

INTRODUCTION TO GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY (PSYC 1101) ONLINE SYLLABUS

Psychology 1101

Instructor: [REDACTED]

Intro to General Psychology

Fall Semester 2012 (8/20/12 – 12/04/12)

Home/Office/Mobile Phone #: [REDACTED]

Office Hours (virtual):

Email Address: [REDACTED] (primary)

[REDACTED] **or by
appointment

Instant Messaging Contact Information:

AOL: [REDACTED]

Yahoo: [REDACTED]

Gmail: [REDACTED]

Windows Live: [REDACTED]

Course Description and Objectives:

The course is a study of general psychology, which includes the fundamental theories of psychology, the relationship of psychology to other disciplines, and the application of psychology to human relations.

Course Materials:

Textbook:

Author: Wayne Weiten

Pub Year: 2011

Publisher: Thomson Wadsworth

Title: Psychology Themes and Variations (Briefer Edition)

Edition: 8th

ISBN-10: 0495811335

ISBN-13: 9780495811336

Required? : Yes

Textbook Companion Website (FREE!):

http://www.wadsworth.com/cgi-wadsworth/course_products_wp.pl?fid=M20b&product_isbn_issn=9780495811336&discipline_number=2&token=

Attendance:

As this course is designed as an online class, you will not be expected to attend regular class meetings. However, there are specific due dates for the assignments, quizzes and exams. Please make note of these due dates now (see weekly schedule at the end of this syllabus) and arrange your personal schedule accordingly. The iCollege calendar is only advisory in nature; rely on information in this syllabus (especially the weekly schedule printed at the end of this syllabus) for accurate due dates. While unlikely, it is possible that due dates (or other class policies/procedures) will change due to unforeseen circumstances. If changes are made, I will alert you by courseroom email. Therefore,

it is imperative that you check your courseroom email on a regular basis and carefully read all of the messages you receive.

Professor Access:

I welcome your questions and concerns and invite you to discuss them with me as needed. My virtual office hours are posted at the top of this syllabus. If you would like to meet with me in person, you are welcome to schedule an appointment with me. We can also set up a time to meet via the courseroom chat function. If it is urgent, you may call me outside of office hours. My telephone information is listed at the top of the syllabus. You can also send a text message to my cell phone number listed at the top of this document. However, if the matter is urgent and you have access to Instant Messaging (IM) such as AOL, Yahoo, (Microsoft) Windows Live, or Gmail chat, try reaching me online through any of these (I'm logged into all of them when I'm online, and I'm online quite a bit). Here's the information you'll need to connect with me via IM:

AOL: [REDACTED]

Yahoo: [REDACTED]

Gmail: [REDACTED]

(Microsoft) Windows Live: [REDACTED]

***If you wish to contact me via email, use the courseroom email or my GPC email address [REDACTED]. Do NOT use my AOL, Hotmail or Yahoo email address because I never check them.*

Email and Calendar:

This syllabus is the official class document. The only documents that may supersede this syllabus are future emails from me in the online courseroom. Therefore, **it is imperative that you check your courseroom email on a regular basis and carefully read all of the messages you receive from me.** If you are confused about due dates, assignments, instructions or class policies, it is your responsibility to clarify these issues with me ahead of time.

Course Requirements:

When you log into this course in iCollege, you will see on the main course page that this course is organized by a Start Here! Folder, 16 weekly folders, and a final exams folder. We will cover one chapter per week for weeks 1-15, and a research paper is due during week 16 (a short week of only 4 calendar days). There is one quiz and one discussion question with 2 substantive peer replies (see Discussion section below for definition of a “substantive” peer reply) due per chapter. There are three non-cumulative exams and one cumulative exam. More specific details about each of these requirements are listed below.

Exams:

There will be **three non-cumulative exams and a non-cumulative final exam** given during the semester. These exams consist of **fifty multiple choice questions each** and will be administered on-line with a time limit of four hours each exam. Each of the three non-cumulative exams will be weighted equally in determining a grade.

