

University of Montana

ScholarWorks at University of Montana

Syllabi

Course Syllabi

Fall 9-1-2006

PSY 100S.02: Introductory Psychology

Emese Vitalis

University of Montana, Missoula, emese.vitalis@mso.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

Vitalis, Emese, "PSY 100S.02: Introductory Psychology" (2006). *Syllabi*. 10552.
<https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi/10552>

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.

COURSE SYLLABUS
INTRODUCTORY PSYCHOLOGY PSYC 100
The University of Montana – Missoula
The College of Technology

INSTRUCTOR: Emese Vitalis, Ph.D.

Phone: (406)243-7824

E-mail: Emese.Vitalis@mso.umt.edu

Office hours:—Thursday 12:00-1:00 pm; by appointment & chance

REQUIRED TEXTS

Kosslyn, S. K., & Rosenberg, R. S. (2004). *Psychology: Fundamentals of Psychology: The brain, the person, the world (2nd edition)*.

MYPSYCHLAB-student kit with access code [one-time use]--**packaged with text--includes electronic book, practice exams, and power point presentations.**

Required Course Web site:

- **University of Montana Blackboard:** courseware.umt.edu

Don't buy used copies. You need the one-time access code.

Where to buy the books: From the College of technology BOOKSTORE. If you need to have them sent to you call and ask for Debi, the manager. Make sure you refer to the course number. It is NOT the Bookstore at the Main campus, but on South street at the College of Technology. 243-0211 is campus information. Ask for COT bookstore or Debi Leitzki.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

By the end of the course, I expect that you will:

- 1) Have a basic knowledge of psychology, including:
 - terms, facts, concepts, and theories.
 - methods and techniques used to study psychological phenomena.
- 2) Have improved your higher-order thinking skills, including:
 - the ability to apply knowledge already learned to new problems and situations
 - analytic skills, the ability to evaluate information and to distinguish between fact and opinion.
- 3) Be able to use psychological research to inform your personal views and be able to critique research
- 4) Have improved your knowledge of learning and memory techniques for use in future courses.

ASSESSMENT:

Grading

Exams: 100 pts * 4	400
Article analyses: 100 pts * 2	200
Group presentation:	300
Thought question	100
Total possible	1000

Grades are based in % of total points available: for example, 94-100% = A, 90-93 = A-.
If an assignment is deleted [which is my option], then the total will be adjusted accordingly.

ASSIGNMENTS:

1. *Exams.* There are four quizexams in the course. Quizexams are short answers and multiple choice and cover material in the textbook. Each covers chapters covered since the previous one. You are responsible for staying current with the readings. *Material on quizexams is rarely covered in class.* If you don't understand something in the text, ask me or consult with a fellow student. *There are no make-ups!*

2. *Article Analyses.* These assignments will help you to refine your skills in active reading and critical thinking. You will locate, read, and summarize two literature review or a research articles according to my guidelines. A separate handout entitled "Research Paper DIRECTIONS" is available on Blackboard. You may complete this portion of the course early, if you like.

3. *One group project presentation on a topic related to the course.* The main task of the presentation is for you to **learn something** related to the course **and teach it** to the class. That's it. The presentation should be clear, focused, informative, and, ideally, entertaining. If you have conflict in your group or anticipate problems, see me well before a deadline. Presentation dates are determined by lottery. Students are responsible for forming 3-4 person (not more!) groups on their own. I reserve the right to assign people to groups.

4. *Thought Question:* You will choose a thought question from a list. Thought questions involve issues in psychology that are debated (e.g., nature versus nurture). You will answer thought questions by taking a side of the debate and explaining why you took that side. Explanations should be specific and contain valid arguments for the position taken. Explanations should also contain examples that back up your arguments.

EXTRA CREDIT ASSIGNMENTS:

You will have the opportunity to do other assignments explained in detail in the Assignments. One is a Behavior Modification project and the other is participation in online psychology research.

CORRESPONDING WITH ME

In every email, please use the following format in the subject line:

PSY100S, Last name, First Name, , Assignment Name & #.
EXAMPLE: PSY100S, JONES, SALLY, RESEARCH JOURNAL

Please deliver all assignments DURING THE CLASS PERIOD THEY ARE DUE. Always SAVE A COPY.

ATTENDANCE:

While attendance is not mandatory, I expect that you will attend every class. Failure to attend at least 70% of the classes constitutes a failure. I will be taking roll every day.

