

**PSY 101 – INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY  
GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY  
Fall, 2021**

**Section 01: MWF 11:00 am -- 11:50 am, 2302 Au Sable Hall  
Section 04: MWF 12:00 pm – 12:50 pm, 2302 Au Sable Hall**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Joel Quamme, Ph. D.  
**OFFICE:** 1311 Au Sable Hall  
**PHONE:** 1-2153  
**E-MAIL:** [quammej@gvsu.edu](mailto:quammej@gvsu.edu) (recommended)  
**OFFICE HOURS:** MWF 10:00 am – 10:50 am, or by appointment  
During office hours I can accommodate either in-person meetings or virtual meetings via zoom. If you want to meet at another time, I will be available for virtual meetings by appointment. If you want to meet, just send me an email and we can decide on a time that works for both of us.

**REQUIRED MATERIALS:**

***REVEL Student Access code card for:*** Lilienfeld, S. O., Lynn, S. J., Namy, L. L. (2017). *Psychology: From Inquiry to Understanding*. (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). Boston: Allyn & Bacon. ISBN-13: 9780134637716

**Note:** This is an access code to an electronic version of text, available at the university bookstore. Do not purchase a used access code! Only newly-purchased access codes will work.

**MASK POLICY:**

Until an adequate number of students are vaccinated against COVID-19, and the university's alert level is "Near Normal", face coverings will be required in classrooms at all times to reduce the chances of transmission between people. Students who have forgotten their face coverings may get a disposable mask at a campus office. Students who are not able to wear a face covering due to a medical condition should contact Disability Support Services (DSR) to discuss their individual situation.

An explanation of the university alert level, along with a display of the current alert level, can be found here: <https://www.gvsu.edu/lakerstogether/alert-levels-and-indicators-39.htm>

More information and resources about GVSU's mask policy can be found here: <https://www.gvsu.edu/provost/face-coverings-masks-toolkit-205.htm>

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the science of Psychology. This course will emphasize the major theories of behavior and mental processes, the contemporary methods used by psychologists, and the major findings of psychological research. This course is designed to give students a basic understanding of the breadth of topics studied by psychologists (such as neuroscience, perception, learning, memory, personality, social behavior, and psychological disorders, among others), as well as foster critical thinking about psychological phenomena, and awareness of how empirically-validated psychological principles apply to daily life.

This course fulfills the Social and Behavioral Sciences Foundation requirement:  
<https://www.gvsu.edu/gened/foundations-social-and-behavioral-sciences-277.htm>

## COURSE OBJECTIVES:

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

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the scientific process in Psychology.
2. Identify major psychological theories and use psychological terminology correctly.
3. Critically evaluate the findings of psychological research.
4. Recognize examples of how psychological concepts are applied to daily life.

## GRADING

Grades in this class will be computed from performance on 4 *exams*, a number of *quizzes and assignments*, and completion of 4 *enrichment activity credits*. These components of the course will count toward your grade in the following proportions:

	Points	Percent
Top 3 Exams	270 (90 Each)	45% (15% each)
Final Exam	150	25%
Quizzes and assignments	132	22%
4 Enrichment Activities	48 (12 each)	8% (2% each)

**Grading scale.** The percentage of total credit you earn will be converted to a letter grade according to the following scheme; any adjustments to this scale below will be announced in class:

A	100-93	B+	87-89	C+	77-79	D+	67-69
A-	90-92	B	83-86	C	73-76	D	60-66
		B-	80-82	C-	70-72	F	0-59

## EXAMS

There will be 5 exams in this course. The first 4 exams will be non-cumulative, and each will cover about 1/4 of the total course material. The final exam will be cumulative across all course material. Each exam will consist of multiple-choice questions. Exams altogether count for 70% of your grade. However, I will throw out your lowest-scoring non-cumulative exam from the semester and only count only the scores of your best three. Each of your best three non-cumulative exam scores will thus count for 15% of your grade, and the final exam score will count for 25%.