You are expected to take each exam during the period it is available. Exam 1 will be available for seven days during **week five**. Exam 2 will be available for seven days during **week ten**. Exam 3 and the cumulative comprehensive exam will be available during **final exams week**. The exams are located in the corresponding weekly

folders (i.e. weeks 5 and 10, and the final exams folders on the main course page). The exams can also be accessed via the "Assessments" tab (it is on the column of icons located along the left hand side of the page in the courseroom) during the weeks that they are due. Once you're on the Assessment tab, scroll down to the bottom and next to "Page:" Select "All" and then select the green arrow to the right of "All" so that all of the quizzes and exams show up on one page.

If you will *not* be able to take an exam during the designated time period, notify me preferably *prior* to the end of the time period. If I am not notified of your intention to be absent *prior to* the end of the time period, you might not be eligible to take a make-up exam. In order to be eligible to take a make-up exam, you might also be required to provide valid, written proof of your inability to take the scheduled exam (e.g., a work schedule, a summons for jury duty, a subpoena, a doctor's note). Even with advance notice and written documentation, permission to take a make-up exam will be given at my discretion.

Common Course Assessment:

The Common Course Assessment is a **CUMULATIVE exam** including a series of **25 multiple choice questions** designed to test your knowledge of the course material. It will be considered one of your two **FINAL EXAMS**, and will be available for you to complete during the final exams period at the end of this semester. You will have 4 hours to complete the Common Course Assessment once you begin. Links to this assessment are found on the "assessments" tab and in the final exams folder on the main course page.

Quizzes:

Each Quiz consists of **10 multiple choice questions**. There will be **one quiz each week (15 quizzes total)** covering the assigned textbook readings for that week (**one quiz per chapter**). I will drop your 4 lowest quiz scores when computing final grades. You have two hours to complete quizzes once you open them, as long as they are submitted by the due date. I do caution against leaving the quizzes open for long periods due to possible browser shut downs or being disconnected from iCollege, and then not being able to retrieve your quiz to complete it. If for some reason you are able to open but not submit a quiz or exams please contact me ASAP in the courseroom email so we can fix it.

Discussion Questions - Initial Posts:

You will have **15 weekly discussion questions** to answer. Each discussion question covers one chapter in your textbook. Your response (or "**initial post**") to the discussion question should be about the length of an essay (not a few sentences or a couple of short paragraphs, but typically 4-5 solid paragraphs), without major or frequent grammatical errors, and answer all aspects of the discussion question. Initial posts should preferably be posted by Wednesday of each week, but they are definitely due by midnight each Friday on the weeks that they are due. The thoroughness of your response to the discussion question, including grammar, will determine your score on this portion of the weekly discussion grade; **initial posts account for 10 of the 20 point weekly discussion grade** (the other 10 points are 5 points each for two substantive peer replies—see next section below for more details).

Using relevant internet websites as **references** supplemental to the textbook is acceptable, but it must be a scholarly website. If the address ends in .gov (government) or .edu (colleges and universities)—these generally have reliable information. DO NOT USE WEBSITES SUCH AS WIKIPEDIA EVER for references in this course! Check with me before you use a .com website; they are supported by advertising or other commercial interests that could bias the information they provide towards their sponsors. Scholarly books and journals obtained through the GPC library (full text online or on-site). e GPC online library); do not simply cut and paste the website's text into your post, as this is **plagiarism and will be dealt with according to GPC policy** should it occur (see the academic dishonesty policy at the bottom of the syllabus). Make sure to list any resource used other than the textbook at the end of your post, using APA style.

Discussion Questions - Peer Replies:

You will post two substantive peer replies for *each chapter's* discussion question, for a total of two peer reply posts each week. The quality of your peer replies accounts for the second half of each chapter's discussion grade, with your response to the discussion question (see above under "Discussion Questions - Initial Posts") being the other half. **Substantive peer replies** are more than just "Good job" or "I agree." I will not give any credit for a simple "Good job" or "I agree" type response. **Substantive replies contribute to the discussion by adding new insight, perspectives or information; ask significant clarifying questions; raise important issues; or provide additional resources.** Also, do not ask a peer a question consisting only of asking for his/her opinion or thoughts on the issue at hand, unless you *also* share your thoughts or opinion on the issue at hand. For example, student A asks student B, "do you think that Piaget underestimated the cognitive abilities of infants?" This is not a good substantive response. To make it a good substantive response, you'd also need to provide your opinion on the matter and state why you believe your view is correct. Some issues are a matter of opinion and have no right or wrong answer. What I'm looking for is that you use good logic and reasoning, and are consistent with the information presented in the textbook or other scholarly reference material. Peer replies account for 10 points (5 points for each of the two required substantive peer replies) of the 20 point weekly discussion grade. You may post more than two peer replies if you'd like, but at least two must be substantive.

