

## Psychology 100: Introduction to Psychology

### Fall 2021

*“Human beings, who are almost unique in having the ability to learn from the experience of others, are also remarkable for their apparent disinclination to do so.” - Douglas Adams*

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#### Contacting Me:

I typically respond quickly to e-mail IF in the subject line you type "Psy 100 Web" and then a brief description of the topic, e.g., "Psy 100 Web Quiz question." It is professional behavior and courteous to clearly label your mail. Thank you to those who consistently do this.

If you do not use the Psy 100 Web subject line, your email may end up in my junk mail.

I typically respond within 24 hours during weekdays. I may be in on the weekends but I don't guarantee it. If you haven't heard from me in 2-3 days, e-mail again with **Psy 100 Web & topic in the subject line**

Due to privacy concerns and the requirements of the Federal Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), I can only respond to emails from your assigned WKU or high school email address.

Note: I will not respond to any email addressed to Mr. or Prof. Reese. My last name is Reece with a C. I am not a tasty combination of chocolate and peanut butter.

#### Required Text:

Pastorino, E. & Doyle-Portillo, S. (2019). *What is psychology? Foundations, applications, and integration*, 4<sup>th</sup> edition. Boston, MA: Cengage Publishers. (9781305700871)

*Note:* You have access to the electronic version of this text through Blackboard. You will find it under "Textbook" in Blackboard.

**By enrolling in this course, you agree to purchase the digital materials associated with this course.** These materials include a 6-month access to MindTap, a downloadable e-copy of the textbook (available on your smartphone: search for "MindTap Mobile"), and the option to purchase a loose-leaf copy of your textbook at a greatly reduced cost. After drop/add period, **you will be billed the cost of materials for the course.** Each student will have access to all course materials from day one. If you choose to drop the course during the regular drop/add period, you will not be charged for the online portion of the material. You should note that for this course, you **WILL BE CHARGED** for the digital materials after the drop/add period. **DO NOT** buy a copy of the book from online or local vendors. **ONLY** the digital format is needed for this course.

Course Description: PSY 100 is an introductory survey course dealing with principles fundamental to the scientific study of psychology.

Course Objectives: The primary objective of this course is to introduce the student to some fundamental topics that comprise the discipline of psychology.

This course fulfills a portion of **WKU's Exploration Social and Behavioral Science Colonnade education requirement**

Students will demonstrate the ability to:

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.

**Description of Course Requirements and Assignments:**

1. **Course Content:** Your primary source of *course content* will be the textbook and MindTap. MindTap is the online platform where you will find the ebook, some of the required assignments for this course, and additional study aids. I will provide supplements to the textbook in the form of short videos, articles etc. and guide you in the direction of questions you should ask as you read.
2. **Civility:** Students are expected to show respect to each other and to the instructor. This includes refraining from unconstructive criticism or demeaning language. The instructor will provide one warning for any incident of disrespect. Any further incidents will result in dismissal from class.
3. **Class Participation:** You will be required to complete the syllabus quiz during the first week of class. This quiz will be used to determine your online course attendance. Failure to submit the activity by the due date will result in being dropped from the class. The syllabus quiz is required to remain in the class, but it does not count toward your final grade.
4. **Make-up Work:** Make-up work is not given.
5. **Late Work:** Each assignment is due on the date listed in Bb. If you missed the deadline for a quiz and want to take the assignment late, I will need official documentation that for some reason you were not able to work on the course for the entire week the assignment was due (meaning you were unavailable from Monday through Friday, not just part of the week). By official documentation, I mean a doctor's note or a police report. This documentation must specifically state you were incapacitated for the entire week.
6. **Procrastination:** Please do NOT procrastinate. Even waiting until the last day that something is due is procrastination. If you have computer problems, it is your responsibility to make arrangements to complete work elsewhere.  
I encourage you to complete the coursework well before the deadline. There is always the chance for technical issues to arise and you don't want to be panicking an hour before the deadline trying to fix the problem. I can help you if you experience problems, but if you wait until Friday, I may not check my email in time. If you email me after normal business hours on Friday, it will be too late. Do not procrastinate. I will not provide extensions because you waited until the day assignments are due to work on this class.

