

PSY 310 Introduction to Educational Psychology

Winter 2022 Syllabus (Dec. 13-Jan. 14)

(Subject to Change-final version will be posted on Blackboard)

Instructor: Dr. Jenni Redifer

Email: jenni.redifer@wku.edu

Course Description and Goals: The purpose of this course is to provide undergraduate students with an overview of topics in educational psychology. We will discuss research findings in psychology and education as well as their relevance to classroom teaching. Topics covered will include theoretical and applied aspects of learning, cognition, motivation, human development, measurement, and evaluation. Both lectures and discussions will be utilized to facilitate understanding of material. By the end of the course, students are expected to be familiar with the major research findings in educational psychology and understand how to apply them to classroom instruction as well as to human learning in general.

Required Books:

1. Woolfolk, A. (2019). *Educational Psychology* (14th ed.). Boston: Pearson.
2. Brown, P.C., Roediger, H.L., & McDaniel, M.A. (2014). *Make it Stick: The Science of Successful Learning*. Belknap Press.

Behavior: I intend for students from all backgrounds and perspectives to be well-served by this course, and expect that the diversity students bring to this class will be viewed as a resource, strength and benefit. Students are expected to show respect for all individuals during interactions (e.g., discussion board posts). Please respect your fellow students' opinions and experiences, and refrain from personal attacks or demeaning comments of any kind. I intend to present materials and activities that are respectful of diversity (including but not limited to gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, age, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, race, culture, perspective and other background characteristics). Your suggestions about how to improve the value of diversity in this course are encouraged and appreciated.

Course Assignments & Grading:

Assignment	Points
Chapter activities	200
Myth paper	50
<i>Make it Stick</i> responses	50
Exams	300
Total course points	600

Course structure: During Weeks 1 and 2, you will read chapters in *Make it Stick* and respond to questions about what you've read. During Weeks 3-5, we will complete 1-2 textbook chapters each day. I will post guiding questions so that you can monitor your understanding of the material as you work through each chapter. Each week, chapter activities will be due. For some chapters, I will post supplemental material (such as videos and additional readings). The supplemental material is "fair game" for exams, and should be read along with the corresponding chapter. At the end of Weeks 3, 4, and 5, the weekly exam will take place. The exam will open at 6 a.m. and will close at 6 p.m. (Central Time). The final exam is cumulative. Exams will consist of short-answer questions. *Collaboration on exams is not permitted*. Only one attempt per exam is allowed—if you make multiple attempts without contacting me, only your first attempt will be scored. Additional attempts are only permitted for verifiable technical errors. Late submissions of chapter activities will result in a 10% grade deduction for each day after the due date. Assignments that are submitted more than two days after the due date will not be accepted/receive credit. Grades will be displayed on Blackboard: <https://blackboard.wku.edu/>.

Collaboration: You are welcome to discuss the course content with other students on the discussion board, however, all course assignments must be completed independently.

Myth paper: The purpose of this assignment is to familiarize students with reading research articles, and to provide practice with the following: discussing the application of research to teaching, summarizing research findings, and interpreting research results. Details will be provided on Blackboard.

Grading Scale:

Letter grade	A	B	C	D	F
Grade points	4.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	0
Percent of course points required	90-100%	80-89%	70-79%	60-69%	0-59%

Information on current Western Kentucky University policies for assigning grade points can be found at http://www.wku.edu/advising/current_standing.php.

How to Do Well in This Course: This course is designed to introduce you to the application of psychology to education. It is expected that you will be encountering many of the concepts and theories presented in this class for the first time.

- In order to get the most out of this course, read the assigned chapters before attempting the chapter activities. This will make it much easier for you to gauge your understanding of the material.
- Complete all assignments ON TIME. Late work will not be accepted due to the accelerated nature of the course.
- Please do not hesitate to contact me via email if you have questions or concerns.
- Finally, do not wait until the night before to study for exams! You will improve both your long-term retention of the material and your test performance by self-quizzing and periodically reviewing the chapters, supplemental materials, and your notes.

Academic Honesty Policy: Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. The Western Kentucky University Student Handbook defines plagiarism as: “To represent written work taken from another source as one's own is plagiarism. Plagiarism is a serious offense. The academic work of a student must be his/her own. One must give any author credit for source material borrowed from him/her. To lift content directly from a source without giving credit is a flagrant act. To present a borrowed passage without reference to the source after having changed a few words is also plagiarism.” The Handbook defines cheating as “to receive or give assistance not authorized by the instructor in taking an examination or in the preparation of an essay, laboratory report, problem assignment or other project which is submitted for purposes of grade determination.” Any student suspected of academic dishonesty will be required to meet with the instructor and may be referred to the Office of Judicial Affairs in order to determine the consequences of the student's actions. Details on the university's academic dishonesty procedures can be found at <http://www.wku.edu/judicialaffairs/process-for-academic-dishonesty.php>.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: In order to obtain classroom accommodation, students must register with and obtain documentation from Student Disability Services. Then, the student must provide the documentation to the instructor to request accommodation. Information about Student Disability Services can be found at <https://www.wku.edu/sds/>.

Makeup Assignments: There will be no makeups except in the case of documented medical emergencies.

Course Incompletes: Incomplete (“X”) grades will not be assigned without preapproval by the instructor. The instructor will only approve incompletes in extreme circumstances. Students receiving permission to take an incomplete will be required to adhere to a contract, devised by the student and instructor, specifying required assignments and due dates. All incomplete work must be completed by the following semester in order to avoid a final grade of punitive incomplete (which equates to an “F”).

Schedule of Readings and Assignments (subject to change-any changes will be announced on Blackboard):

Week	Day	Chapters	Topic	Assignment/ Additional Info
1	Dec. 13-17	<i>Make it Stick</i> Chapters 1-4	The Science of Learning: Part I	<i>Make it Stick</i> Response 1 due
2	Dec. 20-23	<i>Make it Stick</i> Chapters 5-8	The Science of Learning: Part II	
	Dec. 24	University closed-No assignments due		
3	Dec. 28	1	Introduction to Educational Psychology	<i>Make it Stick</i> Response 2 due
	Dec. 29	2	Cognitive Development	
	Dec. 30	3	Socioemotional Development	
	Dec. 31	7	Behavioral Learning	Chapter activities due
	Jan. 1	University closed-No assignments due		
4	Jan. 3			Exam 1
	Jan. 4	8	Cognitive Views of Learning	
	Jan. 5	9	Complex Cognition	
	Jan. 6	10 & 11	Constructivist Instruction & Social Cognitive Theory	Myth paper due
	Jan. 7	12	Motivation	Chapter activities due
5	Jan. 10			Exam 2
	Jan. 11	13	Learning Environments & Classroom Management <i>Additional reading:</i> Albert chapter (Cooperative Discipline) posted on Blackboard	
	Jan. 12	4 & 14	Learner Differences & Teaching Every Student	
	Jan. 13	15	Classroom assessment	Chapter activities due
	Jan. 14			Final Exam