

Fall 2021

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University of Pittsburgh-Bradford

Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences

PSY 0101: Introduction to Psychology

Tuesday & Thursday 1:00-2:15 pm

Mission of the University: Founded in 1963 as a regional campus of the University of Pittsburgh and set in the heart of the scenic Alleghenies, the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford provides affordable access to a distinguished four-year higher education. Pitt-Bradford offers high quality teaching supported by the resources of a world-class research university in a friendly, inclusive and student-focused academic environment. In service to our region and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Pitt-Bradford connects communities to new ideas, innovative research and exciting arts and cultural programming, partnering with key stakeholders to build opportunities for continued regional development and growth.

Course Description

This course is a general introduction to the field of psychology. Topics that will be covered include: research, behavior, biology, perception, cognition, development, personality, psychopathology, and social psychology. There will also be an emphasis on the role of research for the topics covered (Pitt-Bradford Catalog)

Student Learning Outcomes

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

- Demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, research methods, core empirical findings, and historic trends in psychology.
- Explain (including advantages and disadvantages) and compare major theoretical perspectives of psychology (e.g., behavioral, biological, cognitive, evolutionary, humanistic, psychodynamic and socio-cultural);
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the following eleven general domains: (1) psychological research, (2) biological bases of behavior and mental processes, (3) consciousness, (4) psychological learning, (5) cognitive processes and intelligence, (6) memory processes, (7) emotion and motivation, (8) developmental changes in behavior and mental processes that occur across the lifespan, (9) individual differences, psychometrics/measurement, personality, (10) social processes (including those related to socio-cultural and international dimensions), and (11) psychological disorders;
- Describe and demonstrate an understanding of applied areas of psychology (e.g., clinical, counseling, forensic, community, organizational, school, health);
- Draw the distinction between scientific and non-scientific methods of understanding and analysis.
- Recognize and understand the impact of diversity on psychological research, theory and application, including (but not limited to): age, race, ethnicity, culture, gender, socio-economic status, disability, and sexual orientation.
- Understand and apply psychological principles to personal experience and social and organizational settings.
- Demonstrate critical thinking skills and information competence as applied to psychological topics.

Required Texts and Materials

Spielman, R. M., Jenkins, W.J. & Lovett, M.D. (2020). *Psychology*. OpenStax.

<https://openstax.org/details/books/psychology-2e>

NOTE: The text class is also available on Canvas (LMS) as modules.

Introduction to Psychology Course Syllabus

Schedule of Classes: Key reading, research assignments, and exam dates; all other assignments with specific instructions will be posted on Canvas (LMS)

WEEK	Day	Date	Topic	Assignment Due Dates
1	F	8/27	NO CLASS	NO CLASS
2	T	8/31	Introduction to Class	
	H	9/2	Chapter 1	
3	T	9/7		
	H	9/9	Chapter 2: Psychological Research	
4	T	9/14		
	H	9/16	Chapter 3: Biopsychology	Ch 2 Quiz (9/17)
5	T	9/21		
	H	9/23	Chapter 4: Consciousness	Ch 3 Quiz (9/24)
6	T	9/28		
	H	9/30	Chapter 6: Learning	Ch 4 Quiz (10/1) & Exam 1 (10/3)
7	T	10/5		
	H	10/7		Ch 6 Quiz (10/8)
8	T	10/12	Chapter 7: Thinking and Intelligence	
	H	10/14		Ch 7 Quiz (10/15) (FRIDAY —10/15 Fall Break; NO CLASSES)
9	T	10/19	Chapter 8: Memory	
	H	10/21		Ch 8 Quiz (10/22)
10	T	10/26	Chapter 10: Emotion & Motivation	
	H	10/28		Ch 10 Quiz (10/29) & Exam 2 (10/31)
11	T	11/2	Chapter 9: Human Development	
	H	11/4		Ch 9 Quiz (11/5)
12	T	11/9	Chapter 11: Personality	
	H	11/11		Ch 11 Quiz (11/12)
13	T	11/16	Chapter 12: Social Psychology	
	H	11/18		Ch 12 Quiz (11/19)
14	T	11/23	Thanksgiving Break	No Class
	H	11/25	Thanksgiving Break	No Class
15	T	11/30	Chapter 15: Psychological Disorders	
	H	12/2		Ch 15 Quiz (12/3)
16	T	12/7	Review for Exam 3 & Final Exam	
	H	12/9		Exam 3 (12/12)
FINAL EXAM December 13-17		Final Exam: Tuesday, December 14 from 12:00-2:00 pm. Source: Fall 2021 Schedule of Classes		

****All Quiz Deadlines are 11:59 pm (or before) on the Fridays during the week posted above. All UNIT EXAMS are due by 11:59pm on Sundays during the week posted above. The Final exam will be held in-person between 12:00 and 2:00 pm on 12/14 (Tuesday).**

Caveat Concerning the Flexibility of the Course Syllabus

The syllabus and structure of the course are based on current University COVID policies. If such policies change during the term, the syllabus and structure of the course will change to accommodate those policies.

