

**PSYC 110: INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY**  
Spring Semester 2019

**PROFESSOR**

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or by appointment

**COURSE**

Section: 2  
Meetings: MTR 2-2:50pm  
Location: SCI D101  
Prerequisite: None  
GEP: SS  
Credits: 3

**TEXTBOOK AND WEBSITE**

Schacter, D. L., Gilbert, D. T., Nock, M. K., & Wegner, D. M. (2017). *Psychology* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). New York: Worth.

The Canvas website (<https://www.uwsp.edu/canvas/Pages/default.aspx>) will be used in this course to distribute documents, administer quizzes, and post grades. You need your UWSP login and password to access the site. To learn about how to use Canvas, as well as how to request technical assistance, please review the options at the website listed above.

**DESCRIPTION**

This course provides an introduction to the essential concepts and principles of *psychology*—the systematic study of thoughts, feelings, and behavior. The course begins with an overview of the profession and science of psychology. It then considers a range of key topics in psychology, such as neuroscience, memory, motivation, development, personality, and social behavior. The course concludes with a look at psychology as applied to health and wellness.

**OBJECTIVES**

Upon completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Explain or apply major concepts, methods, or theories used in psychological science to investigate, analyze, or predict human behavior.
2. Examine and explain how social, cultural, or political institutions influence individuals or groups.

**CALENDAR**

Unit	Topic	Dates	Quiz	Reading
1	Evolution of a Science	R 1/24, M 1/28, & T 1/29	M 1/28	Chapter 1
2	Methods in Psychology	R 1/31, M 2/4, & T 2/5	M 2/4	Chapter 2
3	Neuroscience and Behavior	R 2/7, M 2/11, & T 2/12	M 2/11	Chapter 3
<b>Exam 1, Units 1-3, M 2/18</b>				
4	Memory	T 2/19, R 2/21, & M 2/25	M 2/25	Chapter 6
5	Learning	T 2/26, R 2/28, & M 3/4	M 3/4	Chapter 7
6	Emotion and Motivation	T 3/5, R 3/7, & M 3/11	M 3/11	Chapter 8
<b>Exam 2, Units 4-6, M 4/1</b>				
7	Development	R 3/14, M 3/25, & T 3/26	M 3/25	Chapter 11
8	Personality	R 3/28, T 4/2, & R 4/4	None	Chapter 12
9	Social Psychology	M 4/8, T 4/9, & R 4/11	M 4/8	Chapter 13
<b>Exam 3, Units 7-9, M 4/22</b>				
10	Stress and Health	T 4/16, R 4/18, & T 4/23	None	Chapter 14
11	Psychological Disorders	R 4/25, M 4/29, & T 4/30	M 4/29	Chapter 15
12	Treatment of Disorders	R 5/2, M 5/6, & T 5/7	M 5/6	Chapter 16
<b>Exam 4, Units 10-12, T 5/14, 12:30-2:30pm</b>				

*The five bonus days in the calendar (T 1/22, R 2/14, T 3/12, M 4/15, & R 5/9) will be used for getting started, catching up, and/or additional activities. This calendar is subject to revision. Changes will be announced in class, by email, and/or on Canvas.*

## ASSESSMENT

**Exams.** Four exams will be administered in this course. Each will cover three weeks of material. They will consist of 45 multiple-choice questions (45 questions x 2.5 points per question = 100 points). Since only 40 of the questions will be scored, you are allowed to *choose* which 40 you would like to answer. This provides you with flexibility in how you demonstrate your knowledge and proficiency in using course concepts and principles. The lowest of your first three exams will be dropped; the fourth will not be dropped. Since only two of your first three exams will count toward your final grade, there is no requirement that you complete all three of them unless you choose to do so. Nonetheless, given the reality of missed opportunities, I strongly encourage you to complete all of the exams.