**Not having access to a computer or internet access will not be an acceptable excuse for not finishing coursework on time. This is, after all, a web course. If you do not have a reliable means of accessing Blackboard, you should reconsider the wisdom of taking an online class.**

7. **Technology/Media:** This class will use Blackboard for all assessments unless otherwise stated. Blackboard will also be used to provide additional resources, such as news items, articles, videos, etc related to topics in psychology. Students are expected to be proficient in the use of Blackboard and able to search for information on the internet. Documents sent from me will be sent either directly in an email or in Adobe pdf format. You can download the Adobe reader at <https://www.adobe.com/products/reader.html>.  
If this is your first time in Blackboard, spend some time exploring and experimenting. Visit <https://asaweb2.wku.edu/atech/trainingsite/index.php?fuseaction=calendar.tutorials> for tutorial videos.  
If you have any technical problems, the best resource for resolving them would be WKU's IT helpdesk (270-745-7000). There is also a link on the left side of the Blackboard course page.
8. **University Policies:** You must follow all policies and regulations regarding academic dishonesty, plagiarism, etc. as stated in the WKU undergraduate student handbook. Cheating and/or plagiarism will result in an automatic "F" for the entire course. Disrespect and harassment will not be tolerated under any circumstances, and will lead to removal from the course.
9. **Title IX/Clery Act Notification:** 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 270-745-3159.
10. **Accommodations:** In compliance with university policy, students with disabilities who require accommodations (academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids or services) for this course must contact the Office for **Student Disability Services** in DSU A-200 of the Student Success Center in Downing Student Union. Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a letter of accommodation from the Office for Student Disability Services.

- 11. *Inquiries and Other Class Concerns:*** Most difficulties can be resolved by talking to someone. Therefore, students are encouraged to discuss these problems promptly and candidly. Students are encouraged to attempt to resolve academic complaints informally with the faculty member.

If you have questions or concerns about your class, direct them to your instructor. If this is not possible or if your instructor is not able to address your concern, your first point of contact for a dual credit course is Brittney Sholar (WKU Dual Credit Program Manager). She can be reached at [270-745-3418](tel:270-745-3418) or [Brittney.Sholar@wku.edu](mailto:Brittney.Sholar@wku.edu). Your second point of contact is the Department of Psychology at WKU (270-745-2695).

- 12. *The Learning Center***  
[www.wku.edu/tlc](http://www.wku.edu/tlc)  
(270) 745-6254

Should you require academic assistance with your WKU courses, The Learning Center (located in the Downing Student Union, A330) provides free supplemental education programs for all currently enrolled WKU students. TLC @ Downing Student Union and TLC @ FAC 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 offers a large computer lab to complete academic coursework. Additionally, TLC has four satellite locations. Each satellite location is a quiet study center and is equipped with a small computer lab. These satellite locations are located in FAC, Douglas Keen Hall, McCormack Hall, and Pearce Ford Tower. Please contact TLC @ Downing Student Union for more information or to schedule a tutoring appointment.

- 13. *Plagiarism:*** Randomly selected and/or suspicious material will be checked for plagiarism using the original document, plagiarism detection (text matching) software, search engines or copies of prior student projects.

Copying another person's work (in any form, including images, Web pages, textbooks, etc.) without giving credit is plagiarism.

Copying the exact words and giving credit is still plagiarism unless you indicate which words are yours and which words are the other persons' by means of quotation marks. You are doing the paper to learn how to express yourself well, not to copy. Your textbook authors deserve quotation marks and page numbers in papers. In papers, cite the author properly. Rephrase, rephrase, rephrase. (Simply copying large amounts and using quotation marks is also a form of plagiarism. It is supposed to be your thoughts).

