



*The General Education Program prepares students for informed citizenship, leading to responsible participation in local, national, and global communities.*

## **PSY 101 Introductory Psychology**

### **Foundations – Social and Behavioral Sciences**

#### **Knowledge Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Explain how knowledge in the social and behavioral sciences is created and applied.
2. Explain major approaches, methods, theories, and substantive findings of the field.
3. Evaluate and apply concepts and theories from the social and behavioral sciences to real-life examples.

#### **Skills Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Critical Thinking: Comprehensively evaluate issues, ideas, artifacts, or events before forming a conclusion.
  - States an issue clearly and describes it comprehensively.
  - Uses appropriate evidence that includes relevant context(s), which facilitates a comprehensive analysis or synthesis of the issue.
  - Develops a position that thoroughly takes into account the complexities of an issue, limits of the position, and synthesizes others' points of view.
  - Develops conclusions, implications, and consequences that are logical and reflect an informed evaluation based on strength of evidence.
2. Ethical Reasoning: Apply ethical principles and codes of conduct to decision making.
  - Recognizes ethical issues when presented in a complex, multilayered (gray) context and can recognize interrelationships among the issues.
  - Names the major ethical theory or theories used, presents the gist of said theory or theories, and thoroughly and accurately explains the details of the theory or theories used.
  - Applies ethical theories to a complex issue accurately and considers the full implications of the application.
  - States a position in-depth and effectively defends against other ethical perspectives.

Teaching in the liberal tradition is at the heart of Grand Valley's identity, and this focus is critical in our General Education Program. Liberal education transcends the acquisition of information; it goes beyond the factual to ask important evaluative and philosophical questions. Liberal learning holds the fundamental principles and suppositions of a body of knowledge up to inquiry, question, and discussion. It helps a person recognize the assumptions under which he or she operates and encourages the examination and questioning of those assumptions. Liberal learning begins in the General Education Program and continues through the more specialized studies comprising each student's major and minor areas of study.

*Grand Valley State University educates students to shape their lives, their professions, and their societies.*

**Introductory Psychology** (PSY 101-04) (3 credits)  
Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 12:00 – 12:50pm, 114 Lake Michigan Hall  
Winter 2020

**Instructor:** Ernest Park, Ph.D.

**Office:** 2136 AuSable Hall

**Office Phone:** 331-5062

**Email:** [parker@gvsu.edu](mailto:parker@gvsu.edu)

I will try to respond to emails within 24 hours if they are received Monday-Friday. See me in person (e.g., during office hours) if you have any questions/concerns that may require a lengthy response. Please be aware that I may not respond to email inquiries that involve information that has already been covered in the syllabus or in class.

**Office Hours:** Monday and Friday: 1-2:30pm, and by appointment

**Required Textbook:**

Myers, D. G., & DeWall, C. N. (2018). *Psychology* (12<sup>th</sup> ed.). New York, NY: Worth.

\*This syllabus is subject to change. Changes (if any) will be announced in class. Students are responsible for keeping informed of any such notices.

**Course Description:** This course offers a general survey of psychology, the scientific study of behavior and experience, including overt actions and mental activity. Content covers how psychologists think and act as scientists and how the study of its subject matter may be integrated at the biological, psychological, and social levels of analysis. A wide range of topics will be covered, with an emphasis on understanding theory and applications of psychological principles. This course fulfills the Social and Behavioral Sciences Foundation requirement.

**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, and 4) recognize examples of how psychological concepts are applied to daily life

**Basis for grading:**

Exam 1 = 100 points

Exam 2 = 100 points

Exam 3 = 150 points

In-class quizzes = 5 X 10 points = 50 points

Homework assignment = 20 points

Enrichment activities (4 credits each worth 5 points) = 20 points

General Education Assessment = 10 points

Total possible points = 450 points

Number grade = Earned points/450 X 100 (grades ending with .499 and below will be rounded down, and .50 and above will be rounded up)

**Grading scale:**

A = 94 and above      C+ = 77-79      F= 59 and below

A- = 90-93      C = 73-76

B+ = 87-89      C- = 70-72

B = 83-86      D+ = 67-69

B- = 80-82      D = 60-66

**Exams:** Exams will consist of multiple choice questions. Scantron forms will be provided but students are required to bring their own No. 2 pencils on exam days. Students are responsible for knowing material from the text and any content discussed in class (including content from videos). If an exam is missed due to illness, I must be notified by email within 12 hours of the scheduled exam time and students need to be able to provide a doctor's note to reschedule the exam. If an exam is to be missed for a reason other than illness, students must contact me in person at least 48 hours in advance of the scheduled exam time. A valid excuse must be provided and students should wait for my approval before assuming an excuse is acceptable. Missed exams or failure to comply with these policies will result in a zero on the exam.

