Introductory Psychology PSYC 100-001

Monday & Wednesday 9:00-10:15, Lecture Hall 1

Teacher: William Kochen, Ph.D. Office Location: Mercer 219

Office Hours: 8:00-9:00am Monday and by appointment Email: wkochen@gmu.edu

TA: Tresa Proffitt Email: tproffi2@masonlive.gmu.edu

**Course Goals:** The purpose of this course is to provide students with an introduction to psychology. This course will be a survey of all branches of psychology including social psychology, biopsychology, and abnormal psychology.

**Course Structure**: This class will consist of four separate quarters of material each of which will last approximately three weeks. All lectures will be a mixture of PowerPoint slides, lecturing, and group discussions.

**Course Text:** Introduction to Psychology, 11th Edition by James Kalat. You do not need the physical copy of this textbook but access to the online MindTap software is required for this course.

**Course Grading:**

**Exams**: There will be four exams in this course. Each exam will be made up of multiple-choice questions. The lowest of the four exams is dropped when computing the final average. Exams will make up 40% of the final grade

**Mind Tap Assignments:** Mind Tap Assignments will be assigned for covered chapters of the textbook. Mastery assignments must be complete before the exam that covers the chapter. Mastery assignments will be worth 25% of the final grade

**Discussion Board Posts:** For each class quarter, two discussion board questions are required, and two discussion board answers to other students’ questions are required. There is a 5-full sentence minimum on answers, but they do not have to be scientifically based. If the answer is well-written (2 full paragraphs) and incorporates legitimate outside information, it will be worth .25 additional points on the FINAL average. There are 4 quarters covered making for a total of 8 questions and 8 answers. Discussion board posts are worth 25% of the grade.

**Research Participation**: For 10% 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

 **Grading Scheme:** Exams 40%, Mind Tap 25%, Discussion board posts 25%, Research Participation 10%

**Late Policy:** There is absolutely no make-ups for exams. The lowest exam grade is dropped so please save that for emergencies. All assignments in this course can be done at any point over the course of multiple weeks; therefore, no late work will be accepted

**Letter Grade Assignment**: A: 90.0-100 B+: 85.0-89.9 B: 80.0-84.9 C+: 75.0-79.9 C: 70.0-74.9 D: 64.5-69.9 F: <64.5

The numbers in the table are exact and grades will not be rounded; however, exam curving or extra credit may be offered at the sole discretion of the instructor. Extra credit, if given, will be offered to the entire class and not be granted on an individual basis.

**Official Communications via GMU E-mail**: Mason uses electronic mail to provide official information to students. Examples include communications from course instructors, notices from the library, notices about academic standing, financial aid information, class materials, assignments, questions, and instructor feedback. Students are responsible for the content of university communication sent to their Mason e-mail account and are required to activate that account and check it regularly.

**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.

**CANCELLATION POLICY**: In case class needs to be cancelled due to an unexpected event, students will be informed via email as soon as possible. If the class cancelled was a lecture class, a video lecture will be posted to blackboard as soon as possible. If an exam is cancelled, the exam will take place the following class and one lecture from the next chapter will be placed online.

**Drop Deadline for Spring 19:**  Full tuition: February 5th, Final Drop Deadline: February 25th

**Schedule and Due Dates (In-depth schedule on next page):**

**Quarter 1 (1/23-2/13)**

Blackboard questions due by Wednesday, February 4th at 11:59 pm

Blackboard answers and MindTap due by Wednesday, February 11th at 9:00 am

**Quarter 2 (2/18-3/6)**

Blackboard questions due by Wednesday, February 25th at 11:59 pm

Blackboard answers, and MindTap due by Wednesday, March 4th at 9:00 am

**Quarter 3 (3/18-4/8)**

Blackboard questions due by Monday, April 1st at 11:59 pm

Blackboard answers, and Mindtap due by Monday, April 8th at 9:00 am

**Quarter 4 (4/9-5/6)**

Blackboard questions due by Monday, April 29th at 11:59 pm

Blackboard answers, and Mindtap by May 6th at 9:00 am

**Schedule:**

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| **Week** | **Monday Topic** | **Wednesday Topic** |
| 1 1/21 | **MLK­ – No Class** | Intro  |
| 2 1/28 | Chapters 1 | Chapter 1 + 2 |
| 3 2/4 | Chapter 2 + 3 | Chapter 3 + 4 |
| 4 2/11 | Chapter 4  | **Exam 1** |
| 5 2/18 | Chapter 5  | Chapter 5 + 6 |
| 6 2/25 | Chapter 6 + 7 | Chapter 7 + 8 |
| 7 3/4 | Chapter 8 | **Exam 2** |
| 8 3/11 | **Spring Break** | **Spring Break** |
| 9 3/18 | Chapter 9 | Chapter 9 + 10 |
| 10 3/25 | Chapter 10 | Chapter 10 + 11 |
| 11 4/1 | Chapter 11 + 12 | Chapter 12 |
| 12 4/8 | **Exam 3** | Chapter 13 |
| 13 4/15 | Chapter 13 | Chapter 14 |
| 14 4/22 | Chapter 14 | Chapter 15 |
| 15 4/29 | Chapter 15 | Review/Snow Day Make-up |
| 16 5/6 | **Exam 4** |  |