

**PSY U101 Foundations of Psychology
Spring 2007**

***Tuesday and Friday 8-9:40am
20 West Village Building F***

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Course Description and Objectives:

This course is a very general overview of the science of psychology at an introductory level. Course content includes general research methodologies and an introduction to the biopsychosocial bases of thought, emotion, and behavior. Students will gain basic knowledge about sensation and perception, learning, memory, cognition, language, consciousness, motivation, development, abnormality, stress and resilience, personality, and other constructs in psychology.

Course Sessions:

Classes will be one hour and five minutes in length. Role will not be taken but, for best results, students should attend all classes. In order to minimize disruptions to the learning process, the instructor asks that students not engage in conversations on cellular telephones in the classroom. Please turn off your phones and beepers, or use silent/vibrate functions. If it becomes necessary for you to use your communication devices during class time, please temporarily excuse yourself from class to use them.

Course Textbook:

Textbook Required: *[Available in bookstore and online]*

Understanding Psychology, 8th edition, by C. G. Morris and A. A. Maisto

Course Requirements:

There will be two exams and five quizzes this semester.

Exam I 25% (*chapters 1 - 7*)

Exam II 25% (*chapters 8 - 14*)

Quizzes (5) 50% (*lowest quiz score will be dropped*)

Grading: The grading scale will be as follows:

100 – 94 (A) 89 – 86 (B+) 79 – 76 (C+) 69 – 66 (D+) 59 and

93 – 90 (A-) 85 – 83 (B) 75 – 73 (C) 65 – 63 (D) below (F)

82 – 80 (B-) 72 – 70 (C-) 62 – 60 (D-)

Other Course Policies:

Make-up exams

There will be no make-up quizzes, but each student's lowest quiz score will be dropped and will not count toward his or her total semester grade. A student may be given a make-up midterm or final exam only if s/he has an illness or emergency situation that results in him/her not being able to take a scheduled test. *The student must present documentation as proof of the illness or emergency.* The student or his/her proxy must contact the professor within 24 hours of the scheduled exam time. If not, then the student may not be permitted to take a make-up exam.

Exam material

Exam material will consist of information from textbook chapters as they are listed in this syllabus, even if such material is not covered during lectures. Exam material will also consist of lecture material, even when such material is not covered in the textbook. Assessment items on exams and quizzes will be in multiple choice, matching, fill-in-the-blank questions and short-answer formats.

Lecture notes and handouts

If a student is unable to attend a class session, it is the student's responsibility to obtain session lecture notes, handouts, and/or assignments. Most lecture notes and handouts for this course will be available electronically at Northeastern University's Blackboard Academic Suite™ (<http://blackboard.neu.edu>), but it is the student's responsibility to ensure that s/he recovers all information for the missed class session.

Extra Credit

Group Assignments including in-class presentations will be made available for those wishing to earn extra credit towards their final grade. This will be discussed in more detail during the course of the semester.

Electronic devices during exams

Use of computer or electronic devices is not permitted during exams.

Tape recording lectures

You may not audio- or videotape my lectures without the instructor's consent.

Research participation

Research participation is a requirement for all Foundations of Psychology courses. You will not be graded, but participation is required to pass the course. More information is attached. Failure to meet this semester requirement will result in a grade of Incomplete.

Class Schedule: Spring 2007

Jan. 8, Tues. Introductions Review Syllabus Forming Discussion Groups What is Psychology?
Jan.11, Fri. Ch. 1 Introduction: The Science of Psychology Psychology Past and Present
Jan. 15, Tues.. Ch. 2 The Biological Basis of Behavior Basic Blueprint of the Nervous System
Jan.18, Fri. Ch. 3 Sensation and Perception How do we sense?
Jan.22, Tues. Ch. 4 Quiz 1: Chapters 1 – 3 States of Consciousness Are we aware of all external and internal sensations?
Jan. 25, Fri. Ch. 5 Learning Conditioning
Jan. 29, Tues. Ch. 5 Learning Cognitive Maps
Feb.1, Fri. Ch. 6 Memory Biology of Memory
Feb.5, Tues. Ch. 7 Quiz 2: Chapters 4 – 6 Cognition and Mental Abilities Language & Thought

<p>Feb.8, Fri. Ch. 7 Cognition and Mental Abilities Gender Socialization, and Culture</p>
<p>Feb. 12, Tues. Ch. 7 Theories of Intelligence</p>
<p>Feb. 15, Fri. Examination 1</p>
<p>Feb. 19, Tues. Ch. 8 Motivation and Emotion Perspectives on Motivation</p>
<p>Feb. 22, Fri. Ch. 8 Motivation and Emotion Theories of Emotion</p>
<p>Feb. 26, Tues. Ch. 9 Lifespan Development Enduring Issues and Methods in Developmental Psychology</p>
<p>Feb. 29, Fri. Ch. 10 Quiz 3: Chapters 8– 9 Personality Theories of Personality</p>
<p>Mar. 4, Tues. Ch. 10 Personality Assessment of Personality</p>
<p>Mar. 7, Fri. Ch. 11 Stress and Health Psychology How Stress Affects Health</p>
<p>Mar. 11, Tues. Ch. 12 Quiz 4: Chapters 10 – 11 Psychological Disorders Perspectives on Psychological Disorders</p>
<p>Mar. 14, Fri. Ch. 12 Psychological Disorders The Role of Diagnosis Past and Present</p>
<p>Mar. 18, Tues. Ch. 13 Therapies</p>

Types of Therapy
<p>Mar. 21, Fri. Ch. 13</p> <p>Therapies</p> <p>Types of Therapy</p> <p><u>For Next Time - Read: Seligman, M.E.P. (1995). The Effectiveness of Psychotherapy: The Consumer Reports Study, Pgs 965-974.</u></p>
<p>Mar. 25, Tues.. Ch. 13</p> <p>Effectiveness of Psychotherapies</p>
<p>Mar. 28, Fri. Ch. 14</p> <p>Social Psychology</p> <p>Social Action</p>
<p>Apr. 1, Tues. Ch. 14</p> <p>Social Psychology</p> <p>Social Influence</p> <p>Video: <i>Human Behavior Experiments</i></p>
<p>Apr. 4, Fri.</p> <p>Quiz 5: Chapters 12– 14</p>
<p>Apr. 8, Tues.</p> <p>In-Class Extra Credit Presentations</p>
<p>Apr. 11, Fri.</p> <p>In-Class Extra Credit Presentations</p>
<p>Apr. 15, Tues. Final Exam Review</p>
<p>Apr. 17-25 Exam 2, TBD by University Final Exam Schedule</p>