

PSY 100: Foundations of Contemporary Psychology (4 Credits)

Instructor: Christopher J. Holden, M.A.
Course Section #: 14048
Class Time: M/W 7:30pm-9:17pm
Office Hours: M/W 6:00 -7:00pm

Office: 206 Pryale Hall
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Website: www.christopherjholden.com
Classroom: 370 South Foundation Hall

Research Participation: <http://www.oakland.edu/psychology/experiments>

Course Description	<p>An introduction to both basic principles and recent formulations in psychology. Topics include the central psychological processes of attending, perceiving, learning, thinking, remembering; the study of social behavior; and the development and organization of personality.</p> <p>This class satisfies the <u>General Education</u> requirements in the Social Science Knowledge area.</p> <p>Course Prerequisites/Corequisites: None</p> <p>Required Text(s) and Supporting Course Material: Ciccarelli, S.K., & White, J. N. (2015). <i>Psychology, 4th Ed.</i>, Pearson: Upper Saddle River.</p> <p>Course Procedures: Lectures and discussion</p>
Outcomes & Objectives	<p>General Education Learning Outcomes: On completion of this course the student will demonstrate</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Knowledge of concepts, methods, and theories designed to enhance understanding of human behavior 2. Application of concepts and theories to problems among individuals <p>Cross-Cutting Capacities: Critical thinking</p> <p>Course Objectives (derived from American Psychological Association guidelines):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Characterize the nature of psychology as a discipline. 2. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding representing appropriate breadth and depth in selected content areas of psychology: theory and research representing general domains, the history of psychology, relevant levels of analysis, overarching themes, and relevant ethical issues.
Course Goals	<p>During, and at the end of, this course I expect students to be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Apply scientific thinking to new material 2. Think about ways to test new ideas 3. Apply the knowledge they gain from this course to daily life 4. Apply the knowledge gained to their field of study 5. Connect previously learned material to new material 6. Explain to others what they have learned in class
Course Orientation	<p>This course will primarily be lecture oriented. However, this does not mean that there is no room for class discussion. In fact, I welcome open discussion in the classroom, and have planned for class discussion on the second day of each chapter (see schedule below). If you have questions or thoughts, please bring them to class. You, and the class as a whole, will learn and enjoy the class more if there is frequent discussion! Furthermore, psychology is something that applies to your daily life, and you will benefit if you can make these connections. I may also bring in information from my personal experience (both inside and outside of academics) to supplement the course material.</p>

Classroom Behavior: Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner conducive to an environment of academic integrity and respect for the educational process and the safety and wellbeing of all members of the community. Adherence to the Student Code of Conduct will be expected; violations of this code will be reported to the Dean of Students. The Code of Academic and Student Conduct can be found at <http://www2.oakland.edu/deanofstudents/handbook/conduct.cfm>.

Cell phones/Electronic devices: TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES! If I hear a cell phone go off in class, I will look for it, and will hold it for the remainder of the class. Electronic devices other than phones (e.g. tablet or laptop) are to be used for the purpose of note taking only! If I see that this device has become a distraction to you, or to those around you, I will ask you to power off this device and put it away. If it becomes too much of a distraction, the device will be held by me at the front of the class for the remainder of the class period.

Attendance: You will be expected to prepare for and attend class on a regular basis. However, I will NOT be taking attendance. Therefore, it is up to you to make sure you attend class. Preparation for class consists of completing the necessary readings prior to attending class. Attendance and preparation are vital to your success in this course. Furthermore, I value input from students. If you have questions, ideas, or inquiries about the topics, please bring these to class! You will not be able to generate questions and ideas about the course material without doing your reading. If class discussion does not occur, I will call on people (without having their hand raised) and ask a question, or for their thoughts to get discussion going. If you miss class, please get the notes from a fellow student. I will not be available to give you notes if you miss class. Communicating with your fellow students is beneficial, as it allows you to see the material from their viewpoint, so please seek each other out if you miss class.

If I have to miss a class, I will let you know in advance.

Add/Drops & Incompletes: The University add/drop and incomplete grade policies will be explicitly followed. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of the University deadline dates for adding or dropping the course.

