



Syllabus

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What You Should Already Know

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Course Learning Outcomes

This is a brand new adventure for you. You have probably taken some science classes, such as biology and health. They have dealt with how your body works. This course will explore how your mind works.

With your involvement in this course, you may participate in the search for answers concerning why people do the things they do. You may discover that many of the motives that you attribute to others are really reflections of your own needs and values. As you attempt to examine society or the world around you, try to do so objectively. As you progress through the course, you should gain an increased appreciation for the dignity, importance, and brotherhood of mankind. You should also understand your behavior or role in the social groups to which you belong better.

Upon successfully completing this course, you should be able to do the following:

1. Define psychology. Gain an awareness of its historical background and recognize the various approaches to psychology.
2. Apply the science of psychology to your daily life.
3. Identify how human behavior relates to the physiological aspects of the human body.
4. Describe the learning process and your cognitive processes.

5. Define personality, identify theories of personality, and gain tools to maintain a psychologically healthy personality.

Course Materials

Textbook: Judith W. McMahon and Tony Romano. *Psychology and You*. 3rd ed. McGraw-Hill, 2000.

Course Organization

Assignments

This course is divided into eight units. Each unit contains a Unit Quiz (computer-graded), and all but the last unit contain portfolio assignments. Please save all of your work so you can use it to study for the final exam.

Psychology Portfolio

Your portfolio will hold evidence of your understanding and application of the units through various experiments, activities, and essay responses. The portfolio will count for 26 percent of your final grade.

Individual assignments are explained with each unit. The portfolio assignments coincide with the various chapters in your text; you are strongly encouraged to complete each portfolio assignment as you are completing that particular unit. They are designed to give application to that unit. They will be much more difficult to do if you have to go back and review various materials to complete them. An outline of the psychology portfolio can be found in the Portfolio Submission section. Pay particular attention to the approximate length of each assignment to get full credit on each one.

Please make sure you clearly and accurately identify everything in your portfolio (i.e., Opinion Paper, Experiment). See the Course Portfolio Submission Instructions for specific details about the documents.

NOTE: You must pass the portfolio assignment with at least a 60 percent score on it or the entire assignment must be redone and resubmitted. This assignment must be passed before you can take the final exam.

Exams

The final exam consists of about 100 multiple-choice questions from all eight units. It is closed book and closed notes.

Grading

Grade Breakdown by Percentage	
Unit 1 Quiz	6%
Unit 2 Quiz	6%
Unit 3 Quiz	6%
Unit 4 Quiz	6%
Unit 5 Quiz	6%
Unit 6 Quiz	6%
Unit 7 Quiz	6%
Unit 8 Quiz	6%
Portfolio Assignment	26%
Final Exam	26%

Grading Scale	
A	100-94
A-	93-90
B+	89-87
B	86-83
B-	82-80
C+	79-77
C	76-73
C-	72-70
D+	69-67
D	66-63
D-	62-60
F (fail)	below 60