

General Psychology Syllabus

PSY 2012, Summer 2021, May17 - June 18

Course & Instructor Information

Instructor: William (Travis) Suits, Ph.D.

Email: suitsw@seminolestate.edu

Office Hours: By Appointment (I can provide a Zoom link in response to an e-mail requesting a meeting)

Contact Hours: 45

Credits: 3

Course Description

This is an introductory survey course in the academic discipline of psychology using basic principles and concepts utilized to understand behavior and the mind. The major areas of study include learning, perception, motivation, emotions, personality, abnormal behavior, psychotherapy, social influences, biological functioning of the nervous system, and testing measurements.

Textbook Information

The sciences of psychology, By Laura King, 4th Edition, ISBN: 9781260216547
Additional readings and resources will be distributed in class.

Collegewide Student Learning Outcomes

The Collegewide Student Learning Outcomes assessed and reinforced in this course include the following:

- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Scientific and Quantitative Reasoning
- Information Literacy
- Global Sociocultural Responsibility

Course Requirements

- Required weekly textbook reading (chapter assignments can be found in the course outline)
- Required discussion participation (discussions must be submitted by Wednesday night of every week)
- Required course assignments to be completed before the due date (Due Dates can be found in the course outline)
- Required that you find time each week to work on your presentation. Final presentations will not be due until the end of the semester but the presentation will take research and preparation before delivering the final presentation.
- Required Exam at the end of every week within the semester.

Attendance/Makeup Policy

The College recognizes the correlation between attendance and both student retention and achievement. Per College Policy 3.060 **Students are expected to attend all class meetings of all courses for which they are registered.**

You will be allowed to make up work for full credit only under extreme circumstances (such as a documented, serious health-related emergency).

Cheating will not be tolerated. This includes giving or receiving aid on a quiz or exam and plagiarizing the work of others (including your classmates). There will likely be homework or in-class work that will allow for collaboration, but all work you turn in must be in your own words.

Grading and Assignments for this class

Grades will consist of exams, thought papers, class assignments, discussions and a presentation. The final grade in this class will be based on the cumulative points you earn this semester.

Exams: (100 points each) The exams will be 50 multiple-choice questions (2 points each). The exams will cover the material covered in class in addition to the reading assignments.

My exams are based on understanding and applying concepts that we cover in the class. I do not ask questions based on memorization. As a study technique, I suggest that you create examples of the concepts as you go through your reading. This will help you be in the practice of being able to identify and apply the various concepts in this class.

Thought papers: (50 points each) The thought paper will consist of a critical analysis of

a topic covered in class and its application to the real-world. Thought papers should be 1-2 pages in length (double spaced).

Class Assignments: (10 points each) There are 10 assignments scheduled throughout the class. Each assignment will be focused on helping you either identify and apply the concepts from the lectures and reading or will be used as a review activity in exam preparation.

Discussion Topics: (15 points each) Every week we will engage in a class discussion through our online management system. I will post a topic each week and I ask that you provide a well thought out response **AND** a question about the topic by the due date. I will follow up and try to address your response by the end of each week. Points will be awarded based on both, the submission of a question on the current material and your level of engagement in response to the topic.

Presentation: (100 points): Each student will be required to give a 10 minute presentation on a topic selected from a sign up list at the beginning of the semester. Each student, in essence, will teach the material related to this specific topic. During this student-led class discussion/presentation you must provide a description of the problem, a description of the concept being applied, and an application of the material. Presentations can be recorded and submitted in a similar way to how I provide the lecture videos for our class.

Course Grading:

Exam 1 @ 100 points	100
Exam 2 @ 100 points	100
Exam 3 @ 100 points	100
Exam 4 @ 100 points	100
Exam 5 @ 100 points	100
Thought Papers 2 @ 50 points	100
Class Assignments 10 @ 10 points	100
Discussion Topics 4 @ 15 points	60
Presentation @ 100 point	100

Total Points: 860 points

Grades are based on a total of 860 points (100%).

