

University of Montana

ScholarWorks at University of Montana

Syllabi

Course Syllabi

Spring 2-1-2019

PSYX 100S.04: Intro to Psychology

Cali Caughie

University of Montana, Missoula, cali.caughie@umconnect.umt.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi>

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Recommended Citation

Caughie, Cali, "PSYX 100S.04: Intro to Psychology" (2019). *Syllabi*. 10441.
<https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi/10441>

This Syllabus is brought to you for free and open access by the Course Syllabi at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in Syllabi by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact scholarworks@mso.umt.edu.

PSYX 100S – 04: Introduction to Psychology Spring 2019

Course Location and Time

Location: Jeannette Rankin Hall 202

Time: Wednesday 5:00-7:50 pm

Instructor Information

Instructor: Cali Caughie

Email: cali.caughie@umontana.edu

Office: Skaggs 053

Office hours: Mondays 4:30-7:30 pm and by appointment

Course Description

Psychology is the science of human and animal behavior and mental processes. You will learn to understand the nature, structure and historical development of human organizations and/or relationships in multiple ways. In this course, you will be taught the role of historical events in shaping human organization, including how these events shaped our own field. From multiple angles (behavioral, physiological, social, cognitive), you will be taught how the human mind – the basic building block of all human organizations and relationships – functions. And you will be taught this through the eyes of multiple psychological theories, ranging from behavioral, physiological, social, and cognitive approaches. Further, by being exposed to actual research results throughout the term, and discussing the meaning of those results, I want you to learn how to interpret and think about these data.

As a survey course, Introduction to Psychology provides an overview of the methods, terms, theories, and findings in the field. By understanding principles of psychology, you will learn more about yourself, others, non-human animals, and relationships. The course primarily employs a lecture format, although your comments, questions, and discussions are strongly encouraged. Throughout the semester, visiting guest lecturers and/or films may be presented in class as well.

Recommended Text

Weiten's Psychology: Themes and Variations, 10th Ed.

Course Guidelines and Policies

Academic Misconduct

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the [Student Conduct Code](#). All work for this class must reflect your own work. As specified in the Student Conduct Code, academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to:

- *Plagiarism*: representing someone else's work (words, ideas, data, materials) as your own.
- *Misconduct during an examination or academic exercise*: Copying from another student's paper/exam, giving information to another student, consulting unauthorized materials.

Academic misconduct will result in a zero for that exam or assignment and the incident will be reported to the Dean of Students to be dealt with appropriately.

Incompletes

Departmental and university policies regarding incompletes do not allow changing "incomplete" grades after one year has passed since the "I" was granted. Consistent with university policy if you do not resolve your Incomplete within one year, your grade will revert to one letter grade lower than what you would have received otherwise. **Be aware** that if you earn an "Incomplete" in any course at UM, an "I" remains on your record permanently, even if you eventually complete the work.

Disability Modifications

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and [Disability Services for Students](#). If you think you have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with Disability Services, please contact Disability Services in Lommasson Center 154 or call 406-243-2243. I will work with you and Disability Services to provide an appropriate modification.

Announcements

Students are responsible for any announcements made in class. These may include changes in policy, due dates, or assignment requirements.

Communication

Other than my office hours, the best way to contact me is by email. I will try to respond to your email as soon as I can but you should not have to wait more than 24 hours during weekdays for a reply. If it has been longer, please resend your message in case I did not receive it the first time.

Class Etiquette

The classroom is meant to be a learning environment. However, learning is inhibited when there is a lack of respect for one another's individuality as well as for the class as a whole. In order to better facilitate a beneficial environment for all, we need to set a few ground rules:

1. **Cellphones** should be **turned off** or otherwise silenced during class time.
2. **Be on time**. People coming in late disrupt the flow of the class and places them behind in the material covered in class. Occasionally, being late cannot be helped, but routine tardiness shows a lack of respect for the entire class.
3. **Talking**. Please raise your hand when you wish to speak. Also, discussions or comments with your neighbors while someone else is speaking are disrespectful to us all. If you

missed something that was said, please let us know and the speaker will repeat it.