The exams will provide you with feedback on your progress in learning the course concepts and principles, as well as on applying them to real world examples. When preparing for the exams, I suggest that you practice coming up with your own examples of the concepts. As an academic language, psychology is a knowledge-based skill that you need to use in real life to get the hang of it. Think about young children who use the word “cat” to identify any small mammal (whether dogs, bunnies, or squirrels). It is only through bona fide practice that they get the hang of using words that they are learning through trial-and-error. Coming up with your own examples of key concepts is not only more memorable, it helps you to better prepare for exams. Please check out the Canvas Study Helpers module for other exam preparation materials.

**Quizzes.** You must complete eight-of-ten available quizzes on the readings in your textbook (only your best eight will count toward your final grade). Each quiz will consist of 10 multiple-choice questions (10 questions x 1.25 points per question = 12.5 points) based on one chapter of material. The quizzes will be administered through Canvas and drawn randomly from a pool of questions. You should complete the quiz after reading the chapter and studying the material. You will have 15 minutes to complete a quiz. You are allowed to take the quiz twice if you prefer (each attempt will contain different questions, even for the same student). This offers you an opportunity to earn a better grade on the second attempt (you will receive the highest of the two attempts) and another chance to complete the quiz if a technology failure occurs. Each quiz will be available on Canvas one week before its due date (Mondays at 9pm, except for exam weeks). Since you have two chances to complete a quiz over a week’s time, makeup requests are not granted unless they fall under the makeup policy. I strongly encourage you to complete all ten reading quizzes. Students who opt out of early quizzes are likely to be disappointed when they earn lackluster scores on later ones. Any skipped quizzes are missed opportunities to learn the material and improve your grade! Please note that two additional quizzes are also offered for students who want extra exam preparation. These quizzes are optional and ungraded.

These quizzes help you in many ways: they help you keep up with readings, prepare for class, practice thinking about the material, offer immediate feedback on your progress, identify topics that you need to review, and reduce the percentage of your grade that is based on exams.

**Research.** The research requirement provides you with an in-depth experience with research being conducted in the Psychology Department. This requirement involves participating in two hours (that is, two credits) of psychological research or completing some library research. This requirement does not earn points toward your grade—it is simply a requirement that must be fulfilled in order to receive your final grade. For more information about this requirement, see the PSYC 110 Research Requirement Canvas site (a different site than the one for our course).

**PERFORMANCE**

You can use this page to keep track of your progress in the course:

<i>Quiz</i>	<i>Points Earned / Possible</i>	<i>Exam</i>	<i>Points Earned / Possible</i>
1	_____ / 12.5 Points	1	_____ / 100 Points
2	_____ / 12.5 Points	2	_____ / 100 Points
3	_____ / 12.5 Points	3	_____ / 100 Points
4	_____ / 12.5 Points	4	_____ / 100 Points
5	_____ / 12.5 Points	<i>Total Points for Exams</i>	_____ / 300 Points
6	_____ / 12.5 Points		(Add only your best 2 of 3 Exam #1-3 scores, as well as Exam #4)
7	_____ / 12.5 Points		
8	_____ / 12.5 Points		
9	_____ / 12.5 Points	<i>How are the quiz scores calculated?</i> 10 questions x 1.25 points each = 12.5 points x 8 quizzes = 100 points	
10	_____ / 12.5 Points	<i>How are the exam scores calculated?</i> 40 questions x 2.5 points each = 100 points x 3 exams = 300 points	
<i>Total Points for Quizzes</i>	_____ / 100 Points (Add only your best 8 of 10 quiz scores)	<i>Total Points for Course:</i> _____ / 400 Points	

You can use the following grading scale to determine your final course grade:

- A = 372-400 points    B = 332-347 points    C = 292-307 points    D = 240-267 points  
 A- = 360-371 points    B- = 320-331 points    C- = 280-291 points    F = 0-239 points  
 B+ = 348-359 points    C+ = 308-319 points    D+ = 268-279 points

**REMEMBER TO COMPLETE THE RESEARCH REQUIREMENT  
 IN ORDER TO RECEIVE A GRADE FOR THIS COURSE!**

## POLICIES

**Assessment.** To maintain the integrity of classroom exams, the use of mobile devices will not be permitted during exams without prior documented approval from Disability Services or other pertinent offices on campus. This includes requests to use mobile devices for foreign language translation assistance. Students who are found using devices will be dismissed and receive zeroes on their exams. Other penalties will be considered under the misconduct policy.

