



<b>Course Title</b>	Introduction to Psychology I
<b>Course Code</b>	PSYC 1001
<b>Semester</b>	Spring 2026
<b>Course Length</b>	4 Weeks, 60 Contact Hours
<b>Credits</b>	4
<b>Instructor</b>	TBA
<b>Office</b>	TBA
<b>Email</b>	TBA
<b>Prerequisite</b>	N/A

### Course Description:

*Introduction to Psychology I* offers an overview of key psychological concepts, theories, and methods used in the scientific exploration of behavior and mental processes. The course covers a range of topics, including the nervous system, human development, sensation, perception, learning, memory, language, motivation, emotion, and personality.

### Course Goals:

Students who successfully complete this course will demonstrate competency in the following general education core goals:

- **Critical thinking skills** – Students will engage in creative and/or innovative thinking, and/or inquiry, analysis, evaluation, synthesis of information, organizing concepts and constructing solutions.
- **Communication skills** – Students will demonstrate effective written, oral and visual communication.
- **Teamwork** – Students will demonstrate the ability to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal and consider different points of view.
- **Social responsibility** – Students will demonstrate intercultural competency and civic knowledge by engaging effectively in local, regional, national and global communities.

### Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- gain a foundational understanding of key psychological concepts, principles, and theories;
- describe the scientific methods used in psychological research and critically assess research findings;

- apply psychological concepts to real-life situations for a deeper understanding of the world.

### **Textbooks/Supplies/Materials/Equipment/ Technology or Technical Requirements:**

*Introduction to Psychology: Gateways to Mind and Behavior* by Dennis Coon, John O. Mitterer, and Tanya S. Martini, Cengage Learning, 15th Edition.

You are required to bring your laptop to this class to follow along with or complete our in-class exercises.

### **Course Requirements:**

#### **Assignments**

This component of the course will be a combination of small assignments as assigned and handed out in class throughout the semester. These assignments will always be mentioned in class slides, so if you miss class it is up to you to make sure you are keeping up to date.

#### **Quizzes**

To incentivize reading assigned materials and coming to class for lectures, there will be regular quizzes throughout the semester. These quizzes will be short and should be fairly easy if you have been keeping up with class material.

#### **Papers**

From the list of chapters that are in our regular textbook, you should choose any 3 chapters that sound interesting to you. They cannot all be from the same main category (e.g., Psychology as Science, Biological Basis of Behavior, etc.), as the goal is to give you a range of different information. Note: you are picking chapters, not sections. For each of these chapters, you will be required to read the chapter, then write a short paper (at least 500 words, approx. 2 pages) describing and summarizing that chapter. These papers will be due throughout the span of the semester, each on one chapter. You should make sure to write this paper in your own words, and not just copy directly from the textbook and other sources.

#### **Exams**

There will be a midterm exam and a cumulative final exam during finals week throughout the semester. The exam during the semester will be non-cumulative, and cover only the material picking up where the prior lectures ended. The final exam is cumulative over the entire semester. The mid-term takes up 20% while the final takes up 30% of the final grades.

<b>Assessments: Activity</b>	<b>Percent Contribution</b>
Assignments	10%
Quizzes	10%
Papers	30%
Exams	50%

### **Grading:**

Final grades will be based on the sum of all possible course points as noted above.

Grade	Percentage of available points
A	94-100
A-	90-93
B+	87-89
B	84-86
B-	80-83
C+	77-79
C	74-76
C-	70-73
D	64-69
D-	60-63
F	0-59

### Course Schedule:

*The schedule of activities is subject to change at the reasonable discretion of the instructor.  
Minor changes will be announced in class, major ones provided in writing.*

PSYC 1001 Schedule		
Lecture	Topic	Readings
L1	Orientation	---
L2	Research Methods and A Brief History of Psychology	Chapter 1
L3	Brain and Behavior	Chapter 2
L4	Sensation	Chapter 4
L5	Perception	Chapter 4
<b>Quiz 1</b>		
L6	Motivation	Chapter 10
L7	Emotion	Chapter 10
L8	Conditioning and Learning	Chapter 6
<b>PAPER 1 due</b>		
L9	Memory	Chapter 7
L10	Cognition, Language, and Creativity	Chapter 8
<b>Quiz 2</b>		
L11	Sex, Gender, and Sexuality	Chapter 11
L12	Intelligence	Chapter 9
L13	<b>MIDTERM EXAM</b>	
L14	Human Development I	---
	Adolescence and Young Adulthood	Chapter 3
	Moral Development	
L15	Human Development II	Chapter 3
	Middle and Later Adulthood	
<b>Quiz 3</b>		
L16	Personality I	Chapter 12
L17	Personality II	Chapter 12
<b>PAPER 2 due</b>		
L18	Health, Stress, and Coping I	Chapter 13
	Health Psychology	
L19	Health, Stress, and Coping II	Chapter 13
	Learned Helplessness and Depression	
<b>Quiz 4</b>		

L20	Psychological Disorders I	Chapter 14
L21	Psychological Disorders II	Chapter 14
L22	Therapies	Chapter 15
L23	Social Thinking and Social Influence	Chapter 16
L24	Prosocial and Antisocial Behavior	Chapter 17
	<b>Quiz 5</b>	
L25	<b>PAPER 3 due</b>	---
	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>	

### **Accommodation Statement:**

Academic accommodations may be made for any student who notifies the instructor of the need for an accommodation. It is imperative that you take the initiative to bring such needs to the instructor's attention, as he/she is not legally permitted to inquire. Students who may require assistance in emergency evacuations should contact the instructor as to the most appropriate procedures to follow.

### **Academic Integrity Statement**

Each student is expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity in academic and professional matters. The University reserves the right to take disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, against any student who is found guilty of academic dishonesty or otherwise fails to meet the standards. Any student judged to have engaged in academic dishonesty in course work may receive a reduced or failing grade for the work in question and/or for the course.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, dishonesty in quizzes, tests, or assignments; claiming credit for work not done or done by others; hindering the academic work of other students; misrepresenting academic or professional qualifications within or without the University; and nondisclosure or misrepresentation in filling out applications or other University records.

### **Other Items:**

#### **Attendance and Expectations**

All students are required to attend every class, except in cases of illness, serious family concerns, or other major problems. We expect that students will arrive on time, be prepared to listen and participate as appropriate, and stay for the duration of a meeting rather than drift in or out casually. In short, we anticipate that students will show professors and fellow students maximum consideration by minimizing the disturbances that cause interruptions in the learning process. This means that punctuality is a must, that cellular phones be turned off, and that courtesy is the guiding principle in all exchanges among students and faculty. You will be responsible for the materials and ideas presented in the lecture.

#### **Assignment Due Dates**

All written assignments must be turned in at the time specified. Late assignments will not be accepted unless prior information has been obtained from the instructor. If you believe you have extenuating circumstances, please contact the instructor as soon as possible.

### **Make-Up Work**

The instructor will not provide students with class information or make-up assignments/quizzes/exams missed due to an unexcused absence. Absences will be excused and assignments/quizzes/exams may be made up only with written documentation of an authorized absence. Every effort should be made to avoid scheduling appointments during class. An excused student is responsible for requesting any missed information from the instructor and setting up any necessary appointments outside of class.

### **Access, Special Needs and Disabilities**

Please notify the instructor at the start of the semester if you have any documented disabilities, a medical issue, or any special circumstances that require attention, and the school will be happy to assist.