Statement on Gender Identity

This course affirms people of all gender expressions and gender identities. If you prefer to be called a different name than that on the class roster, please let me know. Feel free to correct me on your preferred gender pronoun. If you have any questions or concerns in this area, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Class Sessions and Attendance

At times during class we will be learning material that is covered in your textbook, while at other times we will be discussing concepts and findings that are not mentioned in your text. I will not lecture on every topic covered in the book; likewise, not everything covered in class will be found in the book. So, for you to get the most out of this course, it will be important for you to attend class and to keep up with the recommended reading assignments. Discussions and activities that are conducted during lecture are a way to enhance your understanding of the material, and as such, topics and concepts related to these activities are eligible to be included in exams. I will be posting my PowerPoint lectures on Moodle as .pdf files as soon as possible following the day's lecture. *If you miss a lecture* you are responsible for obtaining missed notes and important announcements from another student.

Course Grading

Our course has many components. Your final grade for the course is based on the total of 10 in-class assignments, 1 presentation, and 3 exam scores.

Please also note that in order to receive credit and a grade for this course you must complete 8 research credits through SONA (see page 5 for details). Grades will be posted on the course Moodle webpage.

Point Breakdown:

Two midterm exam scores (75 points each): 150 points possible

Final Exam score: 150 points possible

In-class assignments (10 x 15 points): 150 points possible

Presentation: 50 points possible

Research Credits (8): Required for a Grade^{[1][1]}_{SEP}

Total Points: 500 points possible

Your final grade is based on the percentage of the total possible points that you earn. Because we do not curve grades, every student has the opportunity to earn an A in this course.

Alternatively, every student can fail this course if they fail to meet criteria.


Final Grade	Number of Points	Percentage
A	465-500	93-100%
A-	450-464	90-92.9%
B+	435-449	87-89.9%
B	415-434	83-86.9%


Final Grade	Number of Points	Percentage
B-	400-414	80-82.9%
C+	385-399	77-79.9%
C	365-384	73-76.9%
C-	350-364	70-72.9%
D+	335-349	67-69.9%
D	315-334	63-66.9%
D-	300-314	60-62.9%
F	0-299	<60%

Course Structure

This course is designed to help you learn a large amount of material at a manageable pace. Given that we meet only once a week for a 3 hour block of time, it is essential that you attend class. In order to best help you focus and learn, most class periods will have a lecture component, an activite component, and an in-class assignment component. In-class assignments will be used to help solidify knowledge delivered in lecture and will be useful resources to study from for exams. We will have two exams within the semester, each covering 5-6 chapters/class periods of material. A cumulative final will be administered at the end of the semester. Prior to all exams, study guides specifying the type of information that will be tested will be provided.

Sectional Exams and Final

Exams 1 and 2 will be administered during your regular class time in your regular lecture room. Exams 1 and 2 will occupy the first half of the determined class period, in the second half of the class period we will resume lecture. The Final Exam is Wednesday May 1st in the regular lecture room. 

- Plan to be on time for exams.
- **Exam 3 (Final): Wednesday May 1st, 5:30-7:30 pm** 

What can I expect on the exams?

Lectures will follow the chapters in the book but may contain extra material. We will cover most chapters in the book as well as address some additional topics. All exams will be a mixture of multiple choice and short answer. In studying for exams, it is recommended that you utilize study guides, lecture slides, notes, and in-class assignments to best prepare.

Make-Up Policy

To make up a missed exam, you must meet the following criteria:

1. Notify me **before** the time of the exam and bring proper documentation.
2. You must have legitimate documentation verifying the reason for your absence.

Examples of documented circumstances that may merit approval include the following:

- Illness or accident
- Death or family emergency

- University-sanctioned activity

Remember, prior notification and documentation are mandatory!

Research Experience

Psychology is a science built on systematic research of both human and non-human animals. A critical aspect of this course is becoming familiar with how that information is obtained. There are two ways to meet this course requirement and they may be combined in any manner to meet the 8-credit research experience requirement. [SEP]

The research experience portion of this class is not graded but it is required for a grade in the course. You may choose either or both of these options (e.g., 4 credits of research participation with 4 credits for reading about research for 8 total credits) but this requirement must be met by the end of the semester (Friday, May 3rd). [SEP]