A copy machine can duplicate material. You are a scholar who must think about (rephrase) an idea to own it. **Plagiarism will result in 0 points on the product and loss of extra credit opportunities or a 0 in the class depending on the frequency and severity of the offense.** Even one plagiarized sentence is sufficient to result in a zero for an assignment. The instructor reserves the right to regrade an assignment if he later determines that the assignment contains plagiarized material.

- 14. *Cheating:*** All assignments are meant to be the work of the student enrolled in the course. You may not work together on quizzes or assignments with other students, nor should you provide another student with the questions on quizzes or their answers. Doing so constitutes cheating and will be reported as per the WKU Code of Student Conduct.

- 15. Instructor's Statement on Email Etiquette:** I know this may seem like a small thing to you, but it is important to properly label your email (see page 1 of the syllabus for details). I get a lot of email on a daily basis and in order to make sure I see emails from students, I require your email to include the course information in the subject line. This allows your email to be immediately sorted into my 'important email' inbox. It also helps me quickly identify which course you are in (I teach multiple courses and course sections each semester, not just this one) and give you an appropriate response. If you do not include the required information in the subject line, your email stays buried in the rest of my email and I may not see it in a timely manner or, worse, it ends up in my junk mail.
- 16. COVID-19 Statement:** All students are strongly encouraged to [get the COVID-19 vaccine](#). Out of respect for the health and safety of the WKU community and in adherence with CDC guidelines and practices of all public universities and colleges in [Kentucky](#), the University requires that a cloth face covering (reusable or disposable) that covers both the nose and mouth must be worn at all times when in public areas within all buildings. Students must properly wear face coverings while in class regardless of the room size or the nature of the classroom activities. Students who fail to wear a face covering as required will be in violation of the WKU Student Code of Conduct and will be asked to comply or will face disciplinary action, including possible dismissal from the University. Accommodations can be requested in special cases through the Student Accessibility and Resource Center ([SARC](#)): [270-745-5004](#) (voice), [270-745-3030](#) (TTY), or [270-288-0597](#) (video).

All students must immediately report a positive Covid-19 test result or close contact with a person who has tested positive to the Covid-19 Assistance Line at 270-745-2019. The assistance line is available to answer questions regarding any Covid-19 related issue. This guidance is subject to change based on requirements set forth by public health agencies or the office of the governor. Please refer to the Healthy on the Hill website for the most current information. [www.wku.edu/healthyonthehill](http://www.wku.edu/healthyonthehill)

- 17. Study Board requirement:** Psychology is a science. The principles that students learn from textbooks and in psychology courses were derived from scientific research. To enhance students' understanding of the research process in psychology, they are required to satisfy a research component as a part of Introduction to Psychology (PSY/PSYS 100) by the last day of classes of the semester in which they are taking PSY/PSYS 100. Failure to meet the research requirements fully and on time (i.e., by the last day of classes of the semester in which they are taking PSYS/PSY 100) will result in a grade of Incomplete for the course (WKU policy is that an "X" automatically turns into an "F" unless removed within 12 weeks of the next full term). The student must complete the required number of credits in order to have the appropriate letter grade assigned. Students are required to earn 12 research credits.

Students may earn credit by any of the following means, in any combination:

- 1) The student may volunteer to serve as a research participant in an approved study being conducted by Western Kentucky University Psychology/Psychological Sciences faculty or students.
- 2) The student may take quizzes over psychology research articles.



An account on the Department's Experiment Management System (<https://wku.sonasystems.com/>) will be established for each student at the beginning of the semester. The system will automatically email each student with the login information. This website handles all research scheduling and credit administration. Only credits for which students register for through the Study Board website will count toward research credit.

Each 15-minute period of research participation is worth one (1) credit. There are studies listed on the Study Board website worth one to four credits or more. Each satisfactory score on an article quiz is worth one credit. Article quizzes are offered approximately once per month, so students interested in this option must check the Study Board website regularly. Students who are under 18 may only earn Study Board credits through article quizzes, as they cannot legally consent to participate in research.

