

University of Montana

## ScholarWorks at University of Montana

---

University of Montana Course Syllabi

Open Educational Resources (OER)

---

Spring 2-1-2018

### PSYX 100S.03: Introduction to Psychology

Kinsie Jean Dunham

*University of Montana, Missoula*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi>

**Let us know how access to this document benefits you.**

---

#### Recommended Citation

Dunham, Kinsie Jean, "PSYX 100S.03: Introduction to Psychology" (2018). *University of Montana Course Syllabi*. 7938.

<https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi/7938>

This Syllabus is brought to you for free and open access by the Open Educational Resources (OER) at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in University of Montana Course Syllabi by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact [scholarworks@mso.umt.edu](mailto:scholarworks@mso.umt.edu).

## **Psyx 100: Introduction to Psychology**

**Spring 2018**

### **Instructor Information**

Instructor: Kinsie Dunham

Email: [kinsie.dunham@umontana.edu](mailto:kinsie.dunham@umontana.edu)

Office: Skaggs 360

Office Hours: Tuesdays 9:30am-10:30am; or by appointment

### **Course Description**

Psychology is the science of behavior and mental processes. In this course you will learn the role of historical events that have shaped the current field of psychology and multiple perspectives (e.g., social, developmental, behavioral, physiological) on how the mind functions. This course will expose you to empirical psychological research, while explaining how to understand the results through lecture, discussion and in-class activities. Finally, we want you to understand these psychological concepts, terms, and theories in the context of your future careers.

As a survey course, Introduction to Psychology will provide an overview of the concepts, terms, theories and findings in the field. By understanding the principles of psychology, you will learn more about yourself, your relationships with others as well as non-human animals. The course will utilize a lecture-based format; although participation in class discussion and in class activities will help you integrate and apply broad psychological concepts into your own lives and careers. Throughout the semester, visiting guest lecturers may present in class as well.

### **Recommended Text**

Weiten's Psychology: Themes and Variations, 10h Edition

### **Course Guidelines and Policies**

#### **Academic Misconduct**

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the [Student Conduct Code](#).

### **Incompletes**

Department and university policies regarding incompletes do not allow changing “incomplete” grades after one year has passed since the “I” was granted.

### **Disability Modification**

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and [Disability Services for Students](#). If you have a disability, or think you have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with Disability Services, please contact Disability Services in Lommasson Center 154 or call 406-243-2243. I will work with you and Disability Services to provide and appropriate modification.

### **Announcements**

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

### **Cell Phones/ Laptops**

Cell phones are to be silent during class. Laptops may be used to take notes, but please do not use laptops for anything other than note-taking or class activities. If your technology use becomes a distraction to classmates of the instructor, you may be asked to leave the class.

### **Course Grades**

Your final grade in this course is based on the total of your best 4 exam scores (4 required Section Exams and one optional Final Exam; the lowest grade of these will be dropped), completing in class assignments, attending review sessions, a syllabus quiz score and creating personal study guides.

Tests: 200 points total (50 points for each exam; 57% of grade). See course calendar for exam schedule. Each exam consists of 50 multiple choice questions. See below for materials required for exams.

In-Class Assignments: 75 points total (5 points possible per each in-class assignment; 15 assignments total; 22% of grade). These will be randomly assigned and completed during class, so attendance of lectures is strongly encouraged. These cannot be made up without proper documentation of absence (i.e., *before* the assignment is missed, with an acceptable reason for absence; see “Make-Up Policy” section for details) or appropriate accommodation through disability services.

Review Sessions: 25 points total (5 points for attending each review section plus 5 “bonus” points for attending all 4 review sessions; 4 reviews total; 7% of grade). You will receive 5 points

for attending and participating during in-class review sessions. If you attend all 4 review sessions, you will receive an additional 5 “bonus” points.

Study Materials: 40 points total (10 completion points for turning in a personal study guide; 11% of grade). By 11:59pm the night before a sectional exam, one must turn in a self-made review sheet or study materials (i.e., flashcards). Materials may be reflections of group (i.e., group GoogleDoc) or individual work. If you chose to work in a group, groups should be no larger than 4 students. If study materials are submitted with greater than 4 students, all students will receive a “0” for the assignment. Further, group study materials must outline which sections represent the work or effort of each person involved in the creation of the study materials. You will not receive points if you do not substantially contribute to a group review sheet/study guide. These materials may be turned in electronically, or reviewed in-person during office hours. If sending electronically, all participating students should be included in the email in order for everyone to receive credit (see first page for the correct email address; DO NOT SEND THROUGH THE MOODLE EMAIL).

*\*Class notes or lecture slides will not receive credit.\**

Syllabus Quiz: 10 points total (3% of grade). On Monday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, an in-class quiz concerning the syllabus will be given at the beginning of class. This is to encourage a detailed understanding of the syllabus, as most questions concerning the course can be answered by reading this document thoroughly.

**Total Points: 350**

**Your final grade is based on the percentage of the total possible points that you earn.**

**Grades will not be curved, and there is no extra credit.**

Final Grade	Number of Points	Percentage
A	315-350	90%-100%
B	280-314	80%-89%
C	245-279	70%-79%
D	210-244	60%-69%
F	<209	< 60%

## Course Structure

This course is designed to help you learn a large amount of material at a manageable pace. To achieve this goal, the semester is broken up into 4 sections with review sessions, in-class activities and special topic days to provide a depth of understanding of the material. Section 1

covers lectures 1-4, Section 2 covers lectures 5-8, Section 3 covers lectures 9-12, and Section 4 covers lectures 13-15.