**In-class quizzes:** There will be 7 in-class quizzes throughout the semester. These quizzes will each consist of 5 multiple choice questions that cover **any material** that has been discussed in the text or in class by the time of the quiz. These will be "pop" quizzes (students will not be given advanced notice about the quiz). To receive credit, students must be seated in class at the time quizzes are distributed, and quizzes must be completed within the designated time. To maintain fairness to all, make-up opportunities cannot be granted. Instead, **only the top 5 quiz scores will count** towards one's final grade, so each student can afford to miss 2 quizzes without penalty. Since "pop" quizzes will cover any material discussed up to the time the quiz is taken, it is critical for students to keep up with the assigned readings and to remember what has been covered throughout the semester. Class attendance and attentiveness are thus strongly encouraged.

**Homework assignment:** Students will be required to complete a homework assignment. This assignments is designed to provide students with the opportunity to thoughtfully apply principles that have been covered in class. Students will be given an essay topic and will write a brief paper in response (*at least* one double-spaced, typed page). More information about this assignments will be provided later in the semester.

**Enrichment Activities:** To acquaint students with the nature and variety of research topics and experimental methodologies in psychology, students will complete **4 credits** of enrichment activities of their choosing (5 points per credit). Details and instructions are provided in the last section of this syllabus, and more information will be provided later in the semester.

**General Education Assessment:** All courses that are part of GVSU's General Education program are required to assess students' knowledge of core components of the course, as well as key skills that are developed during the course of studying the topical area (i.e., critical thinking, ethical reasoning). The Psychology Department is currently constructing a brief quiz, to be administered via Blackboard around the last week of the semester, as part of this General Education Assessment. Completion of this quiz will result in 10 points towards your grade. Failure to complete the quiz will result in 0 points. Information about this assignment and the deadline for completing it will be mentioned later in the semester.

### **Policies:**

**Grading:** Students are not permitted to redo/re-take any assignments, quizzes, or exams, and so it is important to be prepared for class and on exam days. Please see me if you have questions about this policy.

**Late assignments:** If an exam or homework assignment deadline is missed due to illness, I must be notified by email within 12 hours of the scheduled due date and students need to be able to provide a doctor's note. To turn in a late assignment for reasons other than illness, students must contact me in person at least 48 hours in advance of the scheduled due date. A valid excuse must be provided and students should wait for approval from me before assuming the excuse is acceptable. Assignments that are not turned in, or are turned in late and fail to meet these regulations will result in a zero.

**Academic integrity:** The following are statements provided by the university and can be found in the Student Code, Sections, 223.00 and 223.01.

Students will do original work and will not take or receive the efforts of another person on any test or assignment, use unauthorized resources on quizzes or tests, plagiarize, or give/sell other students papers or assignments not authorized by the instructor. You are responsible for making yourself aware of and for understanding the policies and procedures that pertain to academic integrity. To that end, be sure to familiarize yourself with the GVSU Student Code (Section 223.00 and 223.01) related to academic integrity. Furthermore, be sure to reference sources at all times. If you are uncertain about such an issue prior to submission of an assignment, project, or test, please see me so we can eliminate that uncertainty.

No student shall knowingly plagiarize or copy the work of another person and submit it as his/her own. Offering the work of someone else as one's own is plagiarism. Any ideas or material taken from another source for either written or oral presentation must be fully acknowledged. The language or ideas taken from another may range from isolated formulas, sentences, or paragraphs to entire articles copied from the internet, books, periodicals, speeches, or from the writing of other students. The offering of materials assembled or collected by others in the form of projects or collections without acknowledgement also is considered plagiarism. In short, any student who fails to give credit in written or oral work for the ideas or materials that have been taken from another is guilty of plagiarism.

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

**Disability:** If there is any student in this class who has special needs because of a learning, physical, or other disability, please contact me and Disability Support Services (DSS) at (616) 331-2490. Furthermore, if you have a disability and think you will need assistance evacuating this classroom and/or building in an emergency, please make me aware so that the university and I can develop a plan to assist you. It is the student's responsibility to request assistance from DSS.