Experimental Variables Paper:

After reading two articles provided, you will write a **3-5 page paper** (double spaced, Arial 10 or 12 point font) that answers all of the six questions asked of you. To access the articles, instructions, and questions you will answer, click on the "Assignments" tab on the left-hand side of the online courseroom. This paper is due during the last week of class.

Make-Up Assignments Policy:

You will be permitted make-up assignments after their due dates ONLY if you missed the assignment due to extenuating circumstances, subject to approval at my discretion. Supporting documentation may be required. Requests to make up late assignments shall be made directly to me via the courseroom email.

Grading Procedure:

Your grade in this course will be based on a 860 point total. Points are distributed as follows:

<u>Course Work</u>	<u>Points</u>
3 Exams (100 points each)	300
11 Highest Quiz Scores (10 points each)	110
15 Discussion Postings/Participation (20 points each)	300
PSYC 1101 Common Course Assessment	50
Experimental Variables Paper	100
TOTAL POINTS AVAILABLE	860

Extra Credit: For each point of improvement from one exam to the next (i.e., from Exam I to Exam II, or from Exam II to Exam III), an equal number of points will be added to the latter exam, with a maximum of ten possible extra credit points per exam. For example, if you scored 74 on Exam 1 and 86 on Exam 2, you would only receive

the maximum ten points extra credit. These extra credit points will show up separately on your "My Grades" tab; the actual exam grade as it is listed will not change. I will add them into your total points earned at the end of the semester before calculating final course grades.

Final Grade: Your final course grade will be calculated by adding all total points earned on discussions, exams, quizzes, etc. and dividing the total points earned by the total points available (860). This will result in a percentage, where 90%-100% = A, 80%-89% = B, 70%-79% = C, 60%-69% = D, and anything below 59% is an F. Extra credit points are not added into the total points available, so any extra credit points earned will help increase your final percentage and letter grade.

Addendum to Syllabus (Other College Policies and Procedures):

American with Disabilities Act Statement

If you are a student who is disabled as defined under the Americans with Disabilities Act, and require assistance or support services, please seek assistance through the Center for Disability Services (CDS). A CDS counselor will coordinate those services.

Cheating/Plagiarism and Academic Honesty

Cheating is contrary to the policy of Georgia Perimeter College. Cheating includes any attempt to defraud, deceive, or mislead the instructor in arriving at an honest grade assessment. Plagiarism is a form of cheating that involves presenting as one's own the words or ideas of another.

Affirmative Action Statement

Georgia Perimeter College adheres to affirmative action policies to promote diversity and equal opportunity for all faculty, staff and students.

Statement of Non-Discrimination

Georgia Perimeter College supports the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order #11246, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act. No person shall, on the basis of age, race, religion, color, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity of the college. Any individual with a grievance related to the enforcement of any of the above provisions should contact the Assistant Director of Human Resources, Ombudsperson.

MY POLICIES:

Netiquette policy

Refrain from the following, or relevant GPC policies and procedures will be followed:

1. sending or displaying intimidating, offensive or inappropriate messages or pictures
2. harassing, insulting or attacking others whether students or professors
3. possessing or using any software tools designed for probing
4. violating copyright laws
5. having someone else complete online work
6. using language that would not be appropriate in a face to face classroom
7. using offensive language or negative comments about another student or instructor through chat rooms, emails, discussions, or wimba classrooms

Grade Dispute Policy

Each student in this class has the right and responsibility to request grade reconsideration on course assignments within 24 hours of receiving a grade for a course assignment. All requests for reconsideration must be submitted by e-mail within 24 hours of receiving a course grade.