Make-up Examinations: If you miss an exam for any reason, then you must take the make-up exam immediately following the final exam. You will not be given more than the 3 hours allotted for the final exam period to complete your exams. That is, if you miss an exam, you will have to complete that exam, along with Exam 4 and the final within 3 hours. Therefore, if you have to miss more than one exam, contact me IMMEDIATELY, and we will discuss the nature of your emergency. This emergency does not mean that you will automatically be allowed to make up the exam. I will need to see proof of emergency (e.g. police report, doctor's note, etc.) before considering eligibility for more than one make up exam. If you miss an exam, and do not make it up during the final exam period, you will receive a grade of zero for that exam.

Special Considerations: Students with disabilities who may require special considerations should make an appointment with campus Disability Support Services. Students should also bring their needs to the attention of the instructor as soon as possible.

Research Participation Requirement: All students enrolled in PSY 100 must fulfill the departmental requirement for research participation. **YOU MUST EARN 10 CREDITS BY THE END OF THE SEMESTER.** When you elect to participate in psychological research, you will earn research credit that corresponds to the amount of time required for the study (i.e., studies requiring more time are worth more credits) and the type of study (i.e., laboratory-based studies that require students to schedule appointments and come to campus are worth more credits than internet-based studies that can be completed without coming to campus). The number of credits associated with each study will be clearly indicated as you browse the list of available studies on <http://oakland.sona-systems.com/>. If you do not complete the research participation requirement or the alternative assignments, you will be penalized. The penalty for incomplete credits is 2% off the final grade for each incomplete credit. That is, if you miss 1 credit you will lose 2%; if you miss 2 credits you will lose 4% off your final grade.

Website for research participation: <http://www.oakland.edu/psychology/experiments>

