Introduction to Psychology

Important Note: This syllabus, along with course assignments and due dates, are subject to change. It is the student's responsibility to check Canvas for corrections or updates to the syllabus. Any changes will be clearly noted in a course announcement or through email.

Course Information

Instructor Information

Instructor: Erica Weisgram, Ph.D. (Dr. Weisgram or Professor Weisgram)
Office: UWSP Main Campus, D235 Science
Virtual Office Hours: via email Monday-Friday from 9-10am
Office Telephone: 715-346-3952 (email preferred)
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Course Information

Course Description: Introduction to scientific study of behavior and mental processes, and methods used in psychological research.
Credits: 3 credits
Prerequisite: none
GEP: Social Sciences

Expected Instructor Response Times

- o I will attempt to respond to student emails within 24 hours. If you have not received a reply from me within 24 hours please resend your email.
    - If you have a general course question (not confidential or personal in nature), please post it to the Course Q&A Discussion Forum found on the course homepage. I will post answers to all general questions there so that all students can view them. Students are encouraged to answer each other's questions too.
- o I will attempt to reply to and assess student discussion posts within 48 hours of discussions closing.
- o I will attempt to grade written work within 72 hours, however longer written assignments may take me longer to read and assess.

Textbook & Course Materials

Required Text: Exploring Psychology (11th Edition) by David Myers and Nathan DeWall. ISBN-10: 1-319-10419-3. Available through UWSP Text Rental (https://www.uwsp.edu/centers/store/Pages/student_faq.aspx) or from the publisher to rent as an eBook: (https://store.macmillanlearning.com/us/product/Exploring-Psychology/p/1319104193?searchText=exploring%26%23x20%20%3bpsychology%26%23x20%20%3bmyers%26%23x20%20%3b11e).

Course Learning Outcomes

Listed below are the learning outcomes for the course. Within each chapter, there are specific student learning outcomes (SLOs) that map onto these course learning outcomes (CLOs). (See Student Resources in Canvas for a complete list of student learning outcomes by chapter.)

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify and describe historical, biological, cognitive, and social perspectives within psychology.

2. Identity and describe various psychological disorders and therapies used in their treatment.

3. Apply major concepts in psychology to examples in the media, popular culture, and in their own lives.

4. Identify and describe various research methodologies used in the study of psychology as a science.

5. Summarize and evaluate current research in Psychology.

You will meet the outcomes listed above through a combination of the following activities in this course:

- Participate in 5 discussions (5 pts each x 5 discussions = 25 points total)
- Complete 5 activities (10 pts each x 5 activities = 50 points total)
- Complete 10 of 12 chapter quizzes (15 pts each x 10 quizzes = 150 pts total)
- Complete 3 exams (50 points each x 3 exams = 150 pts)

Grading Policies

Student Learning Activities

- **Discussions**: Students will participate in 5 discussions across the course. To receive full credit for each discussion, you must first post a thorough answer to the given prompt—the content must be thoughtful and detailed. In addition, you must post two replies for each discussion. These must be more detailed/reflective than "I agree…" and should further the discussion. These posts and replies will be submitted to Canvas by 11:59pm on the date indicated on the syllabus. Late discussion posts will be penalized 1 point/day. These cannot be made up at the end of the term.

- **Activities**: Throughout the term, students will complete activities to practice concepts related to the topic at hand. This may include analysis of popular press articles, worksheets practicing concepts, etc. Instructions for each activity are available on Canvas. These activities will be submitted to Canvas by 11:59pm on the date indicated on the syllabus. Late papers will receive a 2pt per day penalty. These cannot be made up at the end of the term.

- **Chapter Quizzes**: Chapter quizzes will occur throughout the term. These chapter quizzes will consist of 15 multiple choice questions. Each student will have **two attempts** to complete each quiz and the highest score will be recorded. Questions are randomly generated for each attempt (and each student) and thus you may not have the same questions in both attempts. There are twelve quizzes available throughout the course; the ten highest scoring quizzes will be recorded. Given the already generous opportunities of having multiple attempts and two "freebies," students will not have the opportunity to make up quizzes after the deadline has passed. I recommend students take as many quizzes as possible and save one's "freebies" for any emergencies that may arise (i.e., computer crashes, family emergencies, illness, etc).