PSYC 1101 Fall 2012

Weekly Semester Schedule:

WEEK 1 (Chapter 1 Evolution of Psychology)

8/20 - 8/26 (all assignments due by midnight on 8/26)

- **Self-Introduction Discussion Post**
- **Study – Read Chapter 1 in the textbook.**
- **Study (optional, but recommended) – Read online study materials for Chapter 1 at the textbook companion website (see link above or in weekly folder**), and in the "Additional Study Materials" in the week 1 folder here in the online courseroom.**
- **Evolution of Psychology Discussion Question and two peer responses.**
- **Evolution of Psychology Quiz**

WEEK 2 (Chapter 2 The Research Enterprise in Psychology)

8/27 – 9/2 (all assignments due by midnight on 9/2)

- **Study – Read Chapter 2 in the textbook.**
- **Study (optional, but recommended) – Read online study materials for Chapter 2 at the textbook companion website (see link above or in weekly folder**), and in the "Additional Study Materials" in the week 2 folder here in the online courseroom.**
- **The Research Enterprise in Psychology Discussion Question and two peer responses.**
- **The Research Enterprise in Psychology Quiz**

WEEK 3 (Chapter 3 Biological Basis of Behavior)

9/3 – 9/9 (all assignments due by midnight on 9/9)

- **Study – Read Chapter 3 in the textbook.**
- **Study (optional, but recommended) – Read online study materials for Chapters 3 at the textbook companion website (see link above or in weekly folder**), and in the "Additional Study Materials" in the week 3 folder here in the online courseroom.**
- **The Biological Basis of Behavior Discussion Question and two peer responses.**
- **The Biological Basis of Behavior Quiz**

WEEK 4 (Chapter 4 Sensation and Perception)

9/10 – 9/16 (all assignments due by midnight on 9/16)

- **Study – Read Chapter 4 in the textbook.**
- **Study (optional, but recommended) – Read online study materials for Chapters 4 at the textbook companion website (see link above or in weekly folder**), and in the "Additional Study Materials" in the week 4 folder here in the online courseroom.**
- **Sensation and Perception Discussion Question and 2 peer responses.**

- Sensation and Perception Quiz

WEEK 5 (Chapter 5 Variations in Consciousness)

9/17 – 9/23 (all assignments due by midnight on 9/23)

- Study – Read Chapter 5 in the textbook.
- Study (*optional, but recommended*) – Read online study materials for Chapter 5 at the textbook companion website (see link above or in weekly folder**), and in the "Additional Study Materials" in the week 5 folder here in the online courseroom.
- Variations in Consciousness Discussion Question and 2 peer responses.
- Variations in Consciousness Quiz
- Exam 1 (chapters 1-5)

WEEK 6 (Chapter 6 Learning)

9/24 – 9/30 (all assignments due by midnight on 9/30)

- Study – Read Chapter 6 in the textbook.
- Study (*optional, but recommended*) – Read online study materials for Chapter 6 at the textbook companion website (see link above or in weekly folder**), and in the "Additional Study Materials" in the week 6 folder here in the online courseroom.
- Learning Discussion Question and 2 peer responses.
- Learning Quiz

WEEK 7 (Chapter 7 Human Memory)

10/1 – 10/7 (all assignments due by midnight on 10/7)

- Study – Read Chapter 7 in the textbook.
- Study (*optional, but recommended*) – Read online study materials for Chapter 7 at the textbook companion website (see link above or in weekly folder**), and in the "Additional Study Materials" in the week 7 folder here in the online courseroom.
- Human Memory Discussion Question and 2 peer responses.
- Human Memory Quiz

WEEK 8 (Chapter 8 Cognition and Intelligence)

10/8 – 10/14 (all assignments due by midnight on 10/14)

- Study – Read Chapter 8 in the textbook.
- Study (*optional, but recommended*) – Read online study materials for Chapter 8 at the textbook companion website (see link above or in weekly folder**), and in the "Additional Study Materials" in the week 8 folder here in the online courseroom.
- Cognition and Intelligence Discussion Question and 2 peer responses.
- Cognition and Intelligence Quiz