OTHER INFORMATION

Disabilities and Special Learning Needs: Please inform me as soon as possible if you have any disabilities or circumstances that may require special considerations. It is your responsibility to inform me at the outset of this course of any disability and the ways that you and the DSS have determined are necessary to accommodate your needs. I am happy to work with you to achieve your goals for the course. I will expect to receive a letter from DSS documenting your requested accommodations.

Dropping course: Please see the website of University of Montana for the last day to drop the course. After this date, petitions will be approved only in the case of documented emergencies. This departmental policy is strictly observed, so please plan accordingly.

COURSE CHANGES:

I reserve the right to make changes to course requirements, the schedule, etc. Any such changes will be announced in Announcements on the Blackboard in reasonable time. Students not checking their announcements regularly may miss changes, as I will not send email notifications. **Make sure that you check the announcements regularly.**

IT is assumed that you have adequate resources to complete the course requirements. Be proactive and PLAN for unforeseen emergencies. What this means is that I hold you responsible to understand due dates and meet deadlines.

Expectations are very clear in this Syllabus. It is each student's responsibility to read and understand the syllabus and its policies. If you are not clear on any portion of the course, you have been encouraged to contact me either via email.

CLASS PARTICIPATION AND IN-CLASS EXERCISES:

Class meetings will follow topic discussion OR either large group or small group discussions; Questions and discussions are most welcome! You are expected to read all assigned textbook chapters prior to attending class and master all concepts presented by guest speakers and lectures, demonstrations, videos, and the text.

The topic discussion do not necessarily follow the format of the text, as the lectures are designed to compliment the material you read, not duplicate it. The topic discussion are designed to expand on the material in the assigned readings. This also means that we will not talk about every topic in the book and that you are responsible for understanding the material and may be quizzed on it. New information outside the text will also be introduced, and it is your responsibility to take notes. If you miss class, you will need to get notes from someone in the class.

Please turn off you cell phone before class starts. Please do not answer your phone, text message, or play games in class.

EXAM and ASSIGNMENT POLICY:

All assignments must be turned in on time. There are no make-up exams, and no late assignments will get full credit (with rare exceptions). Fifteen minutes late is late. Late assignments: You will lose an additional 10% per day.

Rare exceptions: There may be circumstances that prevent a student from attending the class or submitting an assignment, but these are RARE. There are university guidelines in the student handbook on the University of Montana Website that describe these situations: Requirements: (1) prior notification of the instructor via my EMAIL and (2) written documentation. Without both, you will not be allowed to make up any assignments or take an exam after an exam date. Examples of Documented circumstances that may merit approval include illness or accident, death, and family emergencies.

HONOR CODE—PLEASE READ CAREFULLY:

The Honor Code, found in the University of Montana Student Handbook [www.umt.edu], will be strictly enforced in this class. Plagiarism and cheating will be reported to the Dean's Office. If you do not know what plagiarism is, just ask. **Plagiarism and cheating will result, at minimum, in the assignment of an "F" on the test or paper. You MAY NOT sit together to do online exams. I reserve the right to assign an "F" for the course in any case of cheating or plagiarism. Additionally, you are subject to University sanctions, suspension, or expulsion.**

COURSE WEEKLY SCHEDULE

WEEK 1-Aug 28-30	Introduction
WEEK 2-Sep 4-6 Sep 4 (Monday) Labor Day, Holiday	The Biology of Mind and Behavior
WEEK 3-Sep 11-13	Sensation and Perception
WEEK 4 Sep 18-20	Learning Exam 1
WEEK 5 Sep 25-27	Memory <i>Article Analysis 1 Due</i>
WEEK 6 Oct 2-4	Language, Thinking, and Intelligence
WEEK 7 Oct 9-11	Emotion and Motivation Exam 2
WEEK 8 Oct 16-18	Personality
WEEK 9 Oct 23-25	Psychology over the Life Span
WEEK 10 Oct 30-Nov 1	Stress, Health, and Coping Exam 3
WEEK 11 Nov 6-8	Psychological Disorders <i>Article Analysis 2 Due</i>
WEEK 12 Nov 13-15	Treatment
WEEK 13 Nov 20-22	Social Psychology
WEEK 14 Nov 27-29	Presentations Exam 4
WEEK 15 Dec 4-6	Presentations <i>Thought Question Due</i>