



SYLLABUS
General Psychology
PSY 2012-D9171
Spring 2026, A-session

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Final Exam Date(s)	May 3 – May 7
Last Date of Drop/Add	January 15
Last Date for Student to Withdraw	April 6
Class Meeting Time	Online
Class Location	Online
Prerequisite(s)	Grade of C or better in ENC 1101
Course Description	In this course, students will gain an introduction to the scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. Topics may be drawn from historical and current perspectives in psychology.
Credits	3 credit hours
Semester(s) Offered	Fall, Spring, Summer
Course Designation(s)	College Transfer. Meets AA General Education Core, Social Sciences requirement. A writing emphasis course.
General Education Core Course Standard	Per Florida Statute 1007.25 , "Social science courses must afford students an understanding of the basic social and behavioral science concepts and principles used in the analysis of behavior and past and present social, political, and economic issues."
Required Textbooks and Instructional Materials	Psychology; R. Spielman, W. Jenkins, M. Lovett; 9781975076450; 2nd; 2020; OpenStax, Chapters 1-16, Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) The educational materials used in this course, including textbooks and ancillary materials, are intended for educational purposes only. All

	opinions represent those of the author(s) and not necessarily those of Pensacola State College or the instructor.
Minimum Requirements for Online Classes	Access to a Windows or Mac-based computer with a working webcam and microphone is required for this course. Mobile devices such as Androids, iPhones, iPads, or other tablets or Chromebooks are not recommended because of their limited functionality. Reliable, high-speed internet access is also required. Specific browser and computer requirements for using Canvas, PSC's learning Management System. Computer access is available to students on all PSC campuses and centers.
Course Learning Outcomes	1. Students will be able to identify basic psychological theories, terms, and principles from historical and current perspectives. 2. Students will be able to recognize real-world applications of psychological theories, terms, and principles. 3. Students will be able to recognize basic strategies used in psychological research. 4. Students will be able to draw logical conclusions about behavior and mental processes based on empirical evidence.
General Education Student Learning Outcomes	1. Critical Thinking: The student analyzes, evaluates, and, if necessary, challenges the validity of ideas, principles, or data in order to develop informed opinions, probable predictions, or defensible conclusions. 2. Communication: The student effectively communicates knowledge and ideas. 3. Cultural Literacy: Demonstrate an understanding of human culture.
General Education Writing Emphasis Course Requirements	1. All writing used to fulfill the writing emphasis requirement must possess the five characteristics of college-level writing: 1) have a clearly identified central idea or thesis; 2) provide adequate support for the idea; 3) be organized clearly and logically; 4) show awareness of the conventions of standard written English; and 5) be formatted in an appropriate fashion for the assignment. 2. A minimum of four (4) evaluated assignments, which may include the final exam, is required. Because an extensive amount of writing is intended by Rule 6A-10.030, F.A.C., additional writing assignments may be used to satisfy this requirement. 3. The grades earned on the writing assignments must reflect student performance in college-level writing and significantly impact the final course grade. 4. All sections of a course must meet all requirements. 5. Instructors provide detailed feedback regarding the content, organization, and use of standard written English for all writing used to satisfy the requirement. 6. Instructors return each evaluated writing assignment to a student before the submission of the next evaluated writing assignment, with the exception of a final exam used to satisfy the requirement. 7. Only individual, original student work counts toward the extensive writing requirement; AI or machine-written content is not accepted.

	8. The grading rubrics used for each writing assignment will be shared with students and will be uniformly applied as the assessment instrument in all sections of a course.
Student Assignments, Assessments, and Grading Calculation	
Reading Assignments: - <i>Psychology (2e)</i> - <i>"Introduction to Psychology"</i> - <i>"Psychological Research"</i> - <i>"Biopsychology"</i> - <i>"States of Consciousness"</i> - <i>"Sensation and Perception"</i> - <i>"Learning"</i> - <i>"Thinking and Intelligence"</i> - <i>"Memory"</i> - <i>"Lifespan Development"</i> - <i>"Emotion and Motivation"</i> - <i>"Personality"</i> - <i>"Social Psychology"</i> - <i>"Industrial-Organizational Psychology"</i> - <i>"Stress, Lifestyle, and Health"</i> - <i>"Psychological Disorders"</i> - <i>"Therapy and Treatment"</i> - Lipson et al.'s (2021) article <i>"Mental Health Conditions Among Community College Students: A National Study of Prevalence and Use of Treatment Services"</i>	
Homework, Classwork	5%
- All homework, classwork assessments are from Psychology (2e)	
Quizzes	5%
- All quizzed assessments are from Psychology (2e)	
Chapter Reviews	5%
- All chapter reviews are from Psychology (2e)	
Discussions	10%
- All discussions use department-approved prompts	
Writing Assignment – Ethics · Why is ethics important in psychological research? · Discuss one unethical research study: what was learned, why it was unethical, and which research standards were violated. · Did the study still contribute to psychology? Explain.	10%
Writing Assignment – John Watson and Behaviorism · What is behaviorism and how did it change the field of psychology? · Evaluate John Watson's contributions and discuss the Little Albert study: what was learned? · What are the strengths and limitations of behaviorism?	10%
Writing Assignment – Maslow & Humanistic Psychology This reflection analyzes a personal experience involving memory, either vivid recall or forgetting, through key psychological concepts like encoding, storage, retrieval, and theories of forgetting, and considers how understanding memory research can improve reliability and inform practical strategies for better recall.	15%