**Missing exams.** Opportunities to make-up a missed exam are allowed solely at my discretion. My policy is to allow make-up exams **ONLY** in the case of *unavoidable* absences such as an emergency or illness, or if you have to quarantine. I will excuse your absence and allow you to make up the exam if you can provide me with documentation (e.g., doctor's note, in the case of an illness) that your absence was unavoidable. If you know in advance you must miss an exam, *check with me first* to find out if your absence will be excusable. If you miss an exam due to an emergency or other unforeseen circumstance, notify me by phone or e-mail *as soon as possible* afterward. Make-up exams may or may not be the same exams given to the rest of the class.

**What to expect from exams.** Exams will cover the content of all course activities both in class (such as lectures, videos, demonstrations), and outside of class (book readings and assignments). Everything

covered in the course is fair game for the final exam. *In order to be prepared for a test, it is important to attend class AND keep up with the reading assignments.* Although there is a lot of overlap between the readings and in-class content, some of the material you need to know for the test will only come from the readings, and some will come only from lecture. I will post study objectives on Blackboard to help you summarize and organize the material we've covered as you study and review on your own.

## **QUIZZES AND ASSIGNMENTS**

In addition to exams, there will be a number of quizzes and assignments throughout the semester. All together, these will count toward 22% your grade. They will be administered during class online within Blackboard or REVEL. I'll give you a deadline by which to complete them, and make them available at least a week ahead of time. I'll let you miss a few quizzes and assignments without penalty, or if you do all of them, I'll drop your lowest few scores. The exact number you can miss will be decided a little later in the semester (it depends on how many I end up assigning). I'll give you more details about quizzes and assignments in class.

**General Education Assessment:** All courses that are part of GVSU's General Education program are required to assess students' strength of knowledge of core components of the course (i.e., theories, methodologies, etc.) as well as key skills that are developed during the course of studying the topical area (i.e., creative thinking, ethical reasoning). Thus, the General Education Assessment for PSY101 will involve a brief quiz, administered via Blackboard, during the last week of the semester. Completing the quiz will result in 12 points and will count as part of the assignment score. I will announce this assessment once it is available and give you a deadline at that time.

## **ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES**

The final 8% of your grade will be based on activities outside class designed to enrich your academic experience. You must complete four such activities to receive full credit – you will get 2% of your grade per activity you complete. See the "Enrichment Activities" section at the end of the syllabus for more detailed information.

## **ATTENDANCE**

I do not record or grade your attendance directly. However, your grade may suffer if you do not attend class regularly. First, you will miss much critical information from lectures or discussions that do not appear in readings but *will* be tested on exams. I will make lecture slides available on Blackboard, but (as you will discover) these slides not will not include all of the details covered in class! If you do need to miss class for some reason, be sure to get notes from somebody.

## **EMERGENCY CLOSINGS**

If for any reason the university cancels class on an exam day (e.g., severe weather), the exam will be moved to the next class meeting.

## **ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

Please turn all cell phones, pagers and other electronic devices with audible signals or alarms OFF during class time.

## ACCOMODATION FOR DISABILITY

Any student in this class who has special needs because of a learning, physical, or other disability, please contact me or Disability Support Resources (DSR) at 331-2490. Furthermore, if you have a physical disability and think you will need assistance evacuating this classroom and/or building in an emergency situation, please make me aware so I can develop a plan to assist you.

## GVSU COURSE POLICIES

This course is subject to the GVSU policies listed at <http://www.gvsu.edu/coursepolicies/>

## CLASS SCHEDULE

We will try to stick to this schedule, but it may need to be modified later in the course:

Week	Class Meetings	TOPICS	READING & REVEL assignments Due
1	M (8/30)	Course Orientation and introduction	Syllabus
	W (9/1)	Psychology & Scientific Thinking	Ch. 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4
	F (9/2)	Roots of Psychology	(Due 9/7)
<b>LABOR DAY BREAK – NO CLASS MONDAY 9/6</b>			
2	W (9/8)	Psychological Research Methods	Ch. 2.1, 2.2
	F (9/10)	Psychological Research Methods	(Due 9/12)
3	M (9/13)	Biological Bases of Behavior	Ch. 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4
	W (9/15)	Biological Bases of Behavior	Hemispheres experiment
	F (9/17)	Biological Bases of Behavior	(Due 9/19)
4	M (9/20)	Biological Bases of Behavior	11.1, 11.2
	W(9/22)	<b>EXAM 1 (Ch 1, 2, 3)</b>	(Due 9/26)
	F (9/24)	Arousal and Emotion	
5	M (9/27)	Arousal and Emotion	Ch. 5.1, 5.2, 4.1
	W (9/29)	Sleep Cycle	(Due 10/3)
	F (10/1)	Sensation and Perception	
6	M (10/4)	Sensation and Perception	Ch. 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6
	W (10/6)	Sensation and Perception	Mueller-Lyer Illusion
	F (10/8)	Sensation and Perception	(Due 10/10)
7	M (10/11)	Learning & Conditioning	Ch. 6.1, 6.2, 6.3
	W (10/13)	Learning & Conditioning	(Due 10/17)
	W (10/15)	Learning & Conditioning	
8	<b>M (10/18)</b>	<b>EXAM 2 (Ch. 11, 5, 4, 6)</b>	Ch. 7.1, 7.2
	W (10/20)	Memory	Serial Position Expt.
	F (10/22)	Memory	(Due 10/24)
<b>FALL BREAK – NO CLASS MONDAY, 10/25</b>			
9	W (10/27)	Memory	Ch. 7.5, 8.1, 8.2
	F (10/29)	Thinking	Due (10/31)
10	M (11/1)	Thinking	Ch. 14.1, 14.5, 14.6
	W (11/3)	Personality & Psychological Measurement	IPIP-NEO inventory
	F (11/5)	Personality & Psychological Measurement	(Due 11/7)

11	M (11/8)	Personality & Psychological Measurement	Ch. 10.1,10.2 (Due 11/14)
	<b>W (11/10)</b>	<b>EXAM 3 (Ch. 7, 8, 14)</b>	
	F (11/12)	Development	
12	M (11/15)	Development	Ch. 10.3, 10.4, 13.1, 13.2 (Due 11/21)
	W (11/17)	Development	
	F (11/19)	Social Psychology	
13	M (11/22)	Social Psychology	Ch. 13.3, 13.5 IAT experiment (Due 11/28)
	<b>THANKSGIVING BREAK – NO CLASS WEDNESDAY (11/24) &amp; FRIDAY (10/26)</b>		
14	M (11/29)	Social Psychology	15.1, 15.2, 15.3, 15.4, 1.5 (Due 12/5)
	W (12/1)	Psychological Disorders	
	F (12/3)	Psychological Disorders	
15	M (12/6)	Psychological Disorders	
	<b>W (12/8)</b>	<b>EXAM 4 (Ch. 10, 13, 15)</b>	
	F (12/10)	SYNTHESIS AND REVIEW FOR FINAL	
Final Exams	W (12/15)	Section 01 FINAL EXAM (Cumulative) 10:00am-11:50am	
	W (12/15)	Section 04 FINAL EXAM (Cumulative) 12:00pm-1:50pm	

**SOME OTHER IMPORTANT DATES:**

- 9/3(Friday)**                    5:00pm drop deadline for 100% tuition refund.
- 9/19 (Sunday)**                Last day to take **prescreening survey** for enrichment activities.
- 9/24 (Friday)**                   5:00pm drop deadline for 75% tuition refund.
- 10/29 (Friday)**                5:00pm drop deadline for grade of “W”.
- 12/7 (Tuesday)**                Last day to complete any **enrichment activities**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Enrichment Activities:  
Learning about Psychological Research**

\*\*\*\*\*

In the Enrichment Activities portion of the course, students will become acquainted with the nature and variety of research in psychology. Two kinds of enrichment activities are available:

- *Option 1* involves being a participant in research studies conducted by Psychology Department faculty and students.
- *Option 2* involves completing activities that will give you first-hand experience with research techniques used in Psychological research.

Students must earn *four* enrichment activity credits for this requirement. Enrichment activities are worth a varying number of credits depending upon how much time it takes to complete the study/research technique activity.

**Enrichment activities use an account in the SONA Systems Scheduling System Software.** You will receive an email at the beginning of the semester containing your User ID and an initial password. Once you have your account, you can log in at any time and sign up to participate in any available studies/activities for which you qualify. If you do not receive an account email by the end of the first day of classes, please contact Casimir Tokarski at [psychlab@gvsu.edu](mailto:psychlab@gvsu.edu) or by phone at 616.331.3262.

