



PSY 100

Introduction to Psychology
College of Education and Behavioral Sciences
Psychology Department
Western Kentucky University
On Demand

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Blackboard: <https://wku.blackboard.com>

Note: Email will be the best way to contact me. While I do hold scheduled office hours, these change each semester. I am happy to meet with you by phone, in-person, or zoom at any point. Please send an email to set up a time to talk.

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 TEXTBOOK

Ciccarelli, S. K. & White, J. N. (2022). *Psychology: An Exploration (5th edition)*, Pearson.

eText ISBN-13: 9780137588534

IMPORTANT information about your textbook. Please read this before you buy anything.

This On Demand section of PSY 100 attracts students with a variety of needs. As such, you will each require different levels of support in learning the material. This course will use the textbook listed above. Unless you opt-out, you will be charged and gain automatic access to the e-book through the Blackboard course site. However, see screenshot from Pearson about additional purchase options. For example, you can decide to purchase a 12-month subscription to Revel which allows for access to the textbook plus additional digital content. **REVEL IS NOT REQUIRED OR USED FOR ANY ASSIGNMENTS IN THIS COURSE.** If you have any questions about the textbook or course material, please contact me.





III. HOW TO COMMUNICATE WITH INSTRUCTOR

My commitments to you:

1. I will be available through several different modes of communication including:
Email: sarah.bonis@wku.edu
Phone: Office – (270) 745-4414; Cell – (585) 857-0571
Blackboard Collaborate
Zoom
In person (Main campus; GRH 3026)
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 functioning in the course and evaluate any individual needs you may have. I am here to support your success as a learner.

A Note about On Demand: Contrary to popular belief, On Demand 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. Since you can complete this course at your own pace, it is important that you employ disciplined time management skills.

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 for the covered chapters.

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

V. GOALS

You can find a comprehensive list of chapter objectives for each chapter posted on Blackboard.

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.

VI. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

This course is a self-paced course. It will include you watching pre-recorded “lecture” videos, discussion, application exercises, readings, projects, and assessments.

Points Possible

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 mostly 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 e-book 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 quiz grade. Each quiz is worth twenty-five points.

Mini Concept Application Papers

100 points

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 250-word response. Your lowest grade will be dropped and only your highest ten responses will be used to calculate your final mini CAP grade. Each response is worth 10 points. Additional information about this assignment, including the rubric can be found on Blackboard.



Application Project

100 points

I recognize that students in PSY100 will come from all different disciplines and fields. Fortunately, psychology has something for everyone! This project is an opportunity to dig deeper into an area of interest and apply it to real-life situations in your own life or career. While you have several project types to pick from, **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. Both exams will emphasize understanding the main ideas and concepts from the course, as well as your ability to apply what you are learning. Your midterm and final exam are both closed-note exams – they must be completed without the aid of any books, notes, the internet, etc. They must be taken at a proctored exam site approved by WKU. You can schedule an exam with the On Demand office through this link <https://www.wku.edu/ondemand/exams.php>. Additional information about the midterm and final exam, as well as evidence-based study strategies can be found on Blackboard.

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 Papers | (100 points) |
| Application Project | (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:

| Letter Grade | Grade Points | Points Earned | % |
|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------|
| A | 4.0 | 591-660 | 90-100% |
| B | 3.0 | 525-590 | 80-89% |
| C | 2.0 | 459-524 | 70-79% |
| D | 1.0 | 393-458 | 60-69% |
| F | 0 | ≤ 392 | ≤ 59% |



VIII. COURSE PROCEDURES

Technical Support: On Demand 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: On Demand 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 10 am –8 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 atsarc@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

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.



Regular and Substantive Interaction (RSI): The U.S. Department of Education requires that distance education courses must include regular and substantive interaction between students and faculty. For more information about Regular and Substantive Interaction at WKU, please visit the Regular and Substantive Interaction in Online and Distance Learning webpage (<https://www.wku.edu/citl/rsi.php>).

In this course, regular and substantive interaction will take place in the following ways: Timely and detailed feedback on assignments provided within one week of submission, holding synchronous online meetings, suggested deadlines that are spread throughout the course.

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.

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.