

Introduction to Psychology

Psych 1 Spring 2008

Cabrillo College

Instructor: Dr. Kristy Lindemann

Office: 429C

Office hours: Tuesday, 11:30am-12:30pm

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Lecture Times: Tuesday/Thursday: 12:40pm-2:10pm **Room:** 456

Website: pinnipedlab.ucsc.edu/lindemann

Course description:

This course is an introduction to the science of behavior and mental processes. Psychology includes many topics; some of them will seem familiar. Others will be new to you. Some students believe that psychology is just “common sense.” One of the things you will learn in this course is that psychology has more in common with physics, chemistry and biology than it does with art, literature or common sense. The primary course objectives are:

1. Describe major concepts in the field
2. Describe modern research findings in the field
3. Compare and contrast alternative explanations of behavior
4. Evaluate evidence related to explanations of behavior
5. Apply principles of psychology to everyday problems
6. Describe the scientific method

Accommodations are provided to ensure equal opportunity for students with verified disabilities. If you have a disability that requires accommodations for this class, please contact the Learning Skills Program at 479-6220 (for students with learning disabilities and attention deficit disorder) or Disabled Student Services at 479-6379, to make arrangements as soon as possible.

Required Readings:

- Wade and Travis: Psychology, 9th edition
- Older editions of this book may be available to buy online, **HOWEVER**, the lectures, assignments, and exams will be based off of the **NINTH** edition.

****Syllabus subject to change by the instructor at any time****

Assignments:

- **Exams:** There will be 4 regular exams. All the exams will cover material from both lectures and readings. Each of the regular exams will have 50 multiple choice items. Each item will be worth 2 points. Your lowest score from these 4 exams will be dropped at the end of the semester.
- Bring an Apperson form for each exam (not a Scantron). I will not have any forms or pencils
- **Makeups:** No early or make-up exams will be given. If you cannot make it to one of the exams, this exam score will be the one you drop from the total score and you will need to take all of the other exams. ** The final (4th) exam must be taken regardless of if you have taken the first three exams.
- *Cheating will result in an immediate zero on the exam and possible failure of the class.
- **Written Assignment:** Write 3 pages typed (1" margins, with 12 point, Times New Roman font, double spaced). This assignment is to be handed in at lecture on May 27th. Late assignments will not be accepted. Once I am done lecturing it is officially late.
 - **Paper topic:** Discuss the aspects of the field of psychology that make it a *science*. Use examples from lecture/your text to support your argument. If you wish, you may focus on a specific area of psychology that you are most interested in (ex: cognitive, developmental, social, etc. . .).
- **Research:** You are required to participate in one psychological research experiment. This experience is intended to give you a better understanding of the scientific basis of the material covered in this course. If you have personal objections to participating in scientific research, an alternate activity will be made available if this is brought to the attention of the instructor immediately (not at the end of the session). Failure to fulfill the research requirement means that your overall score in the course will be reduced by 10%.
 - **How to Participate in Research**
 - Sign up sheets and descriptions of the experiments will be posted on the bulletin board outside of the Psychology Lab, Room 402 (bottom floor of the 400 building, facing the ocean), soon after the start of the session. Sign-up sheets are often added throughout the session, so keep checking the board for a date and time that works for you.
 - If you do not show up for an experiment without giving 24 hours notice to the Psychology Lab, the research requirement will be considered unfulfilled and the standard point deduction will be made. You must arrive for an experiment on time. If you wait 15 minutes for the experimenter and the study does not take place, leave a message on the lab voice-mail and write your instructor a note with the date and time of your scheduled experiment session. You will get credit for the full time of the study.

Evaluation:

Grading

Exams (20% each, for a total of 60%)

Final Exam (20%)

Written assignment (10%)

Research participation (10%)

90⁺ = A

80⁺ = B

70⁺ = C

65⁺ = D

Below 65 = Failing

PLEASE NOTE!!!

For borderline cases, I will factor in attendance and participation in lecture in deciding your final grade. So please, be a part of discussions. Come to class with questions or speak up if there is something you want to add to the discussion from your own experiences. This is both welcomed and rewarded.

Extra credit.

1. Occasionally in lecture I will present a couple multiple-choice questions related to the material we've discussed. You will have a few minutes to try--individually--to answer these questions. Then I will give the answers. Later, when you take the exam that covers that part of the course, some of these questions will be added as extra credit items. Each extra credit item is worth 1 point.
2. You can get 5 additional points added to the exam of your choice (excluding the final exam) if you tour the Santa Cruz County jail. You can see first-hand how a working jail is operated and what conditions are like inside a local detention facility. Correctional Officer-guided tours are offered at the Main Jail every Sunday at 1 p.m. This schedule allows you the flexibility of selecting from several dates during the semester and signing up on *your own* initiative through their website. ***Proof of participation is required*** for this extra-credit opportunity. You can request proof of attendance from the receptionists after the tour. To learn more, and to schedule a tour, check out the Sheriff's Office website at www.scsheriff.com > Detention > Public Jail Tours.

Reading: It is strongly recommended that you do the readings before the class for which they are assigned. You are also encouraged to form study groups and work together in order to prepare for exams.

****If you are having trouble with exams, or feel like you need some extra pointers on how to prepare for them, please don't wait until it is too late to come and talk to me.**

Class Schedule (Subject to Change)

Dates	Assignment
Week 1 2/11-2/15	Intro: Chapter 1
Week 2 2/18-2/22	Chapter 2
Week 3 2/25-2/29	Chapters 2 & 3
Week 4 3/3-3/7	Chapters 4 *3/6 (Thurs) Exam 1 (on Ch. 1-4)
Week 5 3/10-3/14	Chapters 4 con't & 5
Week 6 3/17-3/21	Chapters 5&6
Week 7 3/24-3/28	☺ Spring Break ☺
Week 8 3/31-4/4	Chapter 6&7
Week 9 4/7-4/11	Chapters 7 *4/10 (Thurs) Exam 2 (on Ch. 4 con't -7)
Week 10 4/14-4/18	Chapter 8
Week 11 4/21-4/25	Chapter 9
Week 12 4/28-5/2	Chapter 10
Week 13 5/5-5/9	*5/8 (Thurs) Exam 3 (on Ch. 8-10)
Week 14 5/12-5/16	Chapter 13& 14
Week 15 5/19-5/23	Chapter 14 & 16
Week 16 5/26-5/30	Chapter 16 & 17 ** 5/27 (Tues) Written assignment is due**
Week 17 6/2-6/6 Final Exam	*Final ☺ *6/5 (Thurs) 10:00am-12:50pm Exam 4 (on Ch. 13, 14, 16, &17) **All students must take the final exam**