e-text, however, students are required to purchase the e-text access for this course. The WKU Store will bill your Student Billing account, and you will see a charge appear under this Term along with Tuition and Fees ("Account Summary by Term" under the Student Services tab) labelled as "The WKU Store Purchases"



approximately one week following your enrollment in the course. For more information on this program go to [WKU Store's Day One Access webpage](#).

### How to Access Revel

You will need to:

1. Log in to WKU Blackboard (recommended browser: Google Chrome or Firefox) and select this course
2. Select “Revel Content” from the left navigation, under “Getting Started”.
3. You will then you see “Open Pearson,” click “Open Pearson” then Launch “Revel”
4. When you access “Revel” for the first time, you need to register Revel by creating your Pearson Account. When you create a Pearson account, make sure that you use WKU email address. During account creation, you will be prompted to accept the Privacy Policy. If you are not 18 years old yet, please contact your parents in advance and get their permission to use the Revel system that handles your Personal Information (such as Account Data and Course Data). (If you already have a Pearson Account for another product or service, you can use your existing username and password to access Revel. However, since the “Privacy Policy” section is new, you may be prompted to acknowledge the Privacy Policy.)
5. After you have successfully created your account, you will have access to the Revel e-book “Psychology: An exploration (4<sup>th</sup> ed.),” Ciccarelli and White, Pearson Publishers (an electronic text that is pre-loaded in your Blackboard account). In addition to the e-book, you will also have access to several publisher resources and tools to help you be successful in the course.

### **III. HOW TO COMMUNICATE WITH INSTRUCTOR**

My commitments to you:

1. I will be available through several different modes of communication including:  
Email: Sarah.Ochs@wku.edu  
Phone: Office – (270) 745-4414; Cell – Provided on Blackboard  
Blackboard Collaborate  
Skype/FaceTime  
In person (Main campus; GRH 3046)
2. I will respond to your communication within 48 hours, but typically much sooner.
3. I will regularly check in with you to assess your performance in the course and evaluate any individual needs you may have. I am here to support your success as a learner.

*A Note about OnDemand:* Contrary to popular belief, OnDemand courses are not created to be easier or more difficult than traditional, face-to-face courses. Instead, this course will include, to the best of my ability, the same activities and learning experiences included in a face-to-face course. It also contains all of the same content and assessments and requires the learner to be



self-regulated and manage time well. Please reach out early if you have questions or concerns.

#### **IV. COURSE TOPICS**

PSY 100 is designed to be a broad overview to the field of psychology and will cover a wide range of topics. You will gain an understanding of the scope of the field, fundamental issues, and methods that psychologists use to answer questions about the mind and behavior. This course will highlight how you can apply psychology to real life. Note: you are responsible for everything that is included in your textbook.

Chapter topics include: The Science of Psychology, The Biological Perspective, Sensation and Perception, Learning and Memory, Cognition, Development Across the Life Span, Motivation, Stress, and Emotion, Social Psychology, Theories of Personality, and Psychological Disorders.

#### **V. 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.
5. A comprehensive list of course objectives for each chapter can be found on Blackboard.

##### ***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.

#### **VI. COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

This course is a self-paced course. It will include you engaging with the various media included in your e-book, completing readings, application exercises, projects, and assessments.

##### ***Syllabus Quiz – 10 points***

It is essential that you understand the course structure and policies. Therefore, **before**



**you can begin working on course material, you will need to successfully pass a syllabus quiz.**

*Quizzes (11 given, 10 highest counted toward final grade) – 250 points*

25 question quizzes will be administered for each of the eleven chapters and will cover primarily the assigned readings. Questions will be primarily multiple choice, with occasional fill-in-the-blank, or matching items. If you keep up with the assigned readings, you should be successful on the quizzes. Read and study the entire chapter before attempting the quiz. Use the learning aids and resources built into the textbook to help facilitate success. Your lowest quiz grade will be dropped and only your highest ten quiz grades will be used to calculate your final grade. Each quiz is worth twenty-five points.

*Mini Concept Application Papers – 100 points  
(11 given, 10 highest counted toward final grade)*

Mini Concept Application Papers 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. Select one that is interesting to you! You must select and respond to one question with a minimum of a 200 word response. Your lowest grade will be dropped and only your highest ten responses will be used to calculate your final grade. Each response is worth 10 points. Additional information about this assignment can be found on Blackboard.

*Major Concept Application Paper – 100 points*

I recognize that students in PSY 100 will come from all different disciplines and fields. Fortunately, psychology has something for everyone! This paper is an opportunity to dig deeper into an area of interest and apply it to real-life situations in your own life or career. **You must get your topic approved.** Additional information about this assignment can be found on Blackboard.

*Exams – 200 points*

This course includes a midterm and final exam. Each exam will consist of multiple choice, fill-in-the blank, matching, and true/false questions. Additional information about the midterm and final exam, as well as evidence-based study strategies can be found on Blackboard. **These exams must be completed at a proctored exam site approved by WKU. Refer to this website for additional information on scheduling an exam: <https://www.wku.edu/ondemand/exams.php>**

## **VII. COURSE EVALUATION PROCEDURES**

Your final course grade is based on the following points:

Syllabus Quiz (10 points)



Quizzes	(250 points)
Mini Concept and Application Responses	(100 points)
Major Concept and Application Paper	(100 points)
Midterm Exam	(100 points)
Final Exam	(100 points)

*Total Possible Points*                      *660 points*

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

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

## **VIII. COURSE PROCEDURES**

*Technical Support:* OnDemand courses are provided through the internet and you may use different computers, browsers, or software. If at any point you are having a technical issue, first contact WKU's IT Help Desk through their [WKU IT webpage](#) or by phone at 270-745-7000

*Timeliness:* OnDemand provides a self-paced, online learning environment for students. You may elect to complete this course very quickly, or you may work through the material over several months. On Blackboard, you will find general suggested timelines for successful course completion. I suggest that you review the course timelines, identify one that meets your personal needs, and attempt to follow that timeline in order to stay on pace for completing the course in a time that works for your life and schedule. Feel free to let me know your timeline and plans so that I can help keep you accountable.

*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.

*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 48 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.

*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](mailto: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) 745-5065 for more information or to schedule a tutoring appointment. [www.wku.edu/tlc](http://www.wku.edu/tlc)

*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.

*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 [WKU Writing Center website](#) 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](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