

**Introduction to Psychology (PSY 101)**  
**Fall 2008**  
**T-Th 8:00 9:15 am**

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**12:15 – 1:00pm in LS North 24 E**  
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**Undergraduate Teaching Assistants:**

**Danielle Riffenburgh**  
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**Course Description:**

Psychology 101 is an introduction to the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. Emphasis is on basic concepts and principles, as well as methods of research. Topics include biological bases of behavior, sensation, perception, learning, memory, motivation, emotions, growth and development, personality, abnormal behavior, psychotherapy and social behavior.

**Course Objectives:**

Students who successfully complete Psychology 101 should be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of:
  - what psychology is
  - how psychology differs from other social sciences
  - the research methods used by psychologists
  
2. Demonstrate an understanding of:
  - basic physiological processes
  - sense organs and the process of perception
  - basic learning techniques (classical, operant & observational)

3. Demonstrate an understanding of:
- personality approaches (psychoanalytic, humanistic, cognitive)
  - abnormal behavior & how it differs from normal behavior as well as types of therapy (biological, psychoanalytic, humanistic, cognitive)
  - social behavior (i.e., attraction, conformity, prejudice, group behavior)

**Text: Students have two options for purchasing the text (standard or e-book)**

Feldman, R. (2008). Understanding Psychology. (8th ed.) Boston, Mass: McGraw Hill.

Study Guide - Optional

**Evaluation and Grades:**

Exams: The course consists of four content areas, each of which concludes with an in-class exam. The fourth exam is the final exam. The exams will consist of multiple choice questions. The exams include questions on both the lectures and the chapters. Students are expected to be present for all scheduled exams. If you are unable to take an exam, you must notify me in advance, if possible. If your excuse is reasonable, then arrangements will be made for a make-up exam.

Quizzes: There will be 13 pop quizzes throughout the semester each of which will be worth five points. The quizzes will cover lecture material from the previous class period. You cannot get credit for a quiz unless you are present in class. You can drop your lowest quiz score. **No make-up quizzes.**

Textbook "Rethink" Questions: Students will complete eight "Rethink" questions. The first two will be from chapters 1 - 4. The next two from chapters 5 - 8. The next two from chapters 9 - 12. The final two from chapters 13 - 17. Each question will be worth 10 points. More information about requirements and grading criteria will be given in class.

Research Participation: Students will be required to participate in 5 hours (psychological credits) of psychological research OR write 2 Reports of articles from current APA journals. Students who do not fulfill the research requirement will be given a grade of "I" (incomplete) for the course. More information about requirements will be given in class.

Extra-Credit: Students can earn extra credit by completing four assignments throughout the semester. Each assignment is worth five points.

Grading will be as follows:

Exams (4)	400 points
Quizzes (12)	60 points
Textbook "Rethink" Write-ups	80 points
Total possible points:	540 points
Extra Credit	20 points

A = 94% & above			A- = 90 - 93%		
B+ = 87 - 89%	B = 83 - 86%	B- = 80 - 82%			
C+ = 77 - 79%	C = 73 - 76%	C- = 70 - 72%			
D+ = 67 - 69%	D = 63 - 66%	D- = 60 - 62%			
F = 59 & below					

**Attendance:**

Class attendance is the responsibility of the student. If a student is unable to complete the course, it is the student's responsibility to withdraw.

**Class Schedule**

Tuesday	September	2	Overview
Thursday		4	Chs. 1 - 4
Tuesday		9	Chs. 1 - 4
Thursday		11	Chs. 1 - 4
Tuesday		16	Chs. 1 - 4
Thursday		18	Chs. 1 - 4
Tuesday		23	Chs. 1 - 4 * Rethink questions #1 & 2 due
Thursday		25	<b>Exam 1 (Chs. 1 - 4) * extra credit #1 due</b>
Tuesday	October	30	Chs. 5 - 8
Thursday		2	Chs. 5 - 8
Tuesday		7	Chs. 5 - 8
Thursday		9	Chs. 5 - 8
Tuesday		14	Chs. 5 - 8 * Rethink questions #3 & 4 due
Thursday		16	<b>Exam 2 (Chs. 5 - 8) *extra credit #2 due</b>
Tuesday		21	Chs. 9 - 12
Thursday		23	Chs. 9 - 12
Tuesday		28	Chs. 9 - 12

Thursday		30	Chs. 9 - 12	
Tuesday	November	4	Chs. 9 - 12 * <b>Rethink questions #5 &amp; 6 due</b>	
Thursday		6	<b>Exam 3 (Chs. 9 – 12) *extra credit #3 due</b>	
Tuesday		11	<b>Veterans Day</b>	<b>NO CLASS</b>
Thursday		13	Chs. 13 - 17	
Tuesday		18	Chs. 13 - 17	
Thursday		20	Chs. 13 - 17	
Tuesday		25	Chs. 13 - 17	
Thursday		27	<b>Thanksgiving</b>	<b>NO CLASS</b>
Tuesday	December	2	Chs. 13 - 17	
Thursday		4	Chs. 13 - 17	
Tuesday		9	Chs. 13 - 17	
Thursday		11	Chs. 13 - 17 * <b>Rethink questions #7 &amp; 8 due</b>	
Thursday		16	<b>Final Exam (Chs. 13 – 17) *extra credit #4 due</b>	