Complete information about research participation, research credits, and the Study Board can be found at <http://www.wku.edu/psychology/studyboard>

(NOTE: Failure to complete this requirement will result in a grade of Incomplete (X) for the course)

### **Examinations and Grading:**

Assignments can be found in two locations, within Blackboard (Bb: <http://blackboard.wku.edu/>) and in MindTap. Required assignments in MindTap are labeled as "Counts towards grade," assignments labeled as "Practice" are not required but may help you study. As you work through this course, please remember to complete both Blackboard and MindTap assignments. You cannot earn a passing grade if you do not complete all the assignments. Below is a list of the types of assignments and where you will find in in the course:

**Chapter Quizzes** – There will be a quiz associated with each chapter. Quizzes will be administrated through Blackboard (in the "Chapter Quiz" folder). Each quiz will be comprised of 20 multiple-choice questions. You are given two attempts at each quiz. If you choose to take the quiz a second time, your grade will be the average of the two attempts. Each quiz will have a one hour time limit. You must complete the quiz in one sitting (you cannot pause and return to the exam once started). If you do not complete the quiz within the time limit, you will lose points. You are allowed to use your book for all of the quizzes. **Please note:** The chapter quizzes are taken through Blackboard, not MindTap. These quizzes are different from the practice quizzes you may find on MindTap.

**Research in Action Video Quizzes** – These are short video quizzes designed to explore some aspect of the material discussed in the book in more detail. Each quiz includes a short (5 minute) video that must be watched to answer the associated questions. Most chapters have a video quiz, some chapters have two. These activities are found on MindTap.

**Apply Psychology Activities** – These are short activities designed to explore some aspect of the material discussed in the book in more detail. Some activities include a short (2-5 minute) video that must be watched to answer the associated questions. Most chapters have an Apply Psychology activity, some chapters have two. These activities are found on MindTap.

**Experience Psychology Labs** – These are short activities designed to give you a chance to experience how psychological research can be conducted. These activities are based on actual published research and will let you compare your personal results with the published results, learn how the experiment was designed, and the implications of the results. These activities are found on MindTap.

**Comprehensive Final Exam** – The final exam consists of 100 questions covering material from the entire course. The final exam will be taken in Blackboard (in the “Final Exam” folder). While finals week is the last week of class, you are more than welcome to take the final exam sooner if you feel ready. Unlike the quizzes, you are only allowed to take the final once. The final will have a 90 minute time limit and you must complete the exam in one sitting (you cannot pause and return to the exam once started). If you do not complete the exam within the time limit, the exam will automatically submit. You are allowed to use your book during the final but remember you will not have enough time to look up every answer.

**Extra Credit** – An extra credit exam will be available. This extra credit exam is designed to help you prepare for the final exam. There are 100 questions covering material from each chapter. The extra credit exam will be taken in Blackboard. This is the only extra credit that will be available in this class.

In respect to rounding up borderline grades, this is a form of extra credit and the instructor reserves the right to not do so. Things I may consider when deciding to round up a borderline grade (this list is not exhaustive):

- Demonstrated effort in the course.
- Took advantage of the already existing extra credit opportunity.
- Communicated with me over the course of the semester.
- Used proper email etiquette.
- Spelled my name correctly in emails.

### Grading

Points will be allotted for each of the activities listed below.

Chapter Quizzes (100 pts each)	1400 points
Research in Action Video Quiz (20 pts each)	240 points
Apply Psychology Activities (20 pts each)	340 points
Experience Psychology Labs (20 pts each)	120 points
Comprehensive Final Exam	200 points
Points possible	2300 points

Your grade will be calculated using the following scale:

Grade	Percent	Points
A	90-100%	2070-2300
B	80-89%	1840-2069
C	70-79%	1610-1839

<b>D</b>	<b>60-69%</b>	<b>1380-1609</b>
<b>E</b>	<b>0-59%</b>	<b>0-1379</b>

Note: the syllabus quiz is required to remain in the class, but it does not count toward your final grade.

