Grand Valley State University
Psychology 101: Introductory Psychology

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*These addresses are the same GVSU account, you may use either. During busier parts of the semester there *may* be delay between your email and my response. This delay should not be more than 5 days for any email with a regular title and not more than 48 hours for any email with "Important" in the title. If you find yourself waiting longer than the aforementioned times, please send me a quick reminder email to make sure it was received.

Course Location: Mackinac (MAK-BLL110) **Proper mask use is required.**
Masks are freely available at any department office on Campus (in case you forget yours). Medical exceptions must be authorized through disability support services.

Office Hours (via Zoom)

Tuesdays: 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday/Friday: Schedule in advance by sending an email with your availability.

https://gvsu-edu.zoom.us/j/4490093421?
pwd=dlA3dHVGTG0yVTloK1gwTmNyVHZnUT09

Course Description: General survey of psychology, the scientific study of behavior and experience, including overt actions and mental activity. 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. Fulfills Social and Behavioral Sciences Foundation requirement. Fulfillment of the laboratory credit typically entails serving as a research participant but alternatively can be fulfilled through a directed written assignment.

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.

Required Text: Altman et al. (2021) Introduction to Psychology: A Top Hat Multi-media text. Available from TopHat. Join Code: 547630

The cost of this electronic textbook is $50 and requires that you register for a TopHat account which is $25 (free if you already have an account from other courses). If you have not already received a course invite, please email me for the link or contact TopHat directly for assistance. support@tophat.com.

Links to videos, popular media articles, research articles, supplemental readings, and lecture slides will be posted in TopHat.

Technology Requirements: Access to high-speed internet is required in order to access the text and complete homework and laboratory assignments.

Grade Evaluation:

	Description	**Weight**
Information Literacy	Assignment	6%
Effective Learning	Assignment	6%
Assessment 1 Assessment 2 Assessment 3	Multiple Choice/In-class	19%
Top Hat	Text Questions/Activities/Readings	15%
Life Span and Development Assignment	Assignment	6%
Personality Assignment	Assignment	6%
Research Enrichment	Research participation or alternate activity	4%

Tentative Lecture Schedule

August 31/ September 2		
	Topic	**Reading(s)**
Tuesday: Introduction and Syllabus		Syllabus
Thursday: What is Psychology?		Top Hat: Module 1
September 7/9		
Tuesday: Information Literacy		Information Literacy Assignment (Due Sept 16)
Thursday: Methods in Psychology		Top Hat: Module 2
September 14/16		
September 19 - Deadline for Psychology Prescreen (1% course credit)		
Tuesday: Methods in Psychology		Top Hat: Module 2
Thursday: Effective Learning		Learning Assignment (Due Sept 30) Bjork et