

Monday 7:20 - 10 PM
Lecture Hall 1

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Office hours: David King Hall 1014C
Mon 12 - 1 and by appointment

Course goals: This course will introduce you to the history, methods, and various sub-disciplines of psychological science.

Required text: Myers, D., & DeWall, C. N. (2015). Psychology (11th Ed.). Macmillan.

Note: Feel free to buy one of the earlier editions of the book. I will be teaching from the 11th edition, but the lecture will cover anything that is not present in the earlier editions.

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 3 of 4 exams (31% each)	93%
Research participation (SONA)	7%

Final Grades will be assigned as follow:

A+	95-100%	C+	77-79%
A	90-94%	C	73-76%
B+	87-89%	C-	70-72%
B	83-86%	D	60-69%
B-	80-82%	F	< 60%

Exams: All exams will be in multiple-choice format and will cover material from the text and related lectures. Students are required to bring their own scantron forms (Form 882-E or compatible forms) to each in-class exam. The final exam will be cumulative. Students who have taken all exams prior to the final and are satisfied with their grades (whatever that means to you individually) are not required to take the final exam.

Research Participation: For 7% of the grade, all students are required to participate for seven hours as participants in psychological research. For students who are not eligible, attendance at alternative lectures also meets this requirement. Be sure to assign your research hours to the correct course and section (Psyc100-002) 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://gmusona-systems.com>

Succeeding in this course: As a survey course, we will be covering a great deal of material on a wide range of topics, all with associated concepts and vocabulary. While learning the terminology will be important, simply memorizing definitions won't be enough to earn a good grade. Instead, you will be asked to integrate and apply information, which requires a deeper level of understanding.

Lectures in this course are intended to review and expand on information in the text, as well as provide an opportunity for discussion and questions. Due to time constraints, not every important concept covered in the text will be discussed in class. For that reason, it is important that you carefully read and study the text, as well as attend lectures.

Absences: Dropping the lowest exam grade 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. Due to the size of this class, make-up exams and quiz extensions are not possible.

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.

All grades, assignments, and other class materials will be posted on Blackboard.

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 the readings by the assigned due dates. 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-mailing, web surfing, doing homework for other classes, etc. Engaging in such activities is distracting for those around you, and for the instructor. 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 is 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 – September 5
 Last day to drop a class (33% Tuition Penalty) – September 19
 Final Drop Deadline (67% Tuition Penalty) — September 29

Selective withdrawal period – October 2-27

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

Class cancellations: I will send out an email as soon as I know that class is cancelled/any schedule changes. Check e-mails and Blackboard for announcements about closures or class cancellations. To make-up cancelled classes, we may reschedule class for another date and time, or there may be an assignment on Blackboard to complete during the regular class hours.

Schedule:

Aug 28	Introductions and Chapter 1: Thinking Critically with Psychological Science
Sep 4	Labor Day (NO CLASS)
Sep 11	Chapter 2: The Biology of the Mind
Sep 18	Chapter 3: Consciousness
Sep 25	Chapter 4: Nature, Nurture, and Human Diversity
Oct 2	EXAM 1 / Chapter 5: Developing Through the Lifespan
Oct 10	HFES 2017 (NO CLASS)
Oct 16	Chapter 6: Sensation and Perception
Oct 23	Chapter 7: Learning
Oct 30	Chapter 8: Memory
Nov 6	Chapter 9: Thinking and Language
Nov 13	EXAM 2 / Chapter 13: Social Psychology
Nov 20	Chapter 13: Social Psychology/Catch-up
Nov 27	Chapter 15: Psychological Disorders
Dec 4	EXAM 3
Dec 13-20	Final Exam 7:30 - 10:15 PM

This schedule is subject to change, if things do change I will post an updated schedule to blackboard.