

**PSYC 110: INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY
FALL 2023**

**3 CREDITS TOWARD THE HUMAN CULTURES AND THE SCIENCES REQUIREMENT FOR
THE BACHELOR'S DEGREE & PSYCHOLOGY MAJOR**

When: Mondays, 4-7pm

Where: SCI B328

Course Prerequisites: None

Instructor: Dr. Sandy Neumann (or Dr. N, but please no Mrs. – that's my mom)

Email: sneumann@uwsp.edu (Please use this and only this email)

Office Hours: Wednesdays 3-3:45 in SCI D257

I'm also happy to schedule an appointment if this time doesn't work for you – just ask!

Welcome to the world of Psychology!

I have loved psychology ever since I took Dr. Bettye Elmore's Intro Psych class many, many years ago. This "hub science" informs and is informed by many other disciplines and has many gifts to bring to the world. We study people in all their fantastic diversity, looking at everything from their attitudes to their perceptions of zombies. If we listen closely, psychological knowledge can make our world a better place. It is my hope that you learn to harness this knowledge in the service of the greater good – and in the service of making your own part of the world a better place!

Required texts

1. Gross, J. J., Schmader, T., Hard, B. M., & Anderson, A., K. (2020). *Interactive psychology: People in perspective*. W. W. Norton.
 - a. This is an ebook. There is no other option. Here is the URL to the textbook site: <https://digital.wwnorton.com/interactivepsych>
Look to the right and you will see a tab for purchase options. You are only required to have the textbook for this course, but you can purchase any other supplements if you want.
2. Additional readings posted in Canvas and/or found through academic databases.

Course format

Section We will meet three times a week (using the times listed in the schedule of courses). Most of our work will be conducted in class. Class meetings will only be recorded at student request.

Expectations

Just so that there are no surprises, here is a list of things that you can expect from me and what I expect from you...

I will bring my passion for psychology to every class.	You will find something interesting in this class, maybe even something that you can be passionate about.
I will teach you to the best of my ability, making every attempt to engage you in your learning.	You will show up, having completed assignments and readings before class to the best of your ability.
I will answer your questions to the best of my ability.	You will ask questions if you have them, either out of curiosity or because you need help.
I will prepare and grade assignments in a fair manner, as quickly as I can.	You will complete assignments on time and in a manner that reflects your brilliance.
I will take seriously my responsibility to help you acquire and develop the skills needed to be successful in this course and to give you opportunities to show that you have mastered the content of this course.	You will take seriously your ability to learn new skills and knowledge, and to give your full effort in mastering the content of this course.
I will contribute to a learning environment that treats all students in a fair and respectful fashion. Differences based on social identities such as ability, age, country of origin, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, first language, philosophical and political ideology, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, and social class are welcomed and honored in my classroom.	You will contribute to our learning environment by treating me and your peers in a respectful manner. You will (try to) trust that I honor your presence and the diverse backgrounds and experiences that make you uniquely you.

“We can disagree and still love each other unless your disagreement is rooted in my oppression and denial and of my humanity and right to exist.” – James Baldwin

Course learning goals

Here is where your eyes may glaze over with boredom. But this is actually a really important section. Here is where I will tell you about what you are going to do in this course to earn a grade. And, for those of you who will need the syllabus for transfer purposes, this is the section that the folks at the transfer institution will want to see.

This course satisfies UWSP’s bachelor’s degree requirement for Human Cultures and Sciences. In short, we will focus on the science of human interaction, cultures, and societies. For the University’s purposes, I will teach you 1) how to “**acquire** broad knowledge of the world in which (you) live” and 2) about “the various disciplinary methods by which this knowledge is **produced**”.

As part of the General Education Program, this course will help you develop these skills in three distinct ways. These three ways are followed by specific Course Learning Outcomes.

- 1. Demonstrate critical thinking, quantitative, and communication skills necessary to succeed in a rapidly changing global society.**
 - a. Investigate research methods used by psychologists through reading and summarizing general ideas and conclusions from psychological sources accurately.
 - b. Express ideas in written format that reflect psychological concepts, uses American Psychological Association style for citations and references, and demonstrates an understanding of psychological sources.
- 2. Demonstrate broad knowledge of the physical, social, and cultural worlds as well as the methods by which this knowledge is produced.**
 - a. Use basic psychological terminology, concepts, and theories to develop a working knowledge of psychology's content.
 - b. Describe examples of relevant and practical applications of psychological principles to everyday life and to other disciplines.
- 3. Recognize that responsible global citizenship involves personal accountability, social equity, and environmental sustainability.**
 - a. Explain how psychology informs and is informed by individual and social diversity by investigating and synthesizing how psychology can promote civic, social, and global outcomes that benefit others.
 - b. Create a plan for self and societal/global improvement based on course content.

How will we communicate outside of class?

Canvas Announcements

You will see Announcements on Canvas as soon as you open our class page. I generally won't publish Announcements to remind you about due dates. This information will be found in the assignment document as well as on the Assignments page. Instead, I will post announcements if there is a change of plans (e.g., change of content, change of due dates, class cancellation). These will be published when (or if) the need arises.