Grading Opportunities

Assignment	Weight
11 Weekly Online Quizzes	15%
3 Unit Exams	50%
Comprehensive Final Exam	35%
TOTAL	100%

*****See “Additional Information” section at the end of the syllabus for detailed information about and scheduling of quizzes and exams.**

Grading Standards	Range
Letter grade: A	90-100%
Letter grade: B+	87-89%
Letter grade: B	84-86%
Letter grade: B-	80-83%
Letter grade: C+	77-79%
Letter grade: C	74-76%
Letter grade: C-	70-73%
Letter grade: D+	67-69%
Letter grade: D	64-66%
Letter grade: D-	60-63%
Letter grade: F	00-59%

*Refer to the Student Handbook and division standards for required letter grade per course.

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend a minimum of 9 hours (anticipate 11-14 hours) of study time per week in preparation for class (readings, viewing archived lectures, attending class, preparing for exams, etc.).

Introduction to Psychology Course Syllabus
Academic Instructional Policies and Procedures

COVID-19: How to Protect Yourself and the Pitt-Bradford Community

- Practice social distancing; maintain a safe distance of 6 feet from others at all possible times
- Wear a face covering in classrooms and all communal spaces on and off campus
- Wash your hands frequently using warm, soapy water; use hand sanitizer when water and soap are unavailable
- Clean surfaces frequently (desktops, light switches, cell phones, remotes, keyboards, and other frequently touched surfaces)
- Stay in your room and/or at home if you are not feeling well
- Should you become ill, immediately call Pitt-Bradford Health Services at 814-362-5272 during regular business hours to report your illness and receive assistance. If you have a health emergency after business hours, call Campus Police at 814-368-3211 (from any phone) and/or 10333 (from any campus phone)
- Do not hesitate to reach out for assistance if you or anyone in the Pitt-Bradford community needs health and safety assistance

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Members of a university community, both faculty and students, bear a serious responsibility to uphold personal and professional integrity and to maintain complete honesty in all academic work. Violations of the code of academic integrity are not tolerated. Students who cheat or plagiarize or who otherwise take improper advantage of the work of others face harsh penalties, including permanent dismissal. The academic integrity guidelines set forth student and faculty obligations and the means of enforcing regulations and addressing grievances. The hyperlink will direct you to the 2020-2021 Pitt-Bradford Catalog section on academic integrity.

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend class sessions as scheduled. Your attendance is important to engage in discussions and exercises related to the class materials. I recognize that you may not be able to attend class meetings for a variety of reasons (e.g., work scheduling, personal health, family health, family obligations, technology problems, weather, or other conflicts). Archived recorded lectures are available on Canvas for you to watch that discusses material that was covered in a class. ***HINT:*** these lectures can be a useful tool for information you missed because of an absence or for reviewing lectures later.

I take attendance and monitor your participation in class. Your attendance/participation **may be** factored into your class grade for the class as extra-credit. Quality and consistency of your participation, not just attending class, will be considered at the end of the semester when posting final grades (*asking about your class attendance as extra-credit will likely result in not earning extra-credit for your attendance*).

Academic Support

The links below will direct you to support services available to you.

[Academic Advising Center](#)

[Academic Coaching and Tutoring Center](#)

[Disability Resources and Services](#)

[Hanley Library](#)

[Mathematics Center](#)

[TRIO SSS \(Student Support Services\)](#)

[Writing Center](#)

[Online Student Toolkit](#) The purpose of this toolkit is to provide you with instruction on the Canvas learning management system (LMS), educational technology tools, and strategies to help you succeed in hybrid and online courses.

Class Cancellations/Professors Absent from Class/Campus-wide Emergencies and Inclement Weather

When professors are absent from class, they will email the class using the email portal in Canvas. In rare instances when professors are unable to do so, the Division Chair and/or Division Administrative Assistant will email the class. Please note that emergencies may prevent timely notification; however, all efforts will be made for advance notification.