WEEK 9 (Chapter 9)

10/15 – 10/21 (all assignments due by midnight on 10/21)

- Study – Read Chapter 9 in the textbook.
- Study (*optional, but recommended*) – Read online study materials for Chapter 9 at the textbook companion website (see link above or in weekly folder**), and in the "Additional Study Materials" in the week 9 folder here in the online courseroom.
- Motivation and Emotion Discussion Question and 2 peer responses.
- Motivation and Emotion Quiz

WEEK 10 (Chapter 10 Human Development)

10/22 – 10/28 (all assignments due by midnight on 10/28)

- Study – Read Chapter 10 in the textbook.
- Study (*optional, but recommended*) – Read online study materials for Chapter 10 at the textbook companion website (see link above or in weekly folder**), and in the "Additional Study Materials" in the week 10 folder here in the online courseroom.
- Human Development Discussion Question and 2 peer responses.
- Human Development Quiz
- Exam 2 (chapters 6-10)

WEEK 11 (Chapter 11 Personality)

10/29 – 11/4 (all assignments due by midnight on 11/4)

- Study – Read Chapter 11 in the textbook.
- Study (*optional, but recommended*) – Read online study materials for Chapter 11 at the textbook companion website (see link above or in weekly folder**), and in the "Additional Study Materials" in the week 11 folder here in the online courseroom.
- Personality Discussion Question and 2 peer responses.
- Personality Quiz

WEEK 12 (Chapter 12 Stress, Coping, and Health)

11/5 – 11/11 (all assignments due by midnight on 11/11)

- Study – Read Chapter 12 in the textbook.
- Study (*optional, but recommended*) – Read online study materials for Chapter 12 at the textbook companion website (see link above or in weekly folder**), and in the "Additional Study Materials" in the week 12 folder here in the online courseroom.
- Stress, Coping, and Health Discussion Question and 2 peer responses.
- Stress, Coping, and Health Quiz

WEEK 13 (Chapter 13 Psychological Disorders)

11/12 – 11/18 (all assignments due by midnight on 11/18)

- Study – Read Chapter 13 in the textbook.
- Study (*optional, but recommended*) – Read online study materials for Chapter 13 at the textbook companion website (see link above or in weekly folder**), and in the "Additional Study Materials" in the week 13 folder here in the online courseroom.
- Psychological Disorders Discussion Question and 2 peer responses.
- Psychological Disorders Quiz

WEEK 14 (Chapter 14 Treatment)

11/19 – 11/25 (all assignments due by midnight on 11/25)

- Study – Read Chapter 14 in the textbook.
- Study (*optional, but recommended*) – Read online study materials for Chapter 14 at the textbook companion website (see link above or in weekly folder**), and in the "Additional Study Materials" in the week 14 folder here in the online courseroom.
- Treatment Discussion Question and 2 peer responses
- Treatment Quiz

WEEK 15 (Chapter 15 Social Behavior)

11/26 – 12/4 (all assignments due by midnight on 12/4)

- Study – Read Chapter 15 in the textbook.
- Study (*optional, but recommended*) – Read online study materials for Chapter 15 at the textbook companion website (see link above or in weekly folder**), and in the "Additional Study Materials" in the week 15 folder here in the online courseroom.
- Social Behavior Discussion Question and 2 peer responses

- **Social Behavior Quiz**
- Locate the “Experimental Variables Paper” assignment either via the “Assignments” tab located on the column of icons to the left here in the courseroom or in the week 16 folder on the main course page, and download the three documents you will need to complete this assignment: (1) Questions you will need to answer, (2) “Fighting Anorexia” article, and (3) the “Cookie Monster” article. Complete the assignment, thoroughly and accurately preparing responses to the questions.

FINAL EXAMS (Exam 3 and Common Course Assessment)

12/5/2012 – 12/11/2012 (due by midnight on 12/11/2012)

- Exam 3 (*covers chapters 11-15*)
- PSYC 1101 Common Course Assessment (*covers chapters 1-15*)