- **Exams**: There will be three exams given throughout the term with the last exam taking place on the last day of class. All exams will cover material presented in videos, content on Canvas, and the textbook. The three exams will be both multiple choice (40 pts.) and short answer (2 x 5pts each = 10 pts.) in nature (50 pts. total). If a student is unable to take the exam on the scheduled date for a University-Approved Reason (with documentation; such as illness, family emergency, etc.), arrangements may be made beforehand to take a make-up the exam at another time. All No Shows (students who do not notify the instructor of an absence before the exam and do not complete the exam by the deadline) who do not have documentation of illness or accident will receive a 0 on the exam and will not be allowed to take the test at an alternate time. Exams will not be comprehensive.

Click the **Assignments** link in Canvas to access assignment listing, categories and point values of each assignment. Click the **Syllabus** link to see a chronological listing of assignments. Click the **Grades** link to see current grades. Overall assignments and accompanying points are listed below:

Assignments	Date Due	Points
Discussion #1: Research Methods	5/29	5
Discussion #2: Twin Studies	6/2	5
Discussion #3: Gender and Toys	6/5	5
Discussion #4: Perceptual Illusions	6/12	5
Discussion #5: Intelligence	6/19	5
Activity #1: Mozart Effect	5/30	10
Activity #2: Baby Media Article Summary	6/4	10
Activity #3: Memory	6/17	10
Activity #4: Implicit Attitudes	6/26	10
Activity #5: Personality	6/30	10
Chapter 1 Quiz: Intro and Methods	6/6	15
Chapter 2 Quiz: Bio-Psychology	6/6	15
Chapter 4 Quiz: Developmental	6/6	15
Chapter 5 Quiz: Gender and Sexuality	6/6	15
Chapter 6 Quiz: Sensation and Perception	6/20	15
Chapter 7 Quiz: Learning	6/20	15
Chapter 8 Quiz: Memory	6/20	15
Chapter 9 Quiz: Cognition & Intelligence	6/20	15
Chapter 12 Quiz: Social Psychology	7/4	15
Chapter 13 Quiz: Personality	7/4	15
Chapter 14 Quiz: Psychological Disorders	7/4	15
Chapter 15 Quiz: Therapy	7/4	15
*Note: The two lowest quiz scores will be dropped (including zeros)		
Exam 1	6/7	50
Exam 2	6/21	50
Exam 3	7/5	50
Total Points Possible		375

Complete Assignments

All assignments for this course will be submitted electronically through Canvas. Please see the Student Resources page in Canvas for technology help and tutorials on how to submit assignments if you do not know how to do so already.

All discussion assignments must be completed by the assignment due date and time. Late or missing discussion assignments will affect the student's grade.

Late Work Policy

Example: Be sure to pay close attention to deadlines—there will be no make-up assignments, quizzes, exams or late work accepted without penalty and instructor approval. Late work penalties are described above for each type of assignment (Note: there are no opportunities to take quizzes beyond the deadline as the lowest two quizzes are already dropped, i.e., "freebies").

Viewing Grades in Canvas

Points you receive for graded activities will be posted to Grades in Canvas. Click on the Grades link to view your points. Grades will be posted 48-72 hours after the assignment is due.

Letter Grade Assignment

Final grades assigned for this course will be based on the percentage of total points earned (standard rounding practices apply) and are assigned as follows:

Letter Grade	Percentage
A	93-100%
A-	90-92%
B+	87-89%
B	83-86%
B-	80-82%
C+	77-79%
C	73-76%
C-	70-72%
D+	67-69%
D	60-66%
F	0-59%

*Note: There will be no extra credit offered in this class, nor will the instructor increase or "bump up" a students' grade at their request (via email or otherwise). Points/grades must be earned through the assignments listed above.

Topic Outline/Schedule

Important Note: Refer to the Canvas course home page for pertinent information. Activity and assignment details will be explained in detail within each chapter's corresponding page. If you have any questions, please contact your instructor.

- **Unit 1: May 28-June 7**
  - o   Chapter 1: Introduction and Research Methods (May 28-30)
  - o   Chapter 2: Bio-Psychology (May 31-June 2)
  - o   Chapter 4: Developmental (June 3-4)
  - o   Chapter 5: Gender and Sexuality (June 5-6)
- **Unit 2: June 8-June 21**
  - o   Chapter 6: Sensation and Perception (June 8-June 10)
  - o   Chapter 7: Learning (June 11-13)
  - o   Chapter 8: Memory (June 14-17)
  - o   Chapter 9: Cognition and Intelligence (June 18-20)
- **Unit 3: June 22-July 5**
  - o   Chapter 12: Social Psychology (June 22-25)
  - o   Chapter 13: Personality (June 26-28)
  - o   Chapter 14: Psychological Disorders (June 29-July 1)
  - o   Chapter 15: Therapy (July 2-4)

Student Expectations

In this course you will be expected to complete the following types of tasks.
- communicate via email
- complete basic internet searches
- utilize various websites
- download and upload documents to the LMS
- read documents online
- view online videos
- participate in online discussions
- complete quizzes/exam online
- upload documents to Canvas to submit an assignment
- participate in a/synchronous online discussions

Course Structure

This course will be delivered entirely online through the course management system Canvas. You will use your UWSP account to login to the course from the Canvas Login Page. If you have not activated your UWSP account, please visit the Manage Your Account page to do so.