Expectations	<p>Alternative Assignments: If you do not wish to complete the research participation assignments, or you have objections to doing so, you have the option to complete the Alternative Assignments. These assignments can be found on the same website for research participation. If you chose to do these assignments, you will be asked to read and review a pre-selected article. To see a listing of these articles , please visit: http://www.oakland.edu/psychology/experiments</p> <p>Discussion Questions: Prior to each discussion day (see schedule below), you will be asked to submit two relevant discussion questions based on the current readings. These discussion questions must be submitted by 11:55pm on the day before via Moodle. For example, you would have to submit two discussion questions for “The Biological Perspective” by 11:55pm on 1/25. A full listing of the due dates for these discussion questions is provided on Moodle. These discussion questions will provide a starting point for discussion in each class. Therefore, you can volunteer to pose your question to the class. If you plan to do this, please leave me a note with your submission. Alternatively, I will select questions anonymously to read to the class. You will be graded based on your submission of the questions, not whether your question was selected. In other words, you will be graded on completion. Therefore, if we miss an in-class discussion, you will not be penalized.</p>																																																		
Grade Determination	<p>Grades in this course will be based on evaluations of the following materials: Course grades will be based on discussion questions, exam scores, and research participation.</p> <p>Discussion Questions: As mentioned above, you will be asked to put together 8 pairs of discussion questions. Each pair of discussion questions will be worth 5 points, for a total of 40 points. If you complete all 8 discussion questions, you will receive a 10 point bonus, bringing the total to 50 points.</p> <p>Exams: There will be 4 regular exams. Each exam will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions. These exams will not be “cumulative.” Meaning that each of these exams will only cover the material that was covered since the previous exam. However, I may review previously covered material in lecture, and you may see this on the exams. This is likely to occur when there are strong connections between topics, and I will make it clear that the information comes from a previous lecture. Each exam will be work a maximum of 100 points. Also, these exams will be recorded on standard scantron forms. It is your responsibility to bring a scantron and #2 pencil to each exam!</p> <p>Final Exam: The final exam will be cumulative and will assess all of the information that you were responsible for learning this semester. The exam will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions and will be worth a maximum of 100 points.</p> <p>Discussion questions: 50 points (8 @ 5 points each +10 point bonus) Exams: 400 points (4 @ 100 points each) Final Exam: 100 points</p> <p>----- TOTAL of 550 points</p> <p>The following scale will be used to determine the final grade:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="224 1591 1214 1936"> <tr> <td>100% (4.0)</td> <td>90% (3.5)</td> <td>80% (3.0)</td> <td>70% (2.0)</td> <td>60% (1.0)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>99% (4.0)</td> <td>89% (3.5)</td> <td>79% (2.9)</td> <td>69% (1.9)</td> <td><59% (0.0)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>98% (3.9)</td> <td>88% (3.4)</td> <td>78% (2.8)</td> <td>68% (1.8)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>97% (3.9)</td> <td>87% (3.4)</td> <td>77% (2.7)</td> <td>67% (1.7)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>96% (3.8)</td> <td>86% (3.3)</td> <td>76% (2.6)</td> <td>66% (1.6)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>95% (3.8)</td> <td>85% (3.3)</td> <td>75% (2.5)</td> <td>65% (1.5)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>94% (3.7)</td> <td>84% (3.2)</td> <td>74% (2.4)</td> <td>64% (1.4)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>93% (3.7)</td> <td>83% (3.2)</td> <td>73% (2.3)</td> <td>63% (1.3)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>92% (3.6)</td> <td>82% (3.1)</td> <td>72% (2.2)</td> <td>62% (1.2)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>91% (3.6)</td> <td>81% (3.1)</td> <td>71% (2.1)</td> <td>61% (1.1)</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	100% (4.0)	90% (3.5)	80% (3.0)	70% (2.0)	60% (1.0)	99% (4.0)	89% (3.5)	79% (2.9)	69% (1.9)	<59% (0.0)	98% (3.9)	88% (3.4)	78% (2.8)	68% (1.8)		97% (3.9)	87% (3.4)	77% (2.7)	67% (1.7)		96% (3.8)	86% (3.3)	76% (2.6)	66% (1.6)		95% (3.8)	85% (3.3)	75% (2.5)	65% (1.5)		94% (3.7)	84% (3.2)	74% (2.4)	64% (1.4)		93% (3.7)	83% (3.2)	73% (2.3)	63% (1.3)		92% (3.6)	82% (3.1)	72% (2.2)	62% (1.2)		91% (3.6)	81% (3.1)	71% (2.1)	61% (1.1)	
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Course Schedule (Subject to change <u>with</u> notice)	
Date	Topic
1-7	Syllabus Overview/ Introduction
1-12	Chapter 1: The Science of Psychology
1-14	Chapter 1: The Science of Psychology
1-19	NO CLASS – MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY
1-20	ADD/DROP ENDS
1-21	Chapter 2: The Biological Perspective
1-26	Chapter 2: The Biological Perspective - Discussion
1-28	EXAM 1
2-2	Chapter 3: Sensation and Perception
2-4	Chapter 4: Consciousness
2-9	Chapter 4: Consciousness - Discussion
2-11	Chapter 5: Learning
2-16	Chapter 5: Learning - Discussion
2-18	EXAM 2
2-23	NO CLASS – WINTER RECESS
2-25	NO CLASS – WINTER RECESS
3-2	Chapter 6: Memory
3-4	NO CLASS - CONFERENCE
3-9	Chapter 6: Memory -Discussion
3-11	Chapter 8: Development Across the Life Span
3-16	Chapter 8: Development Across the Life Span - Discussion
3-17	LAST DAY OFFICIAL WITHDRAWAL
3-18	Chapter 12: Social Psychology
3-23	Chapter 12: Social Psychology -Discussion
3-25	EXAM 3
3-30	Evolutionary Psychology - Miner & Shackelford (2010)
4-1	Evolutionary Psychology - Miner & Shackelford (2010) -Discussion
4-6	Chapter 13: Theories of Personality
4-8	Chapter 13: Theories of Personality -Discussion
4-13	Chapter 14: Psychological Disorders
4-15	Chapter 15: Psychological Therapies
4-20	Cumulative Review LAST DAY OF CLASS
4-21	STUDY DAY
4-27	EXAM 4 AND FINAL EXAM 7:00pm-10:00pm

Note: I may provide additional readings to supplement our discussion of the textbook material. Copies of these readings will be provided to students with advance notice, and I will announce when these readings should be completed. Also, I have provided a lecture outside of the textbook material (i.e. 11-13 Evolutionary Psychology). For these sections, there will be a required reading (see above).