

SYLLABUS

Course:	Psychology 111 (011)	Instructor:	Doug R. Richards, PhD
Title:	Psychological Science		
Year:	Fall Semester 2017	Phone/Text	(801) 822-2289
Room:	402 SLC	E-mail:	doug_r_richards@hotmail.com
Times:	W 2:45 pm – 5:10 pm	Office Hour:	By appointment

Required Text: *Exploring Psychology 9th edition David G. Myers*

Course Objectives

Objective 1: Knowledge.

Students will understand psychology as a scientific discipline. Essential to this, students will understand a core set of statistical and methodological knowledge regarding how psychologists critically evaluate, creatively test, and scientifically defend psychological claims. They will also understand a core set of content knowledge addressing the biological, cognitive/behavioral, social/personality, and developmental aspects of behavior.

Class Requirement

Students will show their knowledge with two mid-term exams and a final.

Objective 2: Application

Students will be able to critically apply psychological principles and research to society (e.g., to explain social issues, inform public policy, and/or solve social problems) understand themselves, and achieve career goals.

Class Requirement

Students will show their ability to apply knowledge with the in-class assignments and participating in research projects.

Objective 3: Inter-personal Relations and Communication

Students will exhibit skills to professionally communicate their understanding of terms, concepts, research, and theories of the discipline to others via written and oral formats. Students will also have interpersonal skills necessary to effectively collaborative in groups with others who hold diverse opinions, beliefs, and attitudes.

Class Requirement

Students will show their mastery of communication skills by preparing a slide presentation on a chosen topic.

Objective 4: Values/Ethics

Students will share key beliefs, attitudes, and values adopted by scientific psychologists, which include (but are not limited to) skepticism and intellectual curiosity, respect for evidence, tolerance of ambiguity, respect for human diversity, and humility regarding the limits of their psychological knowledge and skills. Students will also grasp the spirit of the APA Code of Ethics, follow its guidelines, and recognize the necessity of ethical behavior in all aspects of the science and practice of psychology.

Class Requirement

Students will show mastery by doing in-class assignments and class participation.

Class Schedule

Class Date	Chapter Title/Topic	Reading/Due Dates
Sep 6 th	Intro & Thinking Critically with Psychological Science	Chapter 1
Sep 13 th	Biology of Mind	Chapter 2
Sep 20 th	Consciousness	Chapter 3
Sep 27 th	Nature and Nurture/Gender & Sexuality	Chapter 5
Oct 4 th	Developing Through the Life-Span	Chapter 4

First Exam (Oct 6th – Oct 11th) in Testing Centers (*Chapters 1-5*)

Oct 11 th	Sensation & Perception	Chapter 6
Oct 18 th	Learning	Chapter 7
Oct 25 th	Memory	Chapter 8
Nov 1 st	Thinking, Language & Intelligence	Chapter 9
Nov 8 th	Emotions, Stress and Health (Motivation not covered)	Chapters 10,11

Second Exam (Nov 10th – Nov 15th) in Testing Centers (*Chapters 6-11*)

Nov 15 th	Personality	Chapter 12
Nov 29 th	Psychological Disorders	Chapter 14
Dec 6 th	Therapy	Chapter 15

FINAL EXAMINATION (December 16th – 21th) in the SLC Testing Center (Chapters 12, 14, 15)

Examinations: This course will consist of three examinations (including the Final examination). The tests will all be of the same format and will come from lecture material, videos and material covered in the text. A study guide will be provided to help focus your study in preparation for the exam (but it does not cover all questions). An exam will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions (100 points). As you can see from the schedule, the final examination will **not** be comprehensive (on purpose anyway, sometimes material tends to build on itself). The first two exams may be taken at the SLC Testing Center or the BYU Testing Center. The final exam must be taken at the SLC Testing Center. Make sure to **check** the specific hours and arrive one hour before closing time. **EXAMS CANNOT BE MADE UP.**

In Class Assignments: This course will also have 13 in-class assignments which will be worth 7 pts each for a total of 91 points. These assignments **CANNOT** be made up regardless of excuse.

Attendance: Attendance is required for all classes except in case of emergency.

Presentations: You will be required to prepare one presentation using power-point (.ppt or .pptx) on a relevant topic (100 pts). One of the most effective ways to learn something is to prepare a meaningful presentation. The presentation will be on an individual basis. Choose a topic that is related to one of our chapters. Be very **specific** with your subject. For example, if you choose the chapter on psychological disorders, choose a topic such as PTSD in children or dissociative disorders etc. It **doesn't** need to be in the chapter but should at least be **related** to the chapter that you have chosen. I will **SUBTRACT** points if the presentation merely summarizes the chapter present in the book. Please be creative, don't hesitate to use personal experience as well. The minimum number of slides should be **30**. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask me beforehand. Please turn the presentation on or before Nov 29th. Submit the presentation using Learning Suite. If you are using an Apple product, please use *save as* to save as a .ppt, .pptx, or .pdf. My computer cannot read .key files.

I will grade the presentations as follows:

Organization	20 pts.
Knowledge of the subject	15 pts.
Specific topic chosen (related to chapter)	5 pts.
Research (psychological or scientific studies)	20 pts.
Good use of illustrations, pictures or animation	10 pts.
Has a point of view	5 pts.
Creativity	15 pts.
Statements made are clearly supported	10 pts.

Grading: The strictest performance standards that I will use (may be modified down according to class performance)

A = 94-100%

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 (or E) = below 60%

Point Totals:

First Exam (Oct 6th – Oct 11th)	100 points
Second Exam: (Nov 10th – Nov 15th)	100 points
Final Exam: (Dec 16th – 21st)	100 points
Presentation (Nov 29th)	100 points
In Class Assignments (every class period)	91 points

Total points possible 491 points

Disclaimer: I reserve the right to make changes in a) course schedule, b) course requirements, c) course grading procedures, and/or d) any other aspects of the course at any time. Any alterations will be circumspect and will be made in the best interests of the students, the course, and the instructor.

University Policy Regarding the Incomplete (I) Grade: The letter grade I (incomplete) is given on a contractual basis with the instructor for students who are eligible to complete the work in a prescribed time period. An incomplete is only given when extenuating circumstances (serious illness, death in the immediate family, etc.) occur after the twelfth week of a semester or the sixth week of a term. An incomplete is never given when one is failing or has failed the course. Class attendance in a subsequent semester or reregistration is not permitted to make up the incomplete.

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).

Students with Disabilities: If you have a disability that may affect your performance in this course, you should get in touch with the office of Services for Students with Disabilities (1520 WSC). This office can evaluate your disability and assist the professor in arranging for reasonable accommodations.