

9-2002

PSYC 100.01: Introduction to Psychology

Amber Nicole Bonogofsky

The University of Montana, amber.bonogofsky@umontana.edu

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Recommended Citation

Bonogofsky, Amber Nicole, "PSYC 100.01: Introduction to Psychology" (2002). *Syllabi*. 1291.
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INTRODUCTORY PSYCHOLOGY (PSYC.100)

Fall Semester, 2002

Instructor: Amber Bonogofsky

Office: Skaggs Building 368

Office Hours: Mon. 8-10 a.m.; Wed 12:30-1:30 p.m.; or by appointment.

Office Phone: 243-6514

Email: amberbonogofsky@hotmail.com

TEXT:

For this course you are **REQUIRED** to obtain the following textbook:

- ◆ Weiten, W. (2001). *Psychology Themes and Variations*, 5th Edition. Connecticut: Wadsworth Publishers.

Recommended

This is a thorough study guide and may be a helpful way to process the textbook's large amount of information. It offers quiz-yourself questions, a review of key people in the field, and other insights into how one might study from the text.

- ◆ Stalling, R. B. & Wadsen, R. E. (2001). *Study Guide for Weiten's Psychology Themes and Variations*. 5th Edition. Connecticut: Wadsworth Publishers.
- ◆ PsycTrek CD-ROM, Wadsworth Publishers.

Text Website

Wadsworth publishers provide students a study center website for quiz questions, research updates, interactive exercises, and suggested readings from each chapter.

- ◆ <http://psychology.wadsworth.com/book/weitenthemes5e/>

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Psychology is the science of human and animal behavior and mental processes. As a survey course, Introductory Psychology is designed to provide students with a broad overview of the field.

Psychology is one of the most diverse disciplines within the sciences. There are well over one hundred disciplines within the field, including evolutionary, social, behavioral, comparative, cognitive, industrial, applied, learning, and neuropsychology. The primary goal of this course is to introduce you to some of the dominant disciplines, theory, research methods, empirical findings, and perspectives in the field of psychology. A secondary goal of this course is to facilitate your understanding of how psychology may influence our social and political environment and to help you apply this information to everyday situations.

Upon the completion of this course, you should be able to:

- ◆ Discuss the different arguments within the field of psychology
- ◆ Understand the relevance of psychology within our society and our history
- ◆ Explain various psychological perspectives
- ◆ Be comfortable with a variety of definitions and theories for different psychological disciplines.

COURSE FORMAT AND REQUIREMENTS:

This class meets Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:10 to 8:00 p.m..

GRADING BREAKDOWN

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 4 Exams: | (50 points each) | 200 points |
| 5 Quizzes (out of 6): | (5 points each) | 25 points |
| 3 Assignments: | (10 points each) | <u>30 points</u> |
| | | TOTAL: 255 points |

EXAMS

- ◆ There will be 4 exams during the semester. Please see the Course Schedule for dates.
- ◆ The exams will be made up of multiple choice and short answer questions.

QUIZZES

- ◆ There will be 6 pop quizzes during the semester worth 5 points each. You will be able to drop your lowest score (or missed quiz), as only 5 of the quizzes will count toward your grade.

ASSIGNMENTS

- ◆ There will be 3 short assignments during the course of the semester. These assignments are designed to help you apply the principles of psychology to your everyday life. Detailed information about the activities will be given the day they are assigned. Note the Course Schedule for due dates.

MAKE-UP POLICY

To make up a missed exam (YOU CANNOT MAKE UP POP QUIZZES!), you must meet the following criteria:

- ◆ Notify me prior to the time of the exam and bring proper documentation
- ◆ You must have legitimate documentation verifying the reason for your absence. Examples of documented circumstances that may merit approval include:
 - illness or accident
 - death or family emergency
 - University-sanctioned activity

REMEMBER! Prior notification and documentation are MANDATORY. Without BOTH, you will not be allowed to make up an exam.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE (TWO OPTIONS)

Psychology is a science built on systematic research on both human and non-human animals.

A critical aspect of this course is becoming familiar with how that information is obtained.

There are two ways to meet this course requirement. They may be combined in any manner to meet the 8-credit research experience requirement (e.g., 4 credits of research participation plus 4 credits for reading about research) but this requirement must be met by the end of the semester.