Writing Assignment – Article Analysis This assignment asks students to read Lipson et al.’s (2021) article “ <i>Mental Health Conditions Among Community College Students: A National Study of Prevalence and Use of Treatment Services</i> ” and answer comprehension and reflection questions. The task involves summarizing key research details, such as authors, participants, findings on prevalence, treatment barriers, and funding recommendations, and then writing thoughtful personal reflections that connect course concepts to real-world mental health observations and coping strategies		15%	
Unit Exams - Unit Exam 1 – Chapters 1-4 of Psychology (2e) - Unit Exam 2 – Chapters 4, 6, 7 & 8 of Psychology (2e) - Unit Exam 3 – Chapters 9-12 of Psychology (2e) - Unit Exam 4 – Chapters 13- 16 of Psychology (2e)		25%	
- Total		100%	
Grading Scale			
	90%-100%	A	
	87%-89%	B+	
	80%-86%	B	
	77%-79%	C+	
	70%-76%	C	
	67%-69%	D+	
	60%-66%	D	
	0%-59%	F	
Student Expectations	Students enrolled in this course can expect the following: 1. clearly identified course objectives; 2. productive class meetings; 3. a positive learning environment; 4. opportunities for appropriate student participation; 5. effective instruction; 6. positive and appropriate interactions; 7. assistance with meeting course objectives during and beyond class hours; 8. evaluation of student performance and appropriate and timely feedback; 9. clear and well-organized instruction.		
AI Statement for Writing Emphasis Courses	Because writing emphasis courses focus on the foundational skills of critical thinking, rhetorical awareness, and information literacy, the work presented by students must be original. As such, the use of generative AI for graded assignments is prohibited unless specifically authorized by the instructor. The instructor reserves the right to assign a failing grade to an assignment determined to exhibit markers of generative AI use. In such instances, the student may challenge the failing grade and is responsible for demonstrating the originality of a submitted text. Continued registration in the course will be understood as acceptance of this policy.		
Academic Dishonesty Statement	Plagiarism and cheating are prohibited. Penalties for academic dishonesty include but are not limited to one or more of the following: the awarding of no credit on the assignment, a reduction in the course grade, or the assignment of a final course grade of F and removal from the course. See the College Catalog for more details: Academic Integrity		

Student Email Accounts	Pensacola State College provides an institutional email account to all students enrolled in courses for credit. PirateMail is the official method of communication, and students must use PirateMail when communicating with the College. In cases where companion software is used for a particular class, email may be exchanged between instructor and student using the companion software.
Flexibility	It is the intention of the instructor to accomplish the objectives specified in the course syllabus. However, circumstances may arise which prohibit the fulfilling of this endeavor. Therefore, this syllabus is subject to change. When possible, students will be notified of any change in advance of its occurrence.
ADA Statement	Students with a disability that falls under the Americans with Disability Act Amendments Act of 2008 or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act should contact the Student Resource Center for ADA Services to discuss academic accommodations. Appropriate academic accommodations are determined on an individual basis with careful consideration of the course learning outcomes and the documentation of the disability. For more information, students should visit the Student Resource Center for ADA Services on the Pensacola campus in building 6, room 603; call 850-484-1637; email ADAservices@pensacolastate.edu ; or complete the online intake form in the ADA Services app within the MyPSC apps dashboard.
Non-Discrimination Statement	Pensacola State College does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, religion, sex (as defined by applicable federal and state law), national origin, age, disability, genetic information, pregnancy, or marital status in its educational programs, activities, or employment. For inquiries regarding the College's nondiscrimination policies, contact the Civil Rights Compliance Officer at (850) 484-1759, Pensacola State College, 1000 College Blvd., Pensacola, Florida 32504.
Security Statement	Pensacola State College is committed to encouraging all members of the College community to be proactive in personal safety measures. In case of emergency, students should ensure that they are aware of the building exit closest to each of their classrooms, as well as all alternative building exits in case circumstances require using a different route.
Emergency Statement	In the case of severe weather or other emergency, the College administration maintains communication with appropriate state and local agencies and makes a determination regarding the cancellation of classes. Notices of cancellation will be made through the College's PSC Alert system and on the College's website
Late Assignment Policy	I highly encourage you to submit all your work on time. Starting the assignments at the beginning of the week allows you to submit it before the due date and it gives you extra time in case your schedule changes. In case you do fall behind please be aware of my late policy listed below.