Technology

Protecting your Data and Privacy

UW-System approved tools meet security, privacy, and data protection standards. For a list of approved tools, visit this website. https://www.wisconsin.edu/dle/external-application-integration-requests/

Tools not listed on the website linked above may not meet security, privacy, and data protection standards. If you have questions about tools, contact the UWSP IT Service Desk at 715-346-4357.

Here are steps you can take to protect your data and privacy.
- Use different usernames and passwords for each service you use
- Do not use your UWSP username and password for any other services
- Use secure versions of websites whenever possible (HTTPS instead of HTTP)
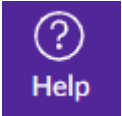- Have updated antivirus software installed on your devices

Course Technology Requirements

- View this website to see minimum recommended computer and internet configurations for Canvas.
- You will also need access to the following tools to participate in this course.
  - A stable internet connection (Don't rely on cellular, not having a stable internet connection is not a reasonable excuse for late work or inability to take quizzes or exams. If your home environment does not have stable wi-fi, please visit a location that does like your local public library.)

UWSP Technology Support

- Visit with a [Student Technology Tutor](#)
- Seek assistance from the [IT Service Desk](#) (Formerly HELP Desk)
  - IT Service Desk Phone: 715-346-4357 (HELP)
  - IT Service Desk Email: techhelp@uwsp.edu

Canvas Support

Click on the ⊘ **Help** button in the global (left) navigation menu and note the options that appear:

Support Options	Explanations
Ask Your Instructor a Question Submit a question to your instructor	Use **Ask Your Instructor a Question** sparingly; technical questions are best reserved for Canvas personnel and help as detailed below.
Chat with Canvas Support (Student) Live Chat with Canvas Support 24x7!	**Chat**ting **with Canvas Support (Student)** will initiate a *text chat* with Canvas support. Response can be qualified with severity level.
Contact Canvas Support via email Canvas support will email a response	**Contact**ing **Canvas Support via email** will allow you to explain in detail or even upload a screenshot to show your particular difficulty.
Contact Canvas Support via phone Find the phone number for your institution	Calling the Canvas number will let Canvas know that you're from UWSP; phone option is available 24/7.
Search the Canvas Guides Find answers to common questions	**Search**ing the **Canvas guides** connects you to documents that are searchable by issue. You may also opt for **Canvas video guides.**
Submit a Feature Idea Have an idea to improve Canvas?	If you have an idea for Canvas that might make instructions or navigation easier, feel free to offer your thoughts through this **Submit a Feature Idea** avenue.

All options are available 24/7; however, if you opt to email your instructor, s/he may not be available immediately. Self-train on Canvas through the [Self-enrolling/paced Canvas training course](#)

Course Policies

Netiquette Guidelines

Netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly online. Your instructor and fellow students wish to foster a safe online learning environment. All opinions and experiences, no matter how different or controversial they may be perceived, must be respected in the tolerant spirit of academic discourse. You are encouraged to comment, question, or critique an idea but you are not to attack an individual. Working as a community of learners, we can build a polite and respectful course community.

The following netiquette tips will enhance the learning experience for everyone in the course:
- Do not dominate any discussion.
- Give other students the opportunity to join in the discussion.
- Do not use offensive language. Present ideas appropriately.
- Be cautious in using Internet language. For example, do not capitalize all letters since this suggests shouting.
- Popular emoticons such as ☺ can be helpful to convey your tone but do not overdo or overuse them. Be professional.
- Avoid using vernacular and/or slang language. This could possibly lead to misinterpretation.
- Never make fun of someone's ability to read or write.
- Share tips with other students.
- Keep an "open-mind" and be willing to express even your minority opinion. Minority opinions have to be respected.
- Think and edit before you push the "Send" button.
- Do not hesitate to ask for feedback.
- Using humor is acceptable when done in a professional manner. Sexist, racist, ableist, or other types of humor that disparage another social identity will not be tolerated.
- Please respect students' rights to confidentiality. Do not screenshot discussion posts or other students' works and post on the internet or social media.

