

Central Methodist University
Class Syllabus
PY 101: Introduction to Psychology

Instructor: Michael D. Brewer
Phone: 573-474-9627
Email: cmbrewer@centurytel.net
Office Hours: 9:00– 10:00 MWF

Fall 2009
Office: T-Berry 403
Classroom: Stedman 101
Class Time: 10:00-11:00
11:00-12:00

Required Text: Lahey, Benjamin B., Psychology: An Introduction (8th/9th edition). New York, NY: McGraw Hill. ISBN: 0-07-256314-1

Course Description: Psychology is the science of behaviors and mental processes. This is an introduction course to the ever changing field of Psychology. It will provide the student with an excellent foundation for further classes in this field. During the course of this semester the student will discover the individuals who have shaped this field and the various theories that are prominent in Psychology. We will look at the biological basis for behaviors and mental processes; we will discuss sensation, perception, and genetics. Students will examine the course of development and the many theories associated with learning, cognition, motivation, emotion, and intelligence. Finally, we will look at stress and how it impacts on our lives as well as provide some ideas on how to effectively deal with stress. We will close the semester with an in depth look at some of the more common mental disorders and current treatments.

The course is divided into seven parts: Part I (Chapters 1-3) provides an introduction to psychology and lays a foundation for future study. Part II (Chapters 4-5) outlines our psychological awareness of our world. Part III (chapters 6-8) discusses learning and thinking. Part IV (Chapter 9) covers human development over the life span. Part V (Chapters 10-12) is all about the Self and how and why we behave and act the way we do. Part VI (Chapters 13-15) relates to our health and abnormal behavior, and Part VII (Chapters 16-17) look at psychology in the social context.

Major Course Objectives:

1. To present Psychology as a complete science of human experience and behavior.
2. To gain a better understanding of the stages of development, beginning with birth and continuing throughout old age and death.
3. To identify major figures in the field of Psychology, both past and present.
4. To gain a better understanding of yourself and others.
5. To explore many areas of specialization within the field of Psychology.

Evaluation:

1. **Tests:** There will be three unit tests and a final exam. Each unit test is worth 100 points and the final is worth 150 points. Tests will include matching, multiple choice, true/false, and short answer questions.

2. Class Activities & Journal: A variety of class activities will be used to enhance your understanding of specific topics. These activities are designed to be enjoyable and educational. You will also be required to keep a journal. Your activities and journal items should be kept in a 3-ring binder which will be collected at the end of the semester and evaluated by your instructor. Your class activities and journal are worth 100 points.

3. Quizzes: Students prepare better when they know that there just might be a quiz. So we will occasionally have an unannounced quiz on assigned readings, class activities, or course lectures. Each quiz is worth 10 points. Students with an unexcused absence and not in class will not be given the opportunity to makeup an unannounced quiz.

4. Attendance: It is my hope that each student will gain something from attending class. Research clearly shows that students who come to class make better grades. Attendance will be taken each class period. Students will have three “free” absences. They can miss three classes during the semester without penalty or excuse. On the fourth absence, and all absences thereafter, only school related/involved absences will be excused. Students will have two points deducted from their final grade for each unexcused absence. It is the student’s responsibility to request class materials and information, or permission to take a makeup exam or quiz when they are absent from a class.

5. Psychology 101 is a college level class and you are expected to be in attendance, attentive and respectful, take notes, and keep up with your chapter readings.

Course Grading Scale: A (90-100%) B (80-89%) C (70-79%) D (60-69%) F (59% or less)

Academic Honesty Policy: Students enrolled in this course are expected to be familiar with and follow Central Methodist University’s Policy on Academic Honesty. This policy can be found in the student handbook and college catalog. Should you have questions or need clarification of the policy, please feel free to ask me at any time. It is expected that you will each be responsible for your own work and exams. Student’s caught cheating will receive a 0 for that project or exam, and your Dean or Principal will be contacted.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is a form of cheating and stealing. It is morally unacceptable as well as against academic policy. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to (1) representing as one’s own work, a paper, speech, or report written in whole or in part by someone else, (2) failing to provide appropriate recognition of the sources of borrowed material through the proper use of quotation marks, proper attribution of paraphrases, and proper citations.