**Electronic devices:** Use of computers in class is permitted only for taking notes. Unless authorized by me, phone and internet activity is not permitted since it is distracting to other students and is disrespectful. Unless authorized by me, any audio/visual recordings during class are not permitted. If you fail to comply with these policies you may be asked to leave class.

**Cancelled classes:** If the university is closed and classes are cancelled, any scheduled exam will take place the next class meeting (unless you are notified otherwise by me).

**Students are expected to read the assigned chapter before the first lecture of the week**

**Tentative Schedule**

	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Assignments Due</b>
Week 1, Jan. 6	Syllabus Student Preface, Prologue and Ch. 1: Thinking critically	
Week 2, Jan. 13	Chapter 2: Biology of the mind	
Week 3, Jan. 20	<b>MLK Jr. Day (no class on Monday)</b>  Chapter 2 continued	
Week 4, Jan. 27	Chapter 3: Consciousness	
Week 5, Feb. 3	Chapter 5: Developing through the life span	<b>HW Assignment Due 2/7/20 (5pm)</b>
Week 6, Feb. 10	<b>Exam 1 (Monday Class)</b> Chapter 6: Sensation and Perception (Wednesday Class)	<b>Exam 1 on 2/10/20</b>
Week 7, Feb. 17	Chapter 7: Learning	
Week 8, Feb. 24	Chapter 8: Memory	
	<b>Spring Break (no classes)</b>	
Week 9, Mar. 2		
Week 10, Mar. 9	Chapter 11 – What drives us	
Week 11, Mar. 16	<b>Exam 2 (Monday class)</b> Chapter 12 – Emotions (Wednesday Class)	<b>Exam 2 on 3/16/20</b>
Week 12, Mar. 23	Chapter 13 – Social Psychology	
Week 13, Mar. 30	Ch. 13 continued	
Week 14, Apr. 6	Chapter 15 – Psychological Disorders	
Week 15, Apr. 13	Ch. 15 continued	<b>-Enrichment activities due 4/14/20 (11:59pm) -Ged Ed Test due (date TBD)</b>
<b>Final (Exam 3)</b> Wednesday, April 22, 12:00 - 12:50pm		

\*\*\*\*\*

## **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. Three 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.
- *Option 3* involves writing summaries of research studies published in scholarly journals.

Students must earn *four* enrichment activity credits for this requirement. Each article summary (Option 3) is worth 1 credit, while Psychology Department research studies (Option 1) and research technique activities (Option 2) are worth a varying number of credits (the number of credits depends upon how much time it takes to complete the study/research technique activity).

**In order to complete Option 1 and 2 activities, you must register for a SONA Systems account (Scheduling System Software).** Once you have an account, you can log in whenever you want and sign up to participate in any available studies/activities for which you qualify. To access SONA Systems, along with downloadable registration instructions, follow this link:

<https://www.gvsu.edu/psychology/be-a-participant-in-research-296.htm> Video tutorials are available at the following link that will walk you through the registration and study sign-up process:

<https://gvsu.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?pid=14a9aaf9-814f-4a4c-830e-a9ce013e8887>

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). **No more than 2 credits from online studies may count toward your 4 required enrichment credits.** 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.

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 **January 24, 2020**.

## **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 Enrichment Activities 1 & 2, 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).

## **Option 1 and 2 Deadlines**

The last day to complete Enrichment Activities Types 1 and 2 is **April 14, 2020 (11:59pm)**.

### **Option 3: Papers on Psychological Studies in Scholarly Journals**

#### **Objective**

This option will broaden your understanding of psychological research and how it is conducted. You will select a research article published in a peer-reviewed psychology journal and then write a brief report on the article. To complete the summary, follow these steps:

#### **Step 1: Find a Journal**

Scholarly journals are available electronically through the GVSU Library website. Be sure to access the journals *only* through the GVSU Library, not through other websites or other sources.

You can watch a video showing how to search for and access journals by going to <http://libguides.gvsu.edu/psych>. Search for one of the following journals:

#### *Behavioral Neuroscience*

*Developmental Psychology*  
*Experimental and Clinical Psychopharmacology*  
*Health Psychology*  
*Journal of Abnormal Psychology*  
*Journal of Applied Psychology*  
*Journal of Comparative Psychology*  
*Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*  
*Journal of Counseling Psychology*  
*Journal of Educational Psychology*  
*Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*  
*Journal of Experimental Psychology: Animal Behavior Processes*  
*Journal of Experimental Psychology: Applied*  
*Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance*  
*Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition*  
*Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*  
*Neuropsychology*  
*Psychological Science*  
*Psychology and Aging*

Be sure the title of the journal matches *exactly* one on this list. Only articles from the above journals qualify for this assignment. There are other journals with very similar names to those on the list above that do not qualify for this assignment.