Adapted from:

Mintu-Wimsatt, A., Kernek, C., & Lozada, H. R. (2010). *Netiquette: Make it part of your syllabus*. Journal of Online Learning and Teaching, 6(1). Retrieved from http://jolt.merlot.org/vol6no1/mintu-wimsatt_0310.htm

Shea, V. (1994). Netiquette. Albion.com. Retrieved from: http://www.albion.com/netiquette/book/.

Build Rapport

If you find that you have any trouble keeping up with assignments or other aspects of the course, make sure you let your instructor know as early as possible. As you will find, building rapport and effective relationships are key to becoming an effective professional. Make sure that you are proactive in informing your instructor when difficulties arise during the term so that we can help you find a solution.

Understand When You May Drop This Course

It is the student's responsibility to understand when they need to consider unenrolling from a course. Refer to the UWSP Academic Calendar for dates and deadlines for registration. After this period, a serious and compelling reason is required to drop from the course. Serious and compelling reasons includes: (1) documented and significant change in work hours, leaving student unable to attend class, or (2) documented and severe physical/mental illness/injury to the student or student's family.

Incomplete Policy

Under emergency/special circumstances, students may petition for an incomplete grade. An incomplete will only be assigned if a student has a small portion of work left incomplete (e.g., final exam). All incomplete course assignments must be completed by the end of the following semester.

Inform Your Instructor of Any Accommodations Needed

If you have a documented disability and verification from the Disability and Assistive Technology Center and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please contact your instructor as soon as possible. It is the student's responsibility to provide documentation of disability to Disability Services and meet with a Disability Services counselor to request special accommodation *before* classes start.

The Disability and Assistive Technology Center is located in 609 Albertson Hall and can be contacted by phone at (715) 346-3365 (Voice) (715) 346-3362 (TDD only) or via email at datctr@uwsp.edumailto:datctr@uwsp.edu

Statement of Policy
UW-Stevens Point will modify academic program requirements as necessary to ensure that they do not discriminate against qualified applicants or students with disabilities. The modifications should not affect the substance of educational programs or compromise academic standards; nor should they intrude upon academic freedom. Examinations or other procedures used for evaluating students' academic achievements may be adapted. The results of such evaluation must demonstrate the student's achievement in the academic activity, rather than describe his/her disability.

If modifications are required due to a disability, please inform the instructor and contact the Disability and Assistive Technology Center in 609 ALB, or (715) 346-3365.

Commit to Integrity

As a student in this course (and at this university) you are expected to maintain high degrees of professionalism, commitment to active learning and participation in this class and also integrity in your behavior in and out of the classroom.

UWSP Academic Honesty Policy & Procedures

Student Academic Disciplinary Procedures

UWSP 14.01 Statement of principles

The board of regents, administrators, faculty, academic staff and students of the university of Wisconsin system believe that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental to the mission of higher education and of the university of Wisconsin system. The university has a responsibility to promote academic honesty and integrity and to develop procedures to deal effectively with instances of academic dishonesty. Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for respect of others' academic endeavors. Students who violate these standards must be confronted and must accept the consequences of their actions.

UWSP 14.03 Academic misconduct subject to disciplinary action.

(1) Academic misconduct is an act in which a student:
   (a) Seeks to claim credit for the work or efforts of another without authorization or citation;
   (b) Uses unauthorized materials or fabricated data in any academic exercise;
   (c) Forges or falsifies academic documents or records;
   (d) Intentionally impedes or damages the academic work of others;
   (e) Engages in conduct aimed at making false representation of a student's academic performance; or
   (f) Assists other students in any of these acts.

(2) Examples of academic misconduct include, but are not limited to: cheating on an examination; collaborating with others in work to be presented, contrary to the stated rules of the course; submitting a paper or assignment as one's own work when a part or all of the paper or assignment is the work of another; submitting a paper or assignment that contains ideas or research of others without appropriately identifying the sources of those ideas; stealing examinations or course materials (including posting quiz/exam questions on the internet); submitting, if contrary to the rules of a course, work previously presented in another course; tampering with the laboratory experiment or computer program of another student; knowingly and intentionally assisting another student in any of the above, including

assistance in an arrangement whereby any work, classroom performance, examination or other activity is submitted or performed by a person other than the student under whose name the work is submitted or performed.

Religious Beliefs

Relief from any academic requirement due to religious beliefs will be accommodated according to UWS 22.03, with notification within the first three weeks of class.