### **Sectional Exams and Final Exam**

You are required to take the multiple-choice Sectional Exams. The Final Exam is optional. You can take the Final Exam to replace your lowest Sectional Exam grade. The Sectional Exams will cover only the material from that section of class and will be administered during the regular class time. **The Final Exam will be on Monday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, from 7:40-9:40pm.** All exams are in the lecture room.

For the Exams you will need to bring a #2 pencil and a NCS Test Sheet 50/50, form No. 95142, you can purchase this BLUE/GREEN Scrantron form in the UC. Please note that no student will be allowed to start a test once another student has completed the exam and left the room.

- Study guides are not provided for exams; you are expected to know all the material from the lecture (unless otherwise indicated). Creating personal study materials are part of your course grade, and will assist you in preparing for the exams.
- Plan to be on time for exams.
- **Final Exam: Monday, May 7<sup>th</sup> 2018 from 7:40 PM-9:40 PM, in lecture room.**

### **Make Up Policy**

To make up a missed exam or in-class assignment, you must meet the following criteria.

1. Notify me **before** the time of the exam and provide proper documentation.
2. You must have legitimate documentation verifying the reason for your absence.

Examples of documented circumstances that merit approval include the following:

- Illness or accident (with doctors note)
- Death or family emergency
- University Sanctioned activity (with professor/staff note)

Remember, prior notification and documentation is mandatory! This is to ensure fairness in grading for all students.

Personal study materials may NOT be made up.

### **Research Experience**

Psychology is a science built on systematic research of 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 and they may be combined in any manner to meet the 8-credit research experience requirement. The research experience portion of this class is not graded but it is required for a grade in the course. You may choose either or both of

these options (e.g., 4 credits of research participation with 4 credits for reading about research for 8 total credits), 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. Signing up for studies occurs via SONA (an online sign-up system). To sign up, you will need to create an account online.
  - a. When creating a SONA account, be sure you use your umontana e-mail address as your username (if your umontana e-mail address is jane.doe@umontana.edu, you would enter jane.doe); *if you do not do this properly, then you will not get the account information.* As a result, your research credits will not be counted.
    - i. EXAMPLE:  
  
Email: jane.doe@umontana.edu  
  
Username: jane.doe
  - b. Be sure you enter the right course section number (03), or else you may not be properly credited.
  - c. Signing up and checking studies is easy; simply check the Department of Psychology's SONA page. Each experiment has a different name. Once you have participated in a specific experiment, you may not sign up for any other experiment with the same name. If you do, you will only receive credit for the first experiment.
  - d. Your credit will be tracked via the online system – you will be awarded credit for participation within 72 hours of participating by the researcher who was in charge of the study. If you check your credit and it has not been awarded in a timely fashion, contact the experimenter listed as the contact on the study to resolve this conflict. At the end of the term, your instructor will automatically get your credits from the online system.
2. **Screening Day.** Screening day is designed to provide you an opportunity to earn research credit (2 credits) and to provide researchers an opportunity to screen Psychology 100 students for other studies later in the semester or hand out short questionnaires. Screening day is in place of lecture for that day only. *You are not required to attend screening day.* If you do not attend, you will not receive the 2 credit points, but no penalty will be assessed.
  - a. These credit points will not show up on SONA, your instructor will track these points separately, and post a list of students who participated on Moodle.
3. **Reading about original research.** In this option read and summarize an original research article. Acceptable articles can be found on Moodle. You should be thorough but brief in

your summaries. Each summary should be 2-3 pages long. Each summary is worth 2 research credits. A separate handout is available outside Skaggs 053 with details. To get credit, you need to email the assignment in to your instructor, who will review it and assign credit. (Note: This does not happen on the online system, which is only used for option 1).

- a. Include name and article title on the document, not simply in the email, so credit may be recorded.

### **What happens if I do not 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 (option 2). 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. Be aware that if you earn an "Incomplete" in any course at UM, an "I" remains on your record permanently, even if you eventually complete the work.

### **COURSE CALENDAR**

Date	Topic	Assignment Due
January 22nd	Class Orientation	
January 25th	Lecture 1	
January 29th	Lecture 2	Syllabus Quiz
January 31st	Lecture 3	
February 5th	Lecture 4	
February 7th	<i>Screening Day</i>	
February 12th	Review Day	
February 14th	Exam 1	*Study Materials Due 11:59pm 2/13*
February 19th	Lecture 5	
February 21st	Lecture 6	
February 26th	Lecture 7	
February 28th	Lecture 8	
March 5th	Special Topic	
March 7th	Review Day	
March 12th	Exam 2	*Study Materials Due 11:59pm 3/11*
March 14th	Lecture 9	
March 19th	Lecture 10	
March 21st	Lecture 11	
March 26th	<i>Spring Break</i>	
March 28th	<i>Spring Break</i>	
April 2nd	Lecture 12	

Date	Topic	Assignment Due
April 4th	Special Topic	
April 9th	Review Day	
April 11th	Exam 3	<i>*Study Materials Due 11:59pm 4/10*</i>
April 16th	Lecture 13	
April 18th	Lecture 14	
April 23rd	Lecture 15	
April 25th	Special Topic	
April 30th	Review Day	
May 2nd	Exam 4	<i>*Study Materials Due 11:59pm 5/1*</i>
May 7th	Optional Final	