

PSY 105: Introductory Psychology
Fall 2009 Tuesdays 5:00-7:30pm in CH 105

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Please visit my webpage for more information on this class:

<http://people.uncw.edu/leccil/psy105/index.htm.htm>

Office Hrs: Mon & Tues 10:30am-12:15pm, Tues 3:30-4:45pm, or by appointment.

Why do you behave the way you do? Can you ever change? How do others influence your behavior? What leads us to fall in love? Can we “know” something without realizing we know it? This is a small sampling of the questions to be addressed in this course. The goal of this course is to provide you with a model for conducting scientific research as we study the human mind.

Readings: Readings from the text are intended as a supplement to the lectures. If you miss a class, you can check with me after you have caught up with the notes from someone in the class.

Text: Kalat, J. W. (2008). *Introduction to Psychology*. (8th Ed.) Belmont, CA: Thomson Wadsworth.

Grading: Final grades will be based upon 4 equally weighted exams, with each exam covering material from three classes. Exams 1-3 will be multiple choice & are tentatively scheduled for **09/15, 10/20, & 11/17 (exam and lecture)**. **Final exam: Tues Dec 8, 7pm. Final exam is NOT cumulative.** Grades will include +/- (e.g., B- 80-81, B 82-87; B+ 88-89). Attendance is an important part of this course, and students who are present will be awarded extra credit when I ask questions via a clicker system that records your answers. Exam questions will draw heavily from the lectures, though you are responsible for the readings as well. **Unless you have a death in the family or a serious illness (both require documentation), there is no excuse for missing an exam. You will receive an F for any unexcused absences from an exam. Make-up exams are essay format & will be scheduled on the same day as the final exam.** Any student missing more than one exam will have to provide further documentation. It is expected that all students will follow UNCW policies for academic honesty and report those who violate these policies. The following course outline details the specific topics to be discussed and the order in which they will be considered. Each topic DOES NOT represent a single lecture.

- All students must also complete **4 experimental credits** (research participation) or they can do 4 papers, or any combination of the two adding up to **a total of 4** (please see the last page for details).
- UNCW practices a zero-tolerance policy for violence and harassment of any kind. For emergencies, contact UNCW CARE at 962-2273, Campus Police at 962-3184 or Wilmington Police at 911. For University or community resources visit <http://uncw.edu/wrc/crisis.htm>.

Course Outline with reading assignments for Kalat, Introductory Psychology (8th edition)

SECTION I: The science of psychology and gender role research.

- 1 Overview of course, grading, Q & A.
- 2 Do churches cause crime? How we answer questions in studying the science of psychology.
Reading: Kalat: Ch. 2. Also please see Appendix to chapter 2.
- 3 Sugar & spice and media pressure: A social psychological perspective on gender.
Film: Killing us softly - Advertising's image of women.
Reading: Kalat, pp. 491-492.
- 4 Grog vs. Grogette: An evolutionary (sociobiological) perspective on gender roles.
Reading: Kalat Ch, pp. 513-514.
- 5 Does everyone really want a penis? A psychodynamic perspective on gender.
Reading: Kalat, pp. 531-536.
- 6 Same data, different theories.
Reading: Kalat, pp. 3-6.

7 What is a psychologist? Ph.D., MD, Psy.D., Ed.D. what's the difference?
Reading: Kalat, pp. 8-16.

SECTION II: Social Psychology: Do others influence you?

8 Would you have made a good Nazi? Conformity and obedience.
Reading: Kalat Ch. 13.5, pp. 518-522.

9 More trouble with groups: Social loafing, the bystander effect, group polarization
and prejudice.
Reading: Kalat, pp. 479-497, 523-525.

10 I'll work for nothing, and love it! Cognitive dissonance and other social processes.
Reading: Kalat, 499-501. See link on the social psychology of Wall Street:
<http://people.uncw.edu/leccil/morepubs/Using%20Social%20Psychology%20on%20Wall%20Street.doc>

11 Using psychology to get a date!
Reading: Kalat, pp. 509-517.

SECTION III: Human growth and the senses.

12 Drinking our own urine and other little known facts about the developing human.
Reading: Kalat, pp. 69-70, 158-162.

13 What if we didn't have parents? The consequences of early attachment and other
developmental theories.
Reading: Kalat, pp. 182-189

14 Learning to think: Cognitive development.
Reading: Kalat pp. 163-180.

15 Did you notice that? How the senses work (thresholds, JNDs & sensory accommodation).
Reading: Kalat, pp. 101-113.

16 How can I see if I have a blind spot? Understanding what we see.
Reading: Kalat: pp. 127-146.
• See Online Try It Yourself Exercises here:
<http://allpsych.com/opticalillusions/>

17 The ears and the nose.
Reading: Kalat, pp. 114-125.

SECTION IV: How we tick and how we learn.

18 The "synaptic gap" is where the trendy neurons shop. Biological mechanisms.
Reading: Kalat, 67-89.

19 Teaching a dog (and you) how to do tricks: Conditioning.
Reading: Kalat, pp. 207-230.

SECTION V: Personality: Who am I?