To access SONA Systems, along with downloadable registration instructions, follow this link: <https://www.gvsu.edu/psychology/be-a-participant-in-research-296.htm>. A video tutorial is available at the following link that will walk you through the study sign-up process: <https://gvsu.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?pid=14a9aaf9-814f-4a4c-830e-a9ce013e8887&id=c84e8a38-1238-4486-b590-a9cb01307e70&advance=true>

SONA Systems maintains a strict policy protecting your privacy and confidentiality. This policy is available for review in the Psychology Office.

**Option 1: Participation in Psychology Studies**

**Objective**

By participating in psychology research studies, you will experience directly some of the procedures used in psychological research while also making a valuable contribution to the generation of knowledge within the discipline. All studies have been reviewed and approved by the university's Institutional Review Board (IRB). The IRB is an administrative body established to protect the rights and welfare of human research participants.

**Step 1: Find a study and sign up**

When you log in using your new SONA Systems account, you will see a list of studies. If there are available timeslots there will be a link on the right that will take you to a sign-up page.

Before you sign up to participate in a study, review any listed restrictions (for example, “left-handed people only”). If you do not meet the posted eligibility requirements, you will not receive credit for the study.

### **Step 2: Participate in the study**

Some studies on SONA Systems may be completed online, while other studies will require you to participate in person at a physical location (usually the Psychology Laboratories in Au Sable Hall). If the study requires you to attend a session at a particular location, please arrive before the scheduled time, as studies start punctually. If you sign up for a study session but cannot attend, please cancel your session on-line. Online studies must be completed by the study deadline to get credit.

At the beginning of a study session, you will first be given a description of what you will have to do, and you will be asked for your consent before the study begins. If you then choose not to participate, you may leave without penalty. You can check to see that you have received credit by selecting [My Schedule/Credits](#), where credits are typically posted within 24 hours after you participate in a study.

### **Under 18?**

Special rules apply to students who are under 18. A general non-study specific Parent/Guardian Permission form must be completed and placed on file in the Psychology office before you are able to participate in any of the studies. In most instances, having the general non-study specific document on file will allow you to participate in studies. However, it is important to read carefully the eligibility requirements for a study. If you need a study specific Parent/Guardian consent form signed in order to participate, it will say so in the eligibility section of the study description. If you are under the age of 18 when you create your SONA Systems account, you will receive an informative email from Casimir Tokarski, the Psychology Department Laboratory Assistant detailing the steps you will need to take in order to document parental consent. Once your parental consent form is on file, you will see a list of studies for which you are eligible.

### **Participation opportunity during the first 3 weeks of the semester: Prescreening Survey**

An on-line prescreening questionnaire is available for the first three weeks of the semester when you log in to SONA Systems. **This is only available to students who are 18 years of age or older.** It is not necessary to do this survey, but by completing it, you may receive invitations to additional studies later in the semester based on your responses. Thus, completing the pre-screening survey may increase the number of studies you will be eligible to choose throughout the semester. Completing the survey counts as one-half credit toward Enrichment Activities. The survey will appear the first time that you log into the *Study Scheduling System*, and you can access it from your [My Profile](#) page. If you opt to complete the survey, plan to complete it in a single, half-hour sitting. The last date to participate in the prescreening survey is **Sunday September 19, 2021.**

## **Option 2 Research Techniques Activities**

### **Objective**

By completing research techniques activities, you will carry out some of the procedures researchers use in their psychological research. For example, you may be asked to watch an exchange between two people and carry out behavioral coding of their interaction. In doing these activities you will gain an understanding of the strengths and limits of various research methods used in psychological science. Research Techniques Activities are listed in SONA Systems along with the research studies. There are no age restrictions on these activities. You may complete each activity only once.

### **Need Help?**

If you have questions regarding any aspect of the Enrichment Activities, please contact Casimir Tokarski, who can be reached in the Psychology Department Office (2224 Au Sable Hall, 616.331.3262) or by sending an email to [psychlab@gvsu.edu](mailto:psychlab@gvsu.edu).

### **Enrichment Activity Deadline**

The last day to complete both Enrichment Activities types is **Tuesday December 7, 2021.**