

Fall 2013

Principles of Psychology

Instructor: Heather Haught

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Office: UH 6509

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Office Hours: By appointment

Class hours: MW 9:30-10:45AM

Location: SM 2110

Course Website:

Course Description

This course addresses the basic principles of psychology, the scientific study of mental processes and behavior. Among the topics surveyed are research methodology, biological bases of behavior, sensation and perception, learning, consciousness, thought and memory, development, motivation and emotion, gender and sexuality, stress and health, interpersonal and intergroup relations, personality, and psychological disorders. Throughout the course is an emphasis on developing an understanding of psychology as the science of human thought and behavior and to critically evaluating “common sense” knowledge about how people function as well as current psychological perspectives.

Course Objectives

- To abandon misconceptions about the field of psychology and to appreciate its breadth and scientific rigor.
- To develop an understanding of the scientific methods used in psychological research.
- To become familiar with basic psychological terminology and current knowledge.
- To gain an understanding of psychology’s role in modern culture.
- To learn about psychology and critical thinking not only from the readings and from the instructor, but also through interactions with your colleagues.
- To come to share my enthusiasm for studying the human mind and behavior.

Method of Instruction

Research has shown that the more people interact with course material, the more they learn. Consistent with this idea, this course employs several different techniques to help you engage the course material. Please read assigned material before coming to class. While the course is primarily lecture-based, a significant portion

	Due Date	Chapters	% Final Grade
Exam 1	9/4	1-3	16
Exam 2	9/30	4-6	16
Exam 3	10/21	7-9	16
Exam 4	11/11	10-12	16
Exam 5	12/3	13-15	16
MyLab Plus		1-15	20
Research	12/3	-	-
Total:			100%

Final grades will be computed as a percentage of the possible points you earned:

A	92.5-100%	C+	77.5 - 79.99%	D-	60 - 62.49%
A-	90-92.5%	C	72.5 - 77.49%	F	< 60%
B+	87.5 - 89.99%	C-	70 - 72.49%	Where dragons roam!	
B	82.5 - 87.49%	D+	67.5 - 69.99%		
B-	80 - 82.49%	D	62.5 - 67.49%		

Questions about Grades

1. If you do not understand why you got the grade that you got, you should absolutely seek clarification. Under no conditions, will your grade be lowered. (Generally, it is a bad practice to create an appeal policy where people may be penalized for exercising a legitimate right to appeal).
2. If you do want clarification, however, you are required first to submit something in writing, explaining your question. If you

Reasonable accommodations will be made for anyone with a disability that may require some modification of seating, testing, or other class requirements. Students must contact the Office of Accommodations (Rocket Hall 1820) for an evaluation and a form specifying what course accommodations are judged reasonable for that student. Please contact the instructor after class or during office hours so that appropriate arrangements may be made.

The contact information for the Office of Accommodations is as follows:

Campus Address: Rocket Hall 1820, Mail Stop #342

Phone Number: 419.530.4981

Web: <http://www.utoledo.edu/utlc/accessibility/>

Academic Integrity

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Among the aims of education are the acquisition of knowledge and development of the skills necessary for success in any profession. Activities inconsistent with these aims will not be permitted. Students are responsible for knowing what constitutes academic dishonesty. If students are uncertain about what constitutes plagiarism or cheating they should seek the instructor's advice. Examples of academic dishonesty include, but are not limited to:

- Plagiarizing or representing the words, ideas or information of another person as one's own and not offering proper documentation;

Class Schedule
Subject to change at instructor's discretion

Week	Date	Topic	Chapter
1	8/19	Introduction to Psychology & Research Methods	1
	8/21	Biological Perspective	2
2	8/26	<i>Biological Perspective Continued</i>	2
	8/28	Sensation and Perception	3
3	9/2	LABOR DAY NO CLASS	
	9/4	Exam Chapters 1-3	
4	9/9	Consciousness	4
	9/11	Learning	5
5	9/16	<i>Learning Continued</i>	5
	9/18	Memory	6
6	9/23	<i>Memory Continued</i>	6
	9/25	Exam Chapters 4-6 (Take Home)	
7	9/30	Fall Break NO CLASS	
	10/2	Cognition	7
8	10/7	<i>Cognition Continued</i>	7
	10/9	Lifespan Development	8
9	10/14	<i>Development Continued</i>	8
	10/16	Motivation and Emotion	9
10	10/21	Exam Chapters 7-9	