In the case of campus-wide emergencies and inclement weather, you will be notified via Pitt-Bradford's [Emergency Notification Service](#). Please make sure to register your cell phone and landline (if applicable) for alerts; alerts will be sent to all active Pitt-Bradford email addresses.

Diversity and Inclusion at Pitt-Bradford

The Office of Diversity and Inclusion (ODI) was established in 2015 to help build the University into a world-class model of diversity and inclusion defined by inclusive excellence and an environment that allows everyone to thrive. ODI is committed to fostering diversity and celebrating differences, educating the community on the benefits of diversity, promoting equity, eliminating discrimination, and advancing equal access to all opportunities at the University. Given the size, complexity, and collegial nature of the University, ODI does not do this alone. The campus community contributes to the University's commitment to diversity and inclusion, through the work of faculty, staff and students at all levels of the University. The hyperlink above directs you to the ODI.

Grade Appeals

Students who wish to appeal a final grade must first meet with the instructor who awarded the grade. Students may then continue to appeal the final grade by seeking a meeting with the chair of the division in which the course in question resides. The final level of appeal may be made with the Vice President and Dean of Academic Affairs, whose decision is final.

Learning Management System (LMS) – [Canvas Student Guide](#)

The hyperlink above will direct you to Guides for using features in Canvas.

Additional Information (specific to this class)

Your Well-being Matters

College can be an exciting and challenging time for students. Taking time to care for yourself and seeking appropriate support can help you achieve your academic and professional goals. You are encouraged to maintain a healthy lifestyle by eating a balanced diet, exercising regularly, avoiding drugs and alcohol, getting enough sleep, and taking time to relax.

It can be helpful to remember that we all benefit from assistance and guidance at times, and there are many resources available to support your well-being while you are at Pitt. If you or anyone you know experiences overwhelming academic stress, persistent difficult feelings and/or challenging life events, you are strongly encouraged to seek support. In addition to reaching out to friends and loved ones, consider connecting with a faculty member you trust for assistance connecting to helpful resources. The [Pitt-Bradford Counseling Services](#) is also here for you. You can call 814-362-5272 to arrange for an appointment.

If you are currently experiencing an emergency and are concerned for your safety or the safety of another student, the following resources are available 24/7:

- Contact Campus Police at [814-368-3211](#) from any phone or 10333 from a campus phone
- Call Crisis Intervention at The Guidance Center at [814-362-4623](#) or [1-800-459-6568](#)
- Go to the emergency room of [Bradford Regional Medical Center](#) or nearest hospital
- Reach out to the Crisis Text Line – text HELP to 741.741
- Reach out to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline – call [1-800-273-8255](#)
- For more information and resources to support student well-being, visit the [Pitt-Bradford's Counseling Services website](#) and look for more information in upcoming newsletters.

Classroom Community and Civility

Every student brings to the classroom a unique point of view. Everyone has different experiences and backgrounds. We tend to think and learn in our own way, based in part on our own social and cultural background. Therefore, we have all formed opinions and perspectives that may or may not be shared by others. However, we should all treat each other with respect and decency. In this course, we will create an environment in which people of all identities are encouraged to contribute their perspectives to academic discourse. Please realize that we may look at controversial topics that can provoke strong responses and may be highly political, personal, or emotional for some participants. Come to class prepared to conduct yourself with civility, respect, and integrity, and help create a safe space for discussions that are intellectually rigorous and mature.

To establish a comfortable learning environment, we must have mutual respect and civility. This includes coming to class on time, not disrupting the class with cell phones or pagers, and discussing things in an academic, rather than a personal manner. While in class, don't talk, read non-course material, listen to headphones, or catch up on sleep. Please don't start packing up when there is still time left, as it won't get you out any quicker. Let's all be well-mannered, kind to one another, have fun, and learn! Below are some steps we can take in helping to foster a healthy classroom community:

1. Please use "I" statements – you can only speak from your personal experiences, not as a representative of a group.
2. Please respect other students' preferences regarding the name and pronouns by which they would like to be referred and strive to utilize inclusive language.
3. Please do not be judgmental regarding others' opinions and perspectives.
4. Please approach the course content in an academic, scholarly manner.
5. Please create an atmosphere of mutual respect and be considerate of others' feelings.
6. Please work to develop an understanding of different points of view.
7. Please have an open mind and reserve the right to change your mind.
8. Please be patient with each other and yourself.