Grade Points Needed

A (90%)	774
B (80%)	688
C (70%)	602
D (60%)	516
F (below 60%)	515.9 and below

Grading Scale

A = 90-100%

B = 80-89%

C = 70-79%

D = 60-69%

F = Below 60%

“A” grades are given for outstanding work. You are doing extremely well. The student has exceeded expectation.

“B” grades are given for above average work. You are doing very well. Improvements will be toward higher refinements of concept.

“C” grades are given for average work. You are meeting an acceptable level or expectation. Improvements will be towards acceptable levels of project requirements.

“D” grades are given for below average work. You are under-achieving in quality and/or motivation. Improvements will be towards acceptable level of project requirements.

“F” grades are given for failure. You are not reaching the expected level for college work. Improvements are to review goals, seek assistance and increase efforts.

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to be honest in all of their academic coursework and activities.

Academic dishonesty, such as cheating of any kind on examinations, course assignments or projects, plagiarism, misrepresentation and the unauthorized possession of examinations or other course-related materials, is prohibited.

Plagiarism is unacceptable to the college community. Academic work that is submitted by students is assumed to be the result of their own thought, research or self-expression. When students borrow ideas, wording or organization from another source, they are expected to acknowledge that fact in an appropriate manner. Plagiarism is the deliberate use and appropriation of another's work without identifying the source and trying to pass-off such work as the student's own. Any student who fails to give full credit for ideas or

materials taken from another has plagiarized.

Students who share their work for the purpose of cheating on class assignments or tests are subject to the same penalties as the student who commits the act of cheating.

When cheating or plagiarism has occurred, instructors may take academic action that ranges from denial of credit for the assignment or a grade of "F" on a specific assignment, examination or project, to the assignment of a grade of "F" for the course. Students may also be subject to further sanctions imposed by the judicial officer, such as disciplinary probation, suspension or dismissal from the College.

Course Outline

Outline is tentative and subject to change.

Week 1: (The Science of Psychology)

- Introduction
- Ch.1 What is Psychology?
- Ch.2 Research Methods
- ASSIGNMENT: Identify the approach (Due: Wednesday)
- ASSIGNMENT: Identify the type of research (Due: Thursday)
- DISCUSSION/GROUP WORK (Due: Friday)
- Exam (Due: Saturday)

Week 2: (Biological Foundations)

- Ch. 3 Biology
- Ch. 4 Sensation
- Ch. 9 Human Development
- PAPER ASSIGNMENT: Thought Paper 1 (Due: Friday)
- ASSIGNMENT: Identify the neurotransmitter (Due: Wednesday)
- DISCUSSION (Due: Wednesday)
- GROUP WORK/REVIEW ASSIGNMENT: (Due: Thursday)
- Exam (Due: Friday)

Week 3:(Mental Processes)

- Ch. 5 Consciousness
- Ch 6 Learning
- Ch. 7 Memory
- ASSIGNMENT: Identify within Classical Conditioning (Due: Tuesday)
- ASSIGNMENT: Identify within Operant Conditioning (Due: Wednesday)
- DISCUSSION (Due: Wednesday)
- GROUP WORK/REVIEW ASSIGNMENT: (Due: Thursday)
- Exam (Due: Friday)

Week 4: (Driving Forces)

- Ch. 10 Motivation and Emotion
- Ch. 12 Personality
- Ch. 13 Social Psychology
- ASSIGNMENT: Types of Intelligence (Due: Wednesday)
- PAPER ASSIGNMENT: Thought Paper 2 (Due: Friday)
- DISCUSSION (Due: Wednesday)
- GROUP WORK/REVIEW ASSIGNMENT: (Due: Thursday)
- Exam (Due: Friday)

Week 5: (Abnormal Behavior)

- Ch. 14 Industrial and Organizational Psychology
- Ch. 15 Psychological Disorders
- Ch.16 Therapies
- Ch. 17 Health Psychology
- ASSIGMENT: Change the Behavior (Due: Tuesday)
- Topic Papers are due (Due: Thursday)
- Exam (Due: Friday)