

Psychology 111: General Psychology

Tuesdays/Thursdays 8:20-10:50, SWKT 270

Summer Term 2009

Instructor: Spencer Clayton

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Office hours: By appointment or immediately after class

TA: Jessica Young (contact info. TBA)

Required Text

Myers, D. G. (2007). *Psychology (8th edition)*. New York: Worth Publishers (ISBN: 9780716764281).

Resources

A companion site for the Text can be found at <http://bcs.worthpublishers.com/myers8e/>. The website requires registration, but it is easy and free. Once you have registered, you will have access study tools including practice quizzes and flash cards.

Course Objective

This course is intended to give you a broad overview of modern psychology. The text generally does not provide much depth on any given topic, but more detailed discussion is welcome during lecture.

Course Requirements

Each student is expected to fulfill the following:

Participation: It is important to engage in class discussion because it will help you learn the material as well as think critically about it. Also, it will give you the opportunity to assist your peers as they attempt to learn the material. I know it is easy to get into the habit of allowing a few students do all the talking, so I want you to work hard to either (1) provide others with the opportunity to talk if you find yourself speaking a lot, or (2) set the goal to make (at least) one comment each class if you tend to avoid talking. Your participation will be assessed throughout the Term and will contribute to your overall grade. In order to earn full credit for participation, you will need to regularly make meaningful contributions to class discussion. These contributions should reflect your preparation for class (such reading the assigned chapter). Obviously, attendance is prerequisite to participating.

Quizzes: You will be administered a short quiz on Blackboard (<https://blackboard.byu.edu/>) prior to each class period that will be based on the assigned reading. The quizzes are closed-note. Consulting peers about the quiz prior to taking it is also considered cheating. The format for the quizzes will vary (e.g. T/F, multiple-choice, short answer, etc). There will be a total of 13 quizzes, and your two lowest quiz grades will be dropped. You will not be allowed to make-up missed quizzes because these assessments are administered online (giving you remote access). If you encounter problems while taking the quiz, you should contact the TA immediately.

Exams: You will have three exams during the Term, and the first two will be held in the Testing Center. Exams will cover material in the assigned readings and the class lectures/discussions. While any material from the text may be included in the exams, content discussed in class will have a greater likelihood of appearing. The exams will include multiple-choice, short answer and/or essay questions. The exams are not cumulative, but will assess your comprehension of the information presented since the last exam. The third and final exam will be held in class according to the university schedule. For Testing Center hours and information see <https://testing.byu.edu/>

Final Paper: While some of you are majoring in a social science, the vast majority of you are not majoring in psychology. Why then should this course be counted towards the university's general requirement for graduation? I hope that you will be able to answer this question in a personal way by the end of the Term. This assignment is intended to give you the opportunity to answer this question summarizing your thoughts in a succinct way. In other words, I would like you to discuss how this course is relevant to your career goals. How will the content of this class impact you as you pursue your respective interests? The paper should be 2 to 2 ½ pages, double spaced, and in 12 point Times New Roman font. Because your answers should vary widely, your grade will be based on grammar, spelling, and thoughtfulness. This paper can be submitted on paper or electronically by midnight on the last day of university-wide classes (August 10th).

Assignment Values and Grading Policies

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|--|------------|
| Participation | 50 |
| Quizzes (11 of 13 quizzes , 10 points each) | 110 |
| Exams (exams 1-3, 100 points each) | 300 |
| Final Paper | 50 |
| | |
| Total Points Possible: | 510 |

Grading Chart:

| | |
|------------------|------------------|
| A = 93% - 100% | C = 74% - 76.9% |
| A- = 90% - 92.9% | C- = 70% - 73.9% |
| B+ = 87% - 89.9% | D+ = 67%-69.9% |
| B = 84% - 86.9% | D = 64% - 66.9% |
| B- = 80% - 83.9% | D- = 60% - 63.9% |
| C+ = 77% - 79.9% | |

Late Work: It is your responsibility to complete all assignments by the stated deadline. No late work will be accepted.

In Closing: Please contact me with any questions or concerns you may have. I am very happy to meet with you if you feel you may need extra help. Also, contact me as soon as possible if you feel you are struggling. Interventions are much more effective when implemented early!

BYU Policies and Announcements

Learning Outcomes: Each program at BYU has developed a set of expected student learning outcomes. These will help you understand the objectives of the curriculum in the program, including this class. To learn the expected student outcomes for the programs in the psychology department and college go to <http://learningoutcomes.byu.edu> and click on the College of Family, Home and Social Sciences and then the psychology department. We welcome feedback on the expected student learning outcomes. Any comments or suggestions you have can be sent to <FHSS@byu.edu>.

Honor Code Standards: In keeping with the principles of the BYU Honor Code, students are expected to be honest in all of their academic work. Academic honesty means, most fundamentally, that any work you present as your own must in fact be your own work and not that of another. Violations of this principle may result in a failing grade in the course and additional disciplinary action by the university.

Students are also expected to adhere to the Dress and Grooming Standards. Adherence demonstrates respect for yourself and others and ensures an effective learning and working environment. It is the university's expectation, and my own expectation in class, that each student will abide by all Honor Code standards. Please call the Honor Code Office at 422-2847 if you have questions about those standards.

Preventing Sexual Discrimination or Harassment: Sexual discrimination or harassment (including student-to-student harassment) is prohibited both by the law and by Brigham Young University policy. If you feel you are being subjected to sexual discrimination or harassment, please bring your concerns to the professor. Alternatively, you may lodge a complaint with the Equal Employment Office (D-240C ASB) or with the Honor Code Office (4440 WSC).

Students with Disabilities: If you have a disability that may affect your performance in this course, you should contact the University Accessibility Center (12170 WSC). This office is equipped to evaluate your disability and assist the instructor in arranging for reasonable accommodations. If you have already been awarded accommodations, it is your responsibility to notify the instructor at the beginning of the term as many accommodations may no longer be considered "reasonable" if instituted at the end of the term.

COURSE SCHEDULE

| DATE | LECTURE/READING | ASSIGNED READING |
|----------------------|--|------------------|
| June 23 | History of Psychology; Scientific Method and Psychology | -- |
| June 25 | Nature, Nurture, and Human Diversity | Chapter 3 |
| Jan 30 | Developing Through The Life Span | Chapter 4 |
| July 2 | Neuroscience and Behavior | Chapter 2 |
| July 7 | Sensation & Perception | Chapters 5 & 6 |
| July 9 | States of Consciousness | Chapter 7 |
| July 9-13,14 | Exam #1 at the Testing Center | |
| July 14 | Learning & Memory | Chapters 8 & 9 |
| July 16 | Motivation and Work | Chapter 12 |
| July 21 | Thinking and Language; Intelligence | Chapters 10 & 11 |
| July 23 | Emotion | Chapter 13 |
| July 23-27,28 | Exam #2 at the Testing Center | |
| July 28 | Stress and Health: Personality | Chapters 14 & 15 |
| July 30 | Psychological Disorders | Chapter 16 |
| Aug 4 | Therapy | Chapter 17 |
| Aug 6 | Social Psychology | Chapter 18 |
| August 10 | Final Paper due by midnight. May be submitted electronically to clinicalpsychstudent@gmail.com or in person at 282 TLRB | |
| August 13 | Final Exam, in class 11:00 am to 12:50 pm as per the university schedule | |