

Orientation to the Psychology Major

Psychology 101, Section 001

Bruce Brown

Winter Semester 2009

Thursday 11:00 to 11:50 a.m.

3108 JKB

date	topic	readings
January 8	Introduction to the Course: An Overview of the Psychology Major	
January 15	Possibilities for Your Career in the Psychology Major (<i>MAP introduced</i>)	Kuther 1 & 2
January 22	Taking an Active Role in Your Education, Tools for Academic Success	Kuther 3 & 4
January 29	The FHSS Writing Center and Advisement Center	Link below ***
February 5	How to Be Successful: Habits, Skills and Resources (<i>MAP due</i>)	Kuther 5 & 6
February 12	Looking to the Future: Life After College (click here for speed reading info)	Kuther 7 to 9
February 19	Faculty Presentation: Moral Development—Dr. Sam Hardy	Readings 5
February 26	Getting Into Graduate School	Kuther 10
March 5	<i>Term Paper Due (two pages)</i> Click here for document explaining the paper.	
March 5	Internships (Source to study: http://www.intern.byu.edu/)	Presentation
March 12	Faculty Presentation: Experimental Psychology—Dr. Mark Allen	Readings 3
March 19	Faculty Presentation: Dr. Hal Miller on Departmental Curriculum	Readings 4
Reminder	Research Participation for Up to 2 Points on Final Grade Click here for SONA instructions.	
March 26	Faculty Presentation: Theory and Philosophy—Dr. Ed Gantt	Readings 7
April 2	Faculty Presentation: Comparative Psychology—Dr. Dee Higley	Readings 6
April 9	Faculty Presentation: Developmental Psychology—Dr. Ross Flom	R1 and R2

*** January 29th “readings” link: <http://psychology.byu.edu/Undergraduate%20Program/Major.dhtml>

Term Paper Due: **March 5** [Click here for document explaining the paper.](#)

Final Exam: **Tuesday, April 21, 7:00 to 10:00 pm**—Please note the date and time of the final exam and schedule it on your calendar.

Requirements

I am interested in your class participation as well as your performance on the paper and the exam. You are expected to be current in your reading of the text and other assigned reading, and to come to class prepared to discuss and ask questions. During each class period, I call on about 25 students at random to introduce the topic for the day. Those who wish to will stand and give a very brief summary or discussion of some of the ideas or concepts from the readings for that day. Those who would prefer to do so can fulfill this assignment by turning in a paragraph by the end of class summarizing the reading. Your grade for class participation will come from this, supplemented by any other major contributions you make to class discussion. Attendance is also part of your participation grade.

Your graded material for the course will consist of one brief paper during the semester (two pages or so) and a final exam. The midterm paper should be a brief summary of your investigation of professional and employment opportunities in an area of psychology that is of interest to you.

Text: Tara L. Kuther. *The Psychology Major's Handbook, Second Edition*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth, 2006.

Syllabus Location on the Internet:

<http://psychology.byu.edu/faculty/blb6/Files/P101/p101jan09.htm>

Grading

The course is only for one hour of credit. The university expectation is that you do two hours of work outside for every hour in class. Those who wish to qualify for an A on the term paper will probably go beyond the class presentations and readings and perhaps search out additional information in the library or from the internet. Remember that an A is for truly outstanding writing, a B is for writing that is good and relatively error free. We hope to give you a realistic assessment to prepare for a future in which writing is very important.

The grading will not be on a curve, but rather on an absolute scale. There is the possibility of **400** points from papers and class participation:

- (1) The midterm paper will be for **150** points.
- (2) The final exam will be for **150** points.
- (3) Class participation and attendance will count for **100** points.

Your grade for the class will be the percent of your "earned points" compared to this total possible (the "A" range being 95% to 100%, the "A-" range being 90% to 95%, the "B+" range being 87% to 90%, the "B" range being 83% to 87%, the "B-" range being 80% to 83%, etc.)

You can earn extra credit of up to 2 points on the final grade for up to 4 hours of research participation (one half point for each hour of participation). Because research participation must be voluntary and not required for a class, you also have the option of earning the additional 2 points on the final grade by doing one more two paragraph paper for extra credit. [Click here for instructions for signing up for research on the SONA system.](#)

Academic Integrity

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 Harassment

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination against any participant in an educational program or activity receiving federal funds. The act is intended to eliminate sex discrimination in education. Title IX covers discrimination in programs, admissions, activities, and student-to-student sexual harassment. BYU's policy against sexual harassment extends not only to employees but to students as well. If you encounter unlawful sexual harassment or gender based discrimination, please talk to your professor; contact the Equal Opportunity Office at 378-5895 or 367-5689 (24 hours); or contact the Honor Code Office at 378-2847.

Students with Disabilities

Brigham Young University is committed to providing a working and learning atmosphere that reasonably accommodates qualified persons with disabilities. If you have any disability which may impair your ability to complete this course successfully, please contact the University Accessibility Center at 422-2767, or at 1520 WSC. Reasonable academic accommodations are reviewed for all students who have qualified documented disabilities. Services are coordinated with the student and instructor by the SDD Office. If you need assistance or if you feel you have been unlawfully discriminated against on the basis of disability, you may seek resolution through established grievance policy and procedures. You should contact the Equal Opportunity Office at 422-5895, or at D-282 ASB.

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