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PSYC 100.01: Introduction to Psychology

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The University of Montana

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**Syllabus:
Introduction to Psychology
Psyc 100: Spring, 2002
January 28- May 13**

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Office: SB 368
Hours:
By appointment

Purpose of the Course

As a survey course, Introduction to Psychology is designed to provide students with a broad overview of the field. A wide array of topics in psychology are covered, including psychological concepts, perspectives on the history of psychology, and recent research. The course provides students with a foundation in psychology, preparing them for further coursework in any field concerned with human behavior, cognition, and development.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of the course, you should be able to do the following:

- Discuss basic aspects of the interplay between the human mind and body.
- Talk knowledgably about definitions of mental health and psychological disorders.
- Describe the major theories of psychological development.
- Explain evolutionary, psychoanalytic, behavioral, cognitive, & humanistic perspectives on psychology.
- Talk knowledgably about the influence of societal values on mental health and human psychology.
- Make psychology applicable to YOUR life!

Text Information

Required Text:

Weiten, Wayne (2001). *Psychology Themes & Variations, 5th Edition*. Stamford, CT: Thomson Learning.
Supplementary resource: PsychTrek CD-ROM

Outline of Lecture Topics, Assigned Readings, and Important Dates

Please complete the readings **prior to class** on the day they are assigned. These dates are subject to change.

<u>Class Date:</u>	<u>Chapter/Assignment:</u>
Tues, Jan 28	Introduction. Review syllabus.
Thurs, Jan 30	Chapter 1: The evolution of Psychology (Pgs. 2-21)
Tues, Feb 4	Chapter 1 continued Chapter 2: The research of enterprise in psychology (All)
Thurs, Feb 6	Chapter 2 continued
Tues, Feb 11	ASSIGNMENT 1 DUE Chapter 3: The biological Basis of Behavior (Pgs. 76-86; 91-102)
Thurs, Feb 13	Chapter 3 continued
Tues, Feb 18	Catch up and Review
Thurs, Feb 20	EXAM 1: Chapters 1, 2, 3
Tues, Feb 25	Chapter 4: Sensation and Perception (Pgs. 126-136; 140-148; 157-166)
Thurs, Feb 27	Chapter 4 continued
Tues, March 4	Chapter 5: Variations in Conscious (All except meditation)
Thurs, March 6	Chapter 5 continued Chapter 6: Learning (Pgs. 222-245; 250-252)

Tues, March 11	Chapter 6: continued
Thurs, March 13	Assignment 2 Due Chapter 7: Human Memory (All)
Tues, March 18	Chapter 7 continued Catch up and Review
Thurs, March 20	EXAM 2: Chapters 4, 5, 6, 7
March 24- March 28	SPRING BREAK (NO CLASS)!
Tues, April 1	Chapter 8: Language and Thought (Pgs. 307-818)
Thurs, April 3	Chapter 10: Motivation and Emotion (All)
Tues, April 8	Chapter 10: continued Chapter 11: Human Development (Pgs 432-434; 437-438; 441-443; 445-450; 454-463; 467-473)
Thurs, April 10	ASSIGNMENT 3 DUE Chapter 11 continued
Tues, April 15	Chapter 16: Social Behavior
Thurs, April 17	Chapter 16 continued Review and Catch Up
Tues, April 22	EXAM 3: chapters 8, 10, 11, 16
Thurs, April 23	Chapter 12: Personality (Pgs 488-507; 513)
Tues, April 29	ASSIGNMENT 4 DUE Chapter 14: Psychological Disorders
Thurs, May 1	Chapter 14 continued
Tues, May 6	Chapter 15: Treatment of Disorders
Thurs, May 8	Chapter 15 continued Review and Catch Up
Tues, May 13	Final: Chapters 12, 14, 15

Evaluation of Your Work (GRADES!)

Major Exams:

The exams are a combination of multiple choice & short answers. The exams will NOT be curved. You are responsible for bringing a number 2 pencil and scantron to every exam.

EXAM DATES: February 20th, March 20th, April 22nd, May 13th

Assignments:

Assignments are meant to spark discussion & facilitate group work. I expect them to be *typed and brief (no more than 1 page)*. They are due at the **beginning** of class (no exceptions). Each day the assignment is late, I will deduct 1 point off the assignment.

Assignment 1 (February 11th): Bring in an example of an *experiment or correlational study* from a magazine, journal, or newspaper. Turn in a short write-up explaining if you think the example is experimental or correlational and WHY.

Assignment 2 (March 13th): We are constantly LEARNING new behaviors. Describe a brief example from your life in which you have been *CLASSICALLY and OPERANTLY CONDITIONED*. Make sure to include terms associated with each type of learning in your write-up.

Assignment 3 (April 10th): Identify a basic emotion and describe a BRIEF situation in which that emotion might occur. BRIEFLY describe how an individual would experience that emotion *according to the 3 BASIC THEORIES OF EMOTION*.

Assignment 4 (April 29th): Take on the role of one of the following: Freud, Skinner, Bandura, or Maslow. Analyze 1 famous character (non-fictional or fictional) from the standpoint of the psychologist that you chose. Make sure to use terms that the psychologist would have used.

Ideas: Any Osborn family member, Anna Nicole Smith, any character from American Pie, Bart Simpson, Mother Teresa, Princess Diana, the Pope, OR clear your own choice with me!

Grading for this course is based on the following:

<u>Item:</u>	<u>Points for each item</u>
EXAMS	75 (x 4=300)
Small assignments	5 (x4=20)
Total	320

Extra Credit: Extra Credit comes in the form of **POP QUIZZES!** Since they are “pop” you will not know on what day they are coming. Fair game for pop quizzes includes: assigned reading for that day or material reviewed in class. Pop quizzes are worth 2 points & there are **NO** make-ups for extra credit pop quizzes (even with an excused absence). You will get 1/2 point for just taking the quiz regardless of getting any right (Reward for being in class!)

Reward: Regular class attendance and participation will be taken into account when FINAL GRADES are calculated...SO come to class and participate!

Final grades are determined on a percentage basis
(287-320= A, 255-286= B, 223-254=C, 191-222=D, 190-below=F)

Absences and Missed Exams

- **If you are going to miss a major exam, you must notify me before class.** University-approved excuses are **required** if you want to make up missed work. You bear the responsibility for giving me prior notice and for making arrangements for making up the exam.
- If you are not in class the day an assignment is due, you must get it to me before the class or e-mail it to me on the day it is due. Each day it is late will result in a deduction of 1point.
- Extra credit pop quizzes cannot be made up.

Experimental Credits

You are asked to fulfill **8 points worth of experimental credit** during this session. In meeting this requirement, you will serve as a participant in experiments being conducted by faculty or graduate students in the Psychology Department. Participation provides a means for students to learn about the science of psychology by actually experiencing the research process. If you do not fulfill the 8-credit requirement by the end of this session, you will receive an “I” in this course, and you will have one year to complete your missing credits. If you do not complete the credits within a year, your grade for the course will revert to one letter grade lower than you would have received had you met this requirement. **Please note that university policy dictates that an “I” grade will remain on your transcript permanently.**

If you have objections to serving as a participant in research projects, you may substitute a short paper for the experimental credits. See me about this if you prefer this option.

Research credits OR papers will be due on the LAST day of class.

Students with Special Needs

If you have special learning needs, it is your responsibility to inform me, at the outset of the course, of your disability and the ways in which you and DSS have determined that you will need accommodation for your learning style. I'll be happy to help you to achieve your goals in this course.