Class Requirements:**Weekly Chapter Quizzes (15% of class grade):**

During the 4th week of class, a weekly quiz on the chapter assigned begins. Each week's quiz will be *posted on Canvas on Thursdays* at 2:30 pm and you will have until *Fridays at 11:59 pm* to complete the quiz (deadline extensions only permitted for extreme extenuating circumstances). You are allowed to take the quiz twice before the deadline—your posted will be the higher of the 2 attempts. The quiz questions will be randomly selected from a pool of questions; meaning that you should not expect to see the same questions as others in class or if you attempt the quiz twice (if you do, they will be in a different order). All quiz attempts must be completed by 11:59 pm on Fridays.

Week of Semester	Class Chapter/Material on Quiz	Quiz Deadline: FRIDAYS @ 11:59 pm
Week 4	Chapter 2: Psychological Research	9/17
Week 5	Chapter 3: Biopsychology	9/24
Week 6	Chapter 4: Consciousness	10/1
Week 7	Chapter 6: Learning	10/8
Week 8	Chapter 7: Thinking & Intelligence	10/15
Week 9	Chapter 8: Memory	10/22
Week 10	Chapter 10: Emotion & Motivation	10/29
Week 11	Chapter 9: Human Development	11/5
Week 12	Chapter 11: Personality	11/12
Week 13	Chapter 12: Social Psychology	11/19
Week 15	Chapter 15: Psychological Disorders	12/3
Week 16	No Quiz	

Unit Exams (50% of class grade):

There will be 3 non-cumulative exams posted on Canvas throughout the semester. The exams will cover material from the text (even if material is not covered in the lectures), recorded lectures (even if material is not covered in the text), and class meetings. The questions on the exam will be randomly selected from a question pool--therefore, the questions on your test will be different than others. Exams will be posted on Thursday afternoons (after class) and available until 11:59 pm (Eastern Time) on Sundays. You will be allowed 1 hour and 15 minutes to complete the exams (exams will be automatically submitted regardless of your progress) so plan accordingly. The exams must be completed by 11:59 pm (Eastern Time) on the dates listed below. The exams will not be available after the deadline. If you are still taking the exam at 11:59 pm, the test will be terminated and automatically submitted--plan accordingly. The exam dates and content (corresponding chapters) are:

Exam	Chapters Covered	Due Date for Completing Exam
1	1, 2, 3, and 4	Sunday, October 3, by 11:59 pm
2	6, 7, 8, and 10	Sunday, October 31, by 11:59 pm
3	9, 11, 12, and 15	Sunday, December 12, by 11:59 pm
Final Exam	All Chapters	Tuesday, December 14 <i>In class---12:00 (NOON) thru 2:00pm</i>

Comprehensive Final Exam (35% of class grade):

The final exam is cumulative, and the questions on the exam will be randomly selected from the question pools used for the unit exams. This means that you may or may not see the same questions you saw on the unit exams; however, the same content from the three unit exams will be covered on the final. You will have two hours to complete the final exam. The final exam will be administered in class during finals week: December 13-17. The will be given on Tuesday, December 14, from 12:00 (noon) until 2:00 pm.

Important Notes About Quizzes/Exams!!

All quizzes and exams are timed and closed-book. This means you are expected to complete assessments WITHOUT ANY AID/ASSISTANCE. Academic integrity is taken very seriously in this class. Suspicious quiz/exam taking behavior will be investigated and may be reported to the Vice-President and Dean of Academic Affairs for academic integrity review. There are several things included in Canvas and the exams to discourage violating the campus [Academic Integrity Policy](#).

- Each quiz/exam is time-limited. This restricts the amount of time you have to answer the questions.
- Quiz/Exam questions focus on application of concepts rather than on the definition. Questions typically ask you to indicate what concept explains the scenario posed in the question.
- Quiz/Exam questions are presented one-at-a-time and back-tracking is not allowed. This does not allow you to change your answers on a question later
- Canvas monitors and reports computer activity (that I monitor) while you complete quizzes/exams.
 - Canvas reports how long you spent on each question.
 - Canvas reports when you leave the quiz/exam screen (e.g., checking email, texts, changing music, etc.). You are expected to focus solely on the quiz/exam while you are completing it. Therefore, it is unacceptable for you to open/access a new browser/page, access another computer program/app, or communicate with anyone while taking a quiz/exam for this class.
 - If you leave the quiz/exam page during the exam, you are engaging in behavior that IS NOT appropriate and presents the impression of academically dishonest behavior.
 - Canvas reports your responses for each question and how many questions you answered.
- Suspicious quiz/exam behaviors will be investigated and may be reported to the Vice-President and Dean of Academic Affairs for academic integrity review.