	All assignments count towards the final grade. Students should establish connections with other students to get notes and assignments from missed classes. Students must contact the instructor as soon as possible after missing an assignment to make the necessary arrangements with the instructor. Late assignments will be accepted up to five days after it is originally due. TEN points will be deducted from the final score of late work for each day it is late and after 5 days it will no longer be accepted and a score of 0 will be added to the gradebook.
Make-up exam policy	To help you be successful exams need to be taken on the date listed in your course schedule, if you missed an exam, you would need to speak with the Professor to discuss a make-up exam and to see if you qualify for an exception. An exception to this policy will be made only when the student can present a valid and documented medical excuse for the absence.

Course Schedule: Please be aware that additional resources are listed in the course module. Follow the course module listed in Canvas to have access to all assignments, resources, chapter pptx, learning objectives, and exams.

Week of:	Lecture topic	Requirements	Due Dates
Jan. 9	Chapter 1: Introduction to Psychology	Read Chapter 1 Chapter 1 review Chapter 1 practice quiz Chapter 1 quiz Chapter 1 discussion	Jan. 18
Jan. 19	Chapter 2: Psychological Research	Read Chapter 2 Chapter 2 review Chapter 2 practice quiz Chapter 2 quiz Chapter 2 discussion Writing Assignment #1	Jan. 25
Jan. 26	Chapter 3: Biopsychology	Read Chapter 3 Chapter 3 review Chapter 3 practice quiz Chapter 3 quiz Chapter 3 discussion	Feb. 1
Feb. 2	Chapter 4: Consciousness	Read Chapter 4 Chapter 4 review Chapter 4 practice quiz Chapter 4 quiz Chapter 4 discussion Exam #1	Feb.8
Feb. 9	Chapter 6: Learning	Read Chapter 6 Chapter 6 review Chapter 6 practice quiz Chapter 6 quiz Chapter 6 discussion Writing Assignment #2	Feb. 15

Feb. 16	Chapter 7: Thinking and Intelligence	Read Chapter 7 Chapter 7 review Chapter 7 practice quiz Chapter 7 quiz Chapter 7 discussion	Feb. 22
Feb. 23	Chapter 8: Memory	Read Chapter 8 Chapter 8 review Chapter 8 practice quiz Chapter 8 quiz Chapter 8 discussion	Mar. 1
Mar. 2	Chapter 9: Lifespan Development	Read Chapter 9 Chapter 9 review Chapter 9 practice quiz Chapter 9 quiz Chapter 9 discussion Exam #3 (midterm)	Mar.8
Mar. 9	Chapter 10: Motivation and Emotion	Read Chapter 10 Chapter 10 review Chapter 10 practice quiz Chapter 10 quiz Chapter 10 discussion Writing Assignment #3	Mar.15
Mar. 16-20	SPRING BREAK: NO CLASS		
Mar. 23	Chapter 11: Personality	Read Chapter 11 Chapter 11 review Chapter 11 practice quiz Chapter 11 quiz Chapter 11 discussion	Mar. 29
Mar. 30	Chapter 12: Social Psychology	Read Chapter 12 Chapter 12 review Chapter 12 practice quiz Chapter 12 quiz Chapter 12 discussion	Apr. 5
Apr. 6	Chapter 14: Health Psychology	Read Chapter 14 Chapter 14 review Chapter 14 practice quiz Chapter 14 quiz Chapter 14 discussion Writing Assignment #4 Exam #3	Apr. 12
Apr. 13	Chapter 15: Psychopathology	Read Chapter 15 Chapter 15 review Chapter 15 practice quiz Chapter 15 quiz Chapter 15 discussion	Apr. 19
Apr. 20	Chapter 16: Psychological treatment	Read Chapter 16 Chapter 16 review Chapter 16 practice quiz Chapter 16 quiz Chapter 16 discussion	Apr.26

Apr. 27 & 29	Chapter 13: Industrial & Organizational Psychology	Read Chapter 16 Chapter 16 review Chapter 16 practice quiz Chapter 16 quiz Chapter 16 discussion	May 3
May 4		Exam #4: Final Exam	May 4