1. Participation in original research. In this option, you will sign up to participate in actual psychology experiments. Individual experiments may range from 1 to 8 credits. Typically, each credit takes about 30 minutes. Signing up for studies occurs via an online sign-up system. **To sign up, you will need to create an account online. When doing so, (1) be sure you use your umontana e-mail address as your username (if your umontana e-mail address is jane.smith@umontana.edu, you would enter jane.smith); if you do not do this properly, then you will not get the account information. Also, (2) please be sure you enter the right course section number, or else you may not be properly credited.** Signing up and checking studies is easy – for directions on how to do this, please go to the following web page: Department of [Psychology's SONA Research Participation](http://hs.umn.edu/psychology/undergraduates/sona.php) page. URL: <http://hs.umn.edu/psychology/undergraduates/sona.php>

Each experiment has a different name. Once you have participated in a specific experiment, you may not sign up for any other experiment with the same name. If you do, you will only receive credit for the first experiment. Some psychological research projects require participants who possess special characteristics. You may have the opportunity to participate in an in-class screening/testing day to be eligible for those experiments. The results of the assessments are confidential, and participation in the screening/testing day is optional.

Your credit will be tracked via the online system – you will be awarded credit for participation within 72 hours of participating by the researcher who was in charge of the study. If you check your credit and it has not been awarded in a timely fashion, **contact the experimenter listed as the contact on the study** to resolve this conflict.

At the end of the term, your instructor will automatically get your credits from the online system. Note that if you participate in screening day (described below), you will only need to get 6 credits via the SONA system (screening day credits are tracked separately).

2. Writing a summary/reaction paper about original research. In this option, you will select a research article from the online course Moodle folder titled, “SONA Research Readings (Option 2).” You will read your selected article and briefly summarize it. Each written summary should be 1-2 pages long and each summary is worth 2 research credits. A separate handout of instructions and a writing rubric is available on the course Moodle webpage. To get credit, you need to turn the assignment in to your instructor by email, who will review it and assign credit. (Note: This does not happen on the online system, which is only used for option 1).

What happens if I don’t finish the research experience requirement?

Students who do not complete their research experience credits will receive an **incomplete** for the class. Students with incompletes will be allowed to finish their research experience requirement only through the reading about research option (option 2). Consistent with university policy, if you do not resolve your incomplete within one year, your grade will revert to one letter grade lower than what you would have received otherwise. **Be aware** that if you earn an “incomplete” in any course at UM, an “I” remains on your record permanently, even if you eventually complete the work.

Screening/Testing Day

Screening/Testing day is designated to provide you an opportunity to earn research credit (2 credits) and to provide researchers an opportunity to screen Psychology 100 students for other studies later in the semester or hand out short questionnaires. Screening/Testing day is in place of lecture for that day only. *You are NOT required to attend screening/testing day.* If you do not attend, you will not receive the 2 credit points, but no penalty will be assessed. If you do attend Screening/Testing Day you must go to the correct section and time to get your points. Screening day credits are awarded separately from the SONA system and will be incorporated by your instructor automatically if you attend.

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Material Covered*	Notes
Week 1			
	Wednesday (W) – Jan. 16		Syllabus, Assignment 1
		Chapter 1	
Week 2			
	W– Jan. 23	2	Assignment 2
Week 3			
	W– Jan. 30	3	Screening Day, Assignment 3
Week 4			
	W– Feb. 6	4	Assignment 4
Week 5			
	W – Feb. 13	5	Assignment 5
Week 6			
	W– Feb. 20	6	EXAM 1
Week 7			
	W– Feb. 27	7	Assignment 6

Week	Date	Material Covered*	Notes
Week 8			
	W – March 6	9	Assignment 7
Week 9			
	W – March 13	10	Assignment 8
Week 10			
	W – March 20	11	Assignment 9
Week 11			
	W – March 27	NO CLASS	SPRING BREAK
Week 12			
	W – April 3	12	Assignment 10
Week 13			
	W– April 10	13	EXAM 2
Week 14			
	W – April 17	14	Student Presentations
Week 15			
	W – April 24	15	Final Exam Review
		Reminder	<i>Last day to complete 8 SONA Research Credits (required) & Extra Credit (optional)</i>
FINAL	W- May 1st	FINAL EXAM DAY ** 5:30-7:30 pm**	FINAL EXAM – comprehensive

*Recommended homework for this class includes the outside reading in the textbook that corresponds to the chapters we are covering in class (for example, if we are covering chapter 3 in class, you should also be reading chapter 3 outside of class).

Disclaimer:

Cali Caughie reserves the right to make changes in (a) the course schedule, (b) course requirements, (c) the course grading procedures, and/or 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 professor.