**Your Grades in Blackboard:** The best way to check which assignments have been completed is to check your grades in Bb. When you look at your grade center (click on "My Grades" in Bb), if you see a dash where a grade should be, that indicates the assignment has not been started yet (this will turn into a 0 after the deadline if you don't do the assignment). If you see an exclamation mark, that indicates the assignment needs to be manually graded by me. This usually happens if you go over the time limit. If you see a blue pie chart looking icon, that means an attempt has been started but not submitted yet. **Please double-check that you have completed all required assignments by looking through your grades in the Bb grade center each week before the Friday deadline.**

### **COURSE OUTLINE/WEEKLY SCHEDULE:**

This course is designed to be self-paced. As such, it will require a commitment on the part of the student to manage their time and be aware of course deadlines.

All deadlines are at Midnight Central time. I recommend not waiting until the last minute to do your work.

All assignments are available to you from the beginning of class. This means you are able to plan ahead for when you may not have as much time to work on this course. If you have some sort of outside event scheduled during this semester, I suggest working on the assignments that are due around that time early. Remember, the due dates listed in the syllabus and on Bb are the final day to complete an assignment, but you are able and encouraged to submit work early.

Here is a schedule you can use to keep yourself on task. I suggest completing the work well before the due date:

<b>DUE DATE</b>	<b>COURSE AGENDA</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>
27-August	Review information under "Getting Started" Read Syllabus	Syllabus Quiz (Bb)
3-September	Read Chapter 1	Chapter 1 Quiz (Bb)
10-September	Read Chapter 2	Chapter 2 Quiz (Bb) Research in Action (Mindtap) Apply Psychology (Mindtap)
17-September	Read Chapter 3	Chapter 3 Quiz (Bb) Research in Action (Mindtap) Apply Psychology (Mindtap)
24-September	Read Chapter 4	Chapter 4 Quiz (Bb) Psychology Lab (Mindtap) Research in Action (Mindtap)
1-October	Read Chapter 5	Chapter 5 Quiz (Bb)



		Psychology Lab (Mindtap) Research in Action (Mindtap) Apply Psychology (Mindtap)
8-October	Read Chapter 6	Chapter 6 Quiz (Bb) Psychology Lab (Mindtap) Research in Action (Mindtap) Apply Psychology (Mindtap)
15-October	Read Chapter 7	Chapter 7 Quiz (Bb) Psychology Lab (Mindtap) Apply Psychology (Mindtap)
22-October	Read Chapter 8	Chapter 8 Quiz (Bb) Research in Action (Mindtap) Apply Psychology (Mindtap)
29-October	Read Chapter 9	Chapter 9 Quiz (Bb) Apply Psychology (Mindtap)
5-November	Read Chapter 10	Chapter 10 Quiz (Bb) Psychology Lab (Mindtap) Research in Action (Mindtap)
12-November	Read Chapter 11	Chapter 11 Quiz (Bb) Psychology Lab (Mindtap) Research in Action (Mindtap) Apply Psychology (Mindtap)
19-November	Read Chapter 12	Chapter 12 Quiz (Bb) Research in Action (Mindtap) Apply Psychology (Mindtap)
<b>26-November</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Break</b>	<b>No Coursework Due</b>
3-December	Read Chapter 13	Chapter 13 Quiz (Bb) Apply Psychology (Mindtap)
10-December	Read Chapter 14	Chapter 14 Quiz (Bb) Research in Action (Mindtap) Apply Psychology (Mindtap) Extra Credit Exam <b>Final Exam (Bb)</b>

\*(Bb) indicates the assignment is located in Blackboard

\*(MindTap) indicates the assignment is located in MindTap (your ebook portal)

**Changes in these guidelines and plans will be announced as appropriate in class.**  
***THIS COURSE SCHEDULE IS TENTATIVE AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE.***