**Attendance.** The professor will not take formal attendance. Nonetheless, consistent attendance is important for performing well in the course. Classes will clarify the readings and include other material that is covered on the exams. If you cannot attend class, be sure to get the slides from Canvas and copy the notes from another student.

**Communication.** Please contact the professor with your questions or concerns related to this course, as well as other academic and career-related issues. Office hours are the most reliable means of contact. The professor holds around three office hours per week. If you cannot attend office hours, please schedule an appointment. Email is the next most reliable means of contact. The professor generally respond to emails in two business days (not on evenings or weekends). To avoid being snagged by filters, type PSYC 110 in the subject line. Emails requiring a lot of discussion will be referred to office hours. Other means of contacting the professor (such as calling or stopping by outside of office hours) are unreliable.

**Disabilities.** UWSP is committed to reasonable and appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities and temporary impairments. If you have a disability or acquire a condition during the semester where you need assistance, contact Disability and Assistive Technology on the 6th floor of Albertson Hall (the library) as soon as possible. DATC can be reached at 715-346-3365 or [DATC@uwsp.edu](mailto:DATC@uwsp.edu).

**Emergencies.** In the event of a *medical emergency*, call 911 or use the Red Emergency Phone outside of our classroom. Offer assistance if trained and willing to do so. Guide emergency responders to those in need. In the event of a *tornado warning*, proceed to the lowest level interior room without windows. See <http://www.uwsp.edu/rmgt/Pages/em/procedures/other/floor-plans.aspx> for floor plans showing the severe weather shelters (such as nearby classrooms). Avoid wide-span structures (such as gyms, pools, or large classrooms). In the event of a *fire alarm*, evacuate the building in a calm manner and meet on the north side of SCI (outside the MCCH). Notify instructor or emergency command personnel of any missing individuals. In the event of an *Active Shooter/Code React*, run/escape, hide, fight. If trapped, hide, lock doors, turn off lights, spread out, and remain quiet. Call 911 when it is safe to do so. Follow instructions of emergency responders. See UWSP's Emergency Management site at <http://www.uwsp.edu/rmgt> for details on emergency response procedures.

**Illegalities.** Under several federal and state laws, as well as university guidelines, the professor is required to report acts of a criminal or offensive nature that occur in and outside of class. This includes acts of sexual harassment and assault, bias and hate crimes, illicit drug use, and acts of violence. Any disclosure or description of these incidents, past or current, may be reported to the Dean of Students (<http://www.uwsp.edu/dos/>) or local authorities.

**Incompletes.** Incompletes will only be considered for students in exceptional situations, such as serious medical or emergency situations. They are not for students who feel overwhelmed by routine academic or extracurricular activities. Requests for incompletes must be accompanied by documentation. In most cases, all coursework must be finished within one semester to avoid receiving an F in the course.

**Makeups.** Makeups assessments will only be considered for students who cannot complete them on time due to academic, athletic, or religious obligations, major illnesses, or comparable reasons. Requests for makeups must be accompanied by documentation, such as letters from coaches, doctors, or spiritual leaders. In most cases, makeups must be completed within a week of the original deadline to avoid receiving a zero for the assessment.

**Misconduct.** The professor takes instances of misconduct (such as cheating and plagiarism) seriously. The minimum penalty for an instance of misconduct will be a zero on the assessment. Other penalties will be considered under university policy. Please do not put yourself and others through disciplinary proceedings. To read UWSP's policies, go to: <https://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Pages/Student-Conduct.aspx>.

**Professionalism.** UWSP values a safe, honest, respectful, and inviting learning environment. In order to ensure that each student has the opportunity to succeed, a set of expectations (called the Community Rights and Responsibilities document) has been developed for students and professors. For more information, go to: [https://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Documents/2015\\_Aug\\_Community%20Rights%20and%20Responsibilities%20Web.pdf](https://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Documents/2015_Aug_Community%20Rights%20and%20Responsibilities%20Web.pdf).