1) Participation in Original Research

In this option, you will sign up to participate in actual psychology experiments. Individual experiments may range from 1 to 8 credits. Typically, each credit takes about 30 minutes. **Sign-up sheets will be posted on the table on the second floor lobby of the Skaggs Building (near room 246).**

Each experiment will be assigned a letter code and you must sign up for experiments designated by DIFFERENT letters. Once you have participated in an experiment assigned a letter (e.g., BE) you may not sign up for any other experiment with the same code (again, BE). If you do, you will only receive credit for the first experiment.

Once you sign up for an experiment, you have made an appointment. If you miss your appointment, you are required to make up the credits for that experiment PLUS two extra credits. You will keep track of your credits on a sheet that I will provide. DO NOT LOSE YOUR SHEET! This is your record of your participation and you are responsible for it! I encourage you to turn it back into me as soon as you have finished your credits to avoid any lost sheets.

2) Reading about Original Research

In this option, you will find, read, and summarize an original research article in 1-2 pages. Each summary counts toward 2 experimental credits. A separate handout is available outside Skaggs 365 with the details.

What happens if I don't finish the research experience requirement? Students who do not complete their research experience credits will receive an Incomplete for the class. Students with Incompletes will be allowed to finish their research experience requirement ONLY through the reading about research option. Consistent with University policy, if you do not resolve your Incomplete within one year, your grade will revert to one letter grade lower than what you would have received otherwise. Incompletes will remain permanently on your transcript.

EXTRA CREDIT:

- ◆ There are 52 points possible on each exam, even though your score is taken out of 50 points. Therefore, you can earn 2 extra points on each exam, or miss a question without compromising your grade.
- ◆ Various enrichment assignments may be offered for extra credit, but you should not be counting on these points to significantly change your grade.

STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:

- ◆ If you have unique learning needs, it is your responsibility to inform me at the onset of the course of your disability and the accommodations in which you and DSS have agreed would most benefit your learning style. I will make every effort to accommodate your needs and help you in achieving your goals in this course.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- ◆ Students are responsible for any announcements made in class. These may include changes in policy, due dates, or assignment requirements.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Please note that you are expected to complete the assigned readings PRIOR TO CLASS.

| <u>CLASS DATE:</u> | <u>CHAPTER/ASSIGNMENT</u> |
|-------------------------|--|
| Jan. 28 | Introduction. Review syllabus. |
| Jan. 30 | Chapter 1: The Evolution of Psychology Chapter 2: The Research Enterprise in Psychology |
| Feb. 4 | Chapter 3: The Biological Basis of Behavior |
| Feb. 6 | Chapter 3: continued |
| Feb. 11 | Chapter 4: Sensation and Perception |
| Feb. 13 | Chapter 4: cont./Review for exam |
| Feb. 18 | EXAM 1, Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4 ASSIGNMENT DUE |
| Feb. 20 | Chapter 5: Variations in Consciousness |
| Feb. 25 | Chapter 6: Learning |
| Feb. 27 | Chapter 6: continued |
| Mar. 4 | Chapter 7: Human Memory |
| Mar. 6 | Chapter 7: continued |
| Mar. 11 | Chapter 8: Language and Thought ASSIGNMENT DUE |
| Mar. 13 | Chapter 8: continued |
| Mar. 18 | EXAM 2, Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8 |
| Mar. 20 | Chapter 10: Motivation and Emotion |
| Apr. 1 | Chapter 10: continued |
| Apr. 3 | Chapter 11: Human Development |
| Apr. 8 | Chapter 11: continued |
| Apr. 10 | Chapter 16: Social Behavior |
| Apr. 15 | Chapter 16: continued |
| Apr. 17 | EXAM 3, Chapters 10, 11, 16 |
| Apr. 22 | Chapter 12: Personality |
| Apr. 24 | Chapter 12: continued |
| Apr. 29 | Chapter 14: Psychological Disorders |
| May 1 | Chapter 14: continued |
| May 6 | Chapter 15: Treatment of Disorders |
| May 8 | Chapter 15: continued ASSIGNMENT DUE |
| May 13 6:10-8:00 | FINAL EXAM - SAME ROOM |