#### **Step 2: Select an article**

Once you have chosen a journal, you must find an article in the journal. Choose an article that meets the following criteria:

- It must be published in 2018, 2019, or 2020.
- It must report an empirical study (i.e. one that is based on the collection of data). The article should have sections labeled “Methods and “Results.”

Most articles in the journals listed above will qualify. However, some articles do not qualify for this assignment, so you must check them to be sure they have methods and results.

Download the .pdf file of the article to read it in full.

### **Step 3: Read the article**

Read the abstract, introduction, and conclusions of the article and skim the remainder of it to understand the gist. You are not expected to understand the details of the article; your task is to understand the article's general thrust, content, and conclusions.

### **Step 4: Write the paper**

- First, put the following information in the top left-hand corner of the first page:

Your name

Your student number (G-number)

Your professor's name and the date

- Second, immediately below this, provide a full reference to the article, with the information in the following order: Names of all authors (last name, comma, initials), the year of publication (in parentheses), the exact title of the article, the full name of the journal, the volume number, and the page numbers. Here is a sample of a reference with the information in the proper order:

Lastname, F. and Othername, S.B. (2019) Full title of the article here. *Name of the journal in italics here*, volume number, page range.

If the article you select has not yet appeared in print, instead of page and volume numbers, include the words “Advanced online publication. doi:” and then give the *doi* number. The *doi* number is typically found in the upper right hand corner of the first page of the full-text paper. This reference information must be complete and accurate for you to receive credit for the paper.

- Third, make three headings, copying the exact words of the three questions below:

1. *What question or questions does the article address?*
2. *Why are the question(s) that the article addresses important ones to consider?*
3. *What answers does the article provide?*

Your article summary will consist of answers to these three questions. Under each heading, write a well-organized paragraph of 100 to 300 hundred words to address the question. Do this for each one of the three questions. No separate introduction or conclusion is required; simply answer the three questions.

*The Paper Must Be Your Own Work and Written in Your Own Words. Do not just copy or paraphrase the abstract or the paper.* Grand Valley State University's policy on plagiarism (described in the catalog and in the Student Code) states “[a]ny ideas or material taken from another source... must be fully acknowledged.” This means that your paper must be written strictly in your own words, and it must acknowledge any ideas that you take from another source. Try to avoid quoting from the article, but if you must quote to make a point, take care that the phrases quoted are in quotation marks. All quoted phrases must be in quotation marks, even if the phrases are only two or three words long. Words or ideas borrowed from a source other than the target article should be acknowledged and completely referenced. If you submit a paper that violates this policy, you may receive a failing grade for the course.

### **Step 5: Copy of the first page of journal article**

Print the first page of the article that you read and staple it to the back of your summary. Make sure that the printout includes the exact name of the journal, the title of the paper, the volume number, the page numbers, and the abstract and first paragraph of the article. If you print from a pdf file, all of the required information will usually be on the first page of the article. If you download the “full text” version of the article from a library database, you may have to print several pages to make sure all the required information is present. If you select an article that has not yet been published in print version, volume and page numbers will typically not be available. In such cases, make sure the photocopy or printout you submit includes the *doi* number of the article, which is usually in the upper right hand corner of the first page of the full-text article.

### **Step 6: Double-check your paper**

Before you turn it in, use this checklist to make sure you have met all the requirements:

- Did you choose an article from a journal exactly matching one on the list above?
- Is the article from 2018, 2019, or 2020?
- Does the article report original findings, with methods and results?
- Does your paper answer the 3 questions in 3 paragraphs of 100-300 words each?
- Did you include your name, g-number, professor, and date at the top?
- Did you include a reference?
- Did you include a copy of the first page of the article?

The papers will be graded on a Credit/No Credit basis. No partial credit will be given. Most papers that receive a failing grade are ones where the writer fails to follow the instructions. Double-check your paper before you submit it, to make sure it conforms *exactly* to all the rules described above.

### **Submitting Papers for Grading & Deadline**

*Option 3* papers can be turned in anytime during the semester. The last date to submit papers is **April 14, 2020 (11:59pm)**.