Email

I'm not a big fan of emails. I'm old school – I believe in face-to-face interactions with one's professor. Even though this generation of students typically doesn't function in this manner, I still expect that you will make every effort to ask me questions before, during, or after class session.

I will try to scroll through my inbox at least once a day. At the beginning of the semester, I can generally respond to your emails within 24 hours except on weekends. So, if you want a prompt response, please make sure to get your email in by 1pm on Friday. But as the semester progresses, my response time increases; so, please plan accordingly. That said, the best way to get and sustain my attention are those emails that:

- are sent to my UWSP account (sneumann@uwsp.edu).
- use only our class number (PSYC 110) in the subject line.

- use salutations such as “Hello”, “Dear Dr. N”, “Good afternoon”.
- allow me to respond with “yes”, “no”, and/or “thank you for letting me know”.

How will you get a grade in this course?

You will complete a variety of assignments this semester. Here is a list of the types of things you will do. More detailed descriptions will be posted on Canvas as we go.

Attendance

Attendance will not count toward your grade. But because of the strange times we live in, I do want to keep track of everyone. So, I will take attendance regularly. Now you might be wondering, “If attendance doesn’t count toward my grade, why should I show up?” The answer: Because a lot of your learning will be from each other, and from specific examples that I will discuss in class. **You should also show up because the gifts you bring to the classroom will lift us all up.** Seriously.

1. *Module/inQuizitive quizzes* **100 points (10 quizzes @ 10 points each)**

You will have the opportunity to take a quiz for every Module we cover this semester. You will have two attempts and I will keep your highest score. These quizzes will be due both before the Module’s material is discussed and after. They are designed to encourage you to prepare for the week’s material and to help me identify content that I need to spend more time on.

Your score on each quiz will be based on the percentage of correct answers. For example, regardless of the number of questions, if you score 85% on a quiz, then you will earn 8.5 points for that quiz.

2. *Article collection* **100 points (4 collections @ 25 points each)**

After every Unit, you will have the opportunity to submit a collection of popular press and research articles that reflect your interest in particular topics relevant to the Unit. In addition to submitting the articles themselves, you will also complete a series of question to go along with this collection.

3. *Google Doc annotations* **TBA points**

There will be a variety of Google Docs that I post online for you to discuss as a class through annotations. I’m not sure what this will look like or how to even create a Google Doc, so we will co-create this assignment together.

4. *Final essay – Breakfast Club style* **50 points**

(If you’ve never seen the Breakfast Club, then ask your parents. Or Google it.)

In small groups, you will write an essay during the final exam period on how you’ve achieved the Goals that I set out for you in this syllabus. The details of this essay will become clearer as we go.

5. *Extra credit* **Up to 20 extra credit points**

Opportunities are offered at a variety of times throughout the semester. Stay tuned.

6. *PSYC 110 research requirement* **No points, but...**

...failure to complete this assignment will result in an Incomplete being assigned as your final course grade. See the handout that Dr. Mark Ferguson emailed you for more information.

Late work policy

- **Quizzes & Article Collection:** Every student starts the course with a **3-day grace period**. These 3 (business) days are yours to use (or not) for any single assignment or exam, or to spread out for submissions, assignments, or exams. For example, you may turn in 1 assignment 1 day late, and submit an exam 2 days late. Once all 3 days are used, no other **late work** is accepted. Please plan wisely.
 - The first late day begins immediately after the deadline posted on Canvas.
- **Google Doc annotations:** Not a clue. Stay tuned!
- **Final Essay:** Since this is due during our final exam period, this essay will not be accepted late. The due date in Canvas is not negotiable.
- **Extra credit:** Extra credit opportunities will not be accepted late. Since these points are only extra, I don't want you wasting your late days on them.

If you encounter any of the events listed below, please contact Dr. N immediately to arrange a modification to this late policy (if it is properly documented):

- ✓ military service
- ✓ jury duty or other subpoenaed court appearance
- ✓ inclement weather/college closing
- ✓ religious observances
- ✓ federally-protected medical procedures including pregnancy-related complications and childbirth
- ✓ transfer institution orientation
- ✓ illness related to Covid-19 affecting you or an immediate family member

Final Grades

I use a point structure in assigning final grades. To determine your final grade, add up the points you've earned, divide by the number of points possible, and then multiply by 100. This will be the percentage of points you've earned. Use this percentage to identify your letter grade.

NOTE: DO NOT USE THE OVERALL GRADES THAT CANVAS COMPUTES (THE ONES LISTED IN BLACK INK) – THESE WILL BE WRONG AND CAUSE US BOTH MUCH STRESS. USE THE GRADES LISTED IN BLUE INK FOR INDIVIDUAL ASSIGNMENTS.

Grade	% of total points	Grade	% of total points
A	100% - 93%	C+	79% - 77%
A-	92% - 90%	C	76% - 73%
B+	89% - 87%	C-	72% - 70%
B	86% - 83%	D+	69% - 67%
B-	82% - 80%	D	66% - 60%
		F	59 % and below