20 The truth is in the stars and on your hands. Astrology, phrenology & palm reading.
Reading: Kalat, pp. 554-561.

21 Are you an introvert? Are you neurotic? What does it mean?
Reading: Kalat, pp. 531-544, 545-553

SECTION VI: Understanding intelligence and the ethics in testing.

- 22 Mistakes we all make: Heuristics & biases.
Reading: Kalat, pp. 287, 300-314.
- 23 Are you intelligent? A mock test to define intelligence & creativity.
Reading: Kalat, pp. 335-356.
- 24 Is a horse smarter than you? The story of Clever Hans.
Reading: Kalat, pp. 35-36.

SECTION VII: Abnormal psychology: It had to be you!

- 25 Is there really such a thing as “mental illness?” The DSM and a Szaszian view.
Reading: Kalat, pp. 569-575.
- 26 A day in the life of a patient with depression. Symptoms, treatments, & prognosis.
Reading: Kalat, pp. 621-627.
- 27 Understanding suicide. Gender differences, myths, and problems with research.
- 28 Anxiety disorders (phobias, OCD, PTSD)
Reading: Kalat, pp. 630-631.
- 29 A day in the life a person with schizophrenia. Symptoms, treatments, & prognosis.
Reading: Kalat, pp. 632-639.
- 30 Can men get pregnant? Can you be more than one person? Dissociative and somatoform disorders.
- 31 Law and psychology: Legal insanity, expert testimony, and the McNaughton Rule.
Reading: Kalat, pp. 592-593

SECTION VIII: Memory and consciousness.

- 32 Every Good Boy Deserves Fudge and All Cows Eat Grass. Understanding memory.
Reading: Kalat, pp. 245-257, 267-275, 277-280.
- 33 Sleeping, drugs, and hypnotism! A study of states of consciousness.
Reading: Kalat, pp. 371-385, 386-393, 612-619.
- 34 Review for final (catch-up).

Final exam is not cumulative.

As part of your educational experience, ALL General Psychology (PSY105) students are required to participate in outside activities designed to provide you with greater insight into psychological research methods. **A total of 4 credit hours are required.**

For these activities you may choose from two alternatives:

- I) You may participate as a subject in psychological experiments conducted by faculty and senior students. You can view a list of all available psychology experiments on-line at <http://uncw.sona-systems.com/>. If you are eligible to participate in experiments, you will receive an e-mail to your UNCW account containing your login information which will allow you to sign-in to the system.
- If you did not receive this e-mail, ask your instructor whether you are eligible to participate and, if so, to provide you with a username and password.
 - If this login information does not work, please contact the Psychology Research Administrator (psychresearchadministrator@uncw.edu).

The following are rules and procedures for experimental participation:

- You must change your password the first time you login to the research system. Keeping the default password (assigned to you by the system) makes your account more vulnerable to tampering by others. You are responsible for all activity that occurs with your account and choosing a unique, confidential password is an important safeguard.**
 - You will receive ½ credit for every 30 minutes of participation. For example, studies lasting 30 minutes or less will be worth ½ credit, studies lasting between 31 and 60 minutes will be worth 1 credit, between 61 and 90 minutes will be worth 1.5 credits, etc.
 - After you have completed participation in a study, credit will be awarded to you on-line by the experimenter. You can login to your account at any time to view your total credits. And, if you are enrolled in more than one class where credit is required, you may allocate your credits to your various classes however you wish using your personal account.
 - You should understand that if you find an experiment to be objectionable, you may withdraw from that study at any time during a session without penalty.
 - You may cancel on-line up to 24 hours prior to your scheduled appointment. After that, the system will not allow you to cancel and it is your responsibility to contact your experimenter directly.
 - If you fail to attend at the scheduled time and you fail to cancel 24 hours before the experiment, you will be penalized one credit (i.e., 1 point will be subtracted from your extra-credit total).
 - If you fail to appear twice without notice, you will be penalized a second credit and the system will no longer allow you to sign-in meaning that you have lost your privilege to participate in any more psychology experiments. If this happens, you should discuss with your instructor other ways to fulfill your requirement.
 - You must show up for your appointment on time. Late arrivals count as an absence.
 - If you arrive at the appointed place and time and the experimenter is not present after 15 minutes, e-mail the Research Administrator with your experiment information. After approval, you will receive credit for the experiment.
- II) As an alternative to experimental participation, you may read one of the articles selected by your Psychology 105 instructor. In 1-2 pages you must summarize the content of the article, and answer some questions concerning the research method (see the handout on PSY105 article summaries for further instruction). You will receive one credit for each article summary. The article summaries should be returned to that instructor upon completion.

You may earn four credits from any combination of the above two alternatives (e.g., 1 article, 3 experimental credits). If you otherwise complete all the requirements necessary to earn a passing grade but fail to earn four credits during the semester, you will automatically receive an “I” (incomplete) for your grade for PSY 105. Failure to make up the “I” within one year will result in the grade being converted to an “F”.

It is your responsibility as a student to read, understand, and follow the rules for out-of-class participation. Please discuss any questions or concerns regarding these rules with your instructor or the research administrator (psychresearchadministrator@uncw.edu).