



*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)

Coursework is completed asynchronously with no set meeting times; Class materials posted T and TH by 10am  
Winter 2021

**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. Please set up a meeting with me (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 Wednesday: 11am-1pm, and by appointment

**Required Textbook:**

Myers, D. G., & DeWall, C. N. (2021). *Psychology* (13<sup>th</sup> ed.). New York, NY: Worth.

\*This syllabus is subject to change. Changes (if any) will be announced in the lectures that are posted online and/or emailed. 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 = 150 points

Quizzes (10 quizzes worth 10 points each) = 100 points

Homework assignments (3 assignments worth 10 points each) = 30 points

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

Total possible points = 400 points

Number grade =  $\text{Earned points}/400 \times 100$  (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. Students are responsible for knowing material from the text and any content discussed in class (including content from videos). Students will not be allowed to use any course materials during exams, and students are not allowed to talk about exam content with any other students. Exams will be administered through Blackboard. Once students begin an exam they will have a set amount of time to complete them. Exams will be accessible on Blackboard until 11:59pm of the exam day and must be completed within that time.

**Quizzes:** There will be 10 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. When there is a quiz, it will be posted on Blackboard on Tuesday by 10am and will remain accessible on Blackboard until 11:59pm that night. Once you access a quiz you will have a set amount of time to complete it. Since 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. Review of course materials and attentiveness are thus strongly encouraged.

**Homework assignment:** Students will be required to complete 3 homework assignments. These are designed to provide students with the opportunity to thoughtfully apply principles that have been covered in class. More information about these 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.

### **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, quiz or homework assignment deadline is missed due to illness, I must be notified by email within 12 hours of the scheduled due date. To turn in late work for reasons other than illness, students must contact me at least 24 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.

### **Integrity of Scholarship and Grades**

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

Truth and honesty: The principles of truth and honesty are recognized as fundamental to a community of teachers and scholars. The university expects that both faculty members and students will honor these principles and in so doing protect the validity of university grades. This means that all academic work will be done by the student to whom it is assigned without unauthorized aid of any kind. Instructors, for their part, will exercise care in the planning and supervision of academic work, so that honest effort will be positively encouraged. Compliance shall include compliance with the following specific rules:

1. No student shall knowingly, without authorization, procure, provide, or accept any materials which contain questions or answers to any examination or assignment.
2. No student shall, without authorization, complete, in part or in total, any examination or assignment for another person.
3. No student shall, without authorization, allow any examination or assignment to be completed, in part or in total, by another person.
4. No student shall knowingly plagiarize or copy the work of another person and submit it as his or her own.
5. No student shall submit work that has been previously graded or is being submitted concurrently to more than one course without authorization from the instructor(s) of the class(es) to which the student wishes to submit it.

### **Plagiarism**

Any ideas or material taken from another source for either written or oral presentation must be fully acknowledged. Offering the work of someone else as one's own is plagiarism. The language or ideas taken from another may range from isolated formulas, sentences, or paragraphs to entire articles copied from books,

periodicals, speeches, or the writing of other students. The offering of materials assembled or collected by others in the form of projects or collections without acknowledgment also is considered plagiarism. Any student who fails to give credit in written or oral work for ideas/materials taken from another is guilty of plagiarism.

Such activity may result in failure of a specific assignment, an entire course, or, if flagrant, dismissal from Grand Valley. For further information see the Student Code.

**Disability:** If you are in need of accommodations due to a learning, physical, or other disability you must present a memo to me from Disability Support Resources (DSR), indicating the existence of a disability and the suggested reasonable accommodations. If you have not already done so, please contact the Disability Support Resources office (4015 JHZ) by calling 331-2490 or email to [dsrgvsu@gvsu.edu](mailto:dsrgvsu@gvsu.edu). Please note that I cannot provide accommodations based upon disability until I have received a copy of the DSR issued memo. All discussions will remain confidential.

**Well-being:** Your health and your family's health should be your priority. If you are dealing with illness, sick family members, travel difficulties, a bad internet connection, increased anxiety, childcare challenges, or any other issues, please reach out and we will figure out accommodations.

GVSU remains committed to supporting you because of the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and is here to help you in times of financial need, including technology requirements. Financial hardship funds are available to help student's meet their basic needs, and help cover educational costs (such as housing, food, and textbooks) that a student could not otherwise pay out of pocket. Please visit the GVSU [Special Circumstance & Financial Hardship Requests](#) web page for more information.

### **Face Coverings**

Face coverings, such as masks, are required to be worn in buildings on campus. Students who have forgotten their face coverings may get a disposable mask at a campus office. The evidence is clear that face coverings are a crucial part of keeping coronavirus at bay and support the university's commitment to providing all members of its community with an inclusive living and learning environment with equitable opportunities for success. GVSU's policy on face coverings is posted on the Lakers Together web site. Students who are not able to wear a face covering due to a medical condition should contact Disability Support Services (DSR) to discuss their situation.

**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. 18	Syllabus Student Success Preface, Prologue and Ch. 1: Thinking critically	
Week 2, Jan. 25	Chapter 2: Biology of the mind	<b>HW1 due 1/28/21 (by 11:59pm)</b>
Week 3, Feb. 1	Chapter 2 continued	<b>Quiz 1 on 2/2/21</b>
Week 4, Feb.8	Chapter 3: Consciousness	<b>Quiz 2 on 2/9/21</b>
Week 5, Feb. 15	Chapter 5: Developing through the life span	<b>Quiz 3 on 2/16/21</b>
Week 6, Feb. 22	Chapter 6: Sensation and Perception	<b>Quiz 4 on 2/23/21</b>
Week 7, Mar. 1	Exam 1 (Tuesday) Chapter 7: Learning (posted Thursday)	<b>Exam 1 on 3/2/21 (posted by 10am, due by 11:59pm)</b>
Week 8, Mar. 8	Chapter 8: Memory	<b>HW2 due 3/11/21 (by 11:59pm)</b>
Week 9, Mar. 15	Ch. 11: What drives us	<b>Quiz 5 on 3/16/21</b>
Week 10, Mar. 22	Chapter 12: Emotions	<b>Quiz 6 on 3/23/21</b>
Week 11, Mar. 29	Chapter 13: Social Psychology (Tuesday) <b>Break - No class slides posted on 4/1/21</b>	<b>Quiz 7 on 3/30/21</b>
Week 12, Apr. 5	Chapter 13: Social Psychology continued	<b>Quiz 8 on 4/6/21</b>
Week 13, Apr. 12	Ch. 15: Psychological Disorders	<b>-Quiz 9 on 4/13/21 -HW3 due 4/15/21 (by 11:59pm)</b>
Week 14, Apr. 19	Chapter 15 – Psychological Disorders continued	<b>-Quiz 10 on 4/20/21 -Enrichment activities due 4/20/21 (11:59pm)</b>
	<b>Final (Exam 2)</b> Tuesday, April 27 (posted by 10am and due by 11:59pm)	<b>Exam 2 on 4/27/21 (posted by 10am, due by 11:59pm)</b>

\*\*\*\*\*

**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 **February 8, 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 **April 20, 2021.**