Course goals: This course will introduce you to the history, methods, and subdisciplines of psychology. The emphasis will be on psychology as a science.


Required access to: MyPsychLab (www.mypsychlab.com)

Reading should be completed by the dates indicated on the schedule. Reading the material in advance will help you to get the most out of lectures and discussions.

Grading: The final grade will consist of the following weighted components:

- Best 4 of 5 exams (15% each) 60%
- Best 10 of 12 chapter quizzes (3% each) 30%
- Research participation 7%
- In-class assignments (1% each) 3%

Final grades will be assigned as follows:

- 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 60-69%
- F < 60%

Exams: All exams will be in multiple-choice format and will cover material from the Zimbardo text and website, and related lectures. In-class exams will not be cumulative. Students are required to bring their own scantron forms to each in-class exam. The final exam will be cumulative. Students who have taken all four in-class exams with satisfactory grades are not required to take the final exam.

Quizzes: All assigned chapter quizzes must be completed by 11:59 pm on the date they are due. You may use the text and your notes to complete quizzes.

Research participation: For 7% of the grade, all students are required to serve for seven hours as participants in psychological research. For students who are not eligible or choose not to participate in research, attendance at alternative lectures also meets this requirement. Be sure to assign your research hours to the correct course and section (Psyc100-001) in order to receive credit. Unassigned or incorrectly assigned hours will not be credited toward your final grade. Available research studies can be found at [http://gmu.sona-systems.com](http://gmu.sona-systems.com)
**In-class assignments:** There will be three brief, unannounced in-class assignments during the semester.

**Absences:** Dropping the lowest exam grade, and the two lowest quiz grades, is intended to provide relief for anyone who needs to miss graded work due to illness, personal or employment obligations, or any other reason. If you find that you must miss more work than can be dropped, I encourage you to consult the catalog or contact your advisor or academic dean’s office for information on withdrawing from a course, including late and selective withdrawal policies and procedures.

**Technology expectations:** All students are expected to maintain and regularly access their Mason e-mail accounts. If you are having your Mason mail forwarded to another account, please ensure that your Mason account doesn’t exceed the assigned limit, causing mail to bounce back to the sender.

Students must be able to access Pearson Publishing’s “MyPsychLab”. All grades, assignments, and other class materials will be posted on MyPsychLab. Blackboard will not be used for this class.

**Attendance and decorum:** Class attendance is not recorded, but it is important for students who want to do well in PSYC100 to be in class, prepared, and attentive. In addition to other important information, any extra credit opportunities will be announced in class and will often consist of in-class participation. Preparation for class includes completing reading by the assigned due date. Lectures and discussions will be more interesting and more meaningful for students who have done the reading in advance. In order to be attentive, you should not engage in any multi-tasking activities during class – that means no texting, e-mail, web surfing, doing homework for other classes, etc. Please turn off all cell phones and other potential sources of disruption at the start of class. During class, laptops may be used only for taking notes. If you must arrive late or leave early, please do so as quietly as possible and be considerate of your classmates by sitting near an exit.

**Disability accommodations:** If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me early in the semester. If you have not already done so, contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS) at 703-993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office. Please keep in mind that it might not be possible to grant last-minute requests for accommodations, so it important to make all arrangements well before the date when the accommodation is needed.

**Honor code:** All students are expected to be familiar with, and abide by, the University Honor Code. As required by the Honor Code, all suspected violations will be reported.

**Important dates:**
- Last day to add a class – January 29
- Last day to drop a class – February 22
- Selective withdrawal period – February 25 to March 29

**Enrollment:** Every student is responsible for verifying correct enrollment. Graded work will not be returned to students who are not officially enrolled.
Schedule:

JAN 23  Introduction
JAN 28  Chapter 1: Mind, Behavior, and Psychological Science
         Chapter 1 Quiz due
JAN 30  Chapter 2: Biopsychology, Neuroscience, and Human Nature
FEB  4  Chapter 2 Quiz due
FEB  6  Chapter 3: Sensation and Perception
FEB 11  Chapter 3 Quiz due
FEB 13  EXAM #1
FEB 18  Chapter 4: Learning and Human Nurture
FEB 20  Chapter 4 Quiz due
FEB 25  Chapter 5: Memory
FEB 27  Chapter 5 Quiz due
MAR  4  Chapter 6: Thinking and Intelligence
MAR  6  Chapter 6 Quiz due
MAR 11  SPRING BREAK – NO CLASS
MAR 13  SPRING BREAK – NO CLASS
MAR 18  EXAM #2
MAR 20  Chapter 7: Development Over the Lifespan
MAR 25  Chapter 7 Quiz due
MAR 27  Chapter 9: Motivation and Emotion
APR  1  Chapter 9 Quiz due
APR  3  Chapter 10: Personality: Theories of the Whole Person
APR  8  Chapter 10 Quiz due
APR 10  EXAM #3
APR 15  Chapter 11: Social Psychology
APR 17  Chapter 11 Quiz due
APR 22  Chapter 12: Psychological Disorders
APR 24  Chapter 12 Quiz due
APR 29  Chapter 13: Therapies for Psychological Disorders
MAY  1  Chapter 13 Quiz due
MAY  3  EXAM #4
MAY 13  FINAL EXAM DUE BY 10:15 AM