1. In an attempt to maintain a positive learning environment with a minimum number of distractions, you are asked to turn off, or better yet, not bring cell phones to class.

2. We will use Cooperative Learning Concepts and Team Building learning experiences when working on in-class activities. This means that you will be a member of a learning team and you will have responsibilities for assisting, supporting, and encouraging the other members of your team to complete assignments and projects, understand topics, discuss readings, and prepare for presentations and exams.

3. The SQ3R Study Skill Method: All students are strongly encouraged to use the SQ3R Study Skill Method developed by Francis Robinson of Ohio State University. These initials stand for the five steps in effective textbook study:

- S:** Survey. Look ahead at the content of the text before you begin to read.
Q: Question. Ask yourself questions about the material you are reading.
R: Read: Read through the material in the normal way.
R: Recite. Recite the new information that you are learning out loud.
R: Review. Go over the material that you have learned before you are tested on it.

PY 101: Tentative Class Schedule

August	24	Mon	Review Class Syllabus and Text
	26	Wed	Chapter 1 – What is Psychology?
	28	Fri	Chapter 1 – In-Class Activities
September	31	Mon	Chapter 2 – Research Methods in Psychology
	02	Wed	Chapter 2 – Research Methods in Psychology
	04	Fri	Chapter 2 – In-Class Activities & Review
	07	Mon	No Class - Labor Day
	09	Wed	Chapter 3 – Biological Foundations of Behavior
	11	Fri	Chapter 3 – Biological Foundations of Behavior
	14	Mon	Chapter 3 – In-Class Activities & Review
	16	Wed	Chapter 4 – Sensation & Perception
	18	Fri	Chapter 4 – Sensation & Perception
	21	Mon	Chapter 4 – Class Activities & Review
	23	Wed	Chapter 5 – States of Consciousness
	25	Fri	Chapter 5 – States of Consciousness
	28	Mon	Chapter 5 – In-Class Activities & Review
	30	Wed	Chapters 1-5 – Test # 1
	October	02	Fri
05		Mon	Chapter 6- Basic Principles of Learning
07		Wed	Chapter 6 – Class Activities & Review
09		Fri	Chapter 7 – Memory
12		Mon	Chapter 7 – Memory
14		Wed	Chapter 7 – Class Activities & Review
16		Fri	Chapter 8 – Cognition, Language, & Intelligence
19		Mon	Chapter 8 – Cognition, Language, & Intelligence
21		Wed	Chapter 8 – Class Activities & Review
23		Fri	Chapters 6-8 – Test # 2

PSY 101: Tentative Class Schedule

October	26	Mon	Chapter 9 – Developmental Psychology
	28	Wed	Chapter 9 – Developmental Psychology
	30	Fri	Chapter 9 – In-Class Activities & Review
November	02	Mon	Chapter 10 – Motivation & Emotion
	04	Wed	Chapter 10 – Motivation & Emotion
	06	Fri	Chapter 10 In-Class Activities & Review
	09	Mon	Chapter 12 – Personality Theories & Assessment
	11	Wed	Chapter 12 – Personality Theories & Assessment
	13	Fri	Chapter 12 – Class Activities & Review
	16	Mon	Chapters 9, 10, & 12 – Test # 3
	18	Wed	Chapter 13 – Stress and Health
	20	Fri	Chapter 13 – Stress and Health
	23	Mon	Chapter 13 – Class Activities & Review
25	Wed	No Class – Thanksgiving	
27	Fri	No Class – Thanksgiving	
December	30	Mon	Chapter 14 – Abnormal Behavior
	02	Wed	Chapter 14 – Abnormal Behavior
	04	Fri	Chapter 14 – Class Activities & Review
	07	Mon	Chapter 15 – Therapies
	09	Wed	Chapter 15 – Therapies
	11	Fri	Chapter 15 – Class Activities & Review
	14	Mon	Student Extra Credit Projects, Activities & Journals Due
	14	Mon	Chapter 16 – Social Psychology
	16	Wed	Chapter 16 – Social Psychology
	18	Fri	Chapter 16 – Class Activities & Review
21	Mon	Chapters 13-16 – Final Exam	
23	Wed		
25	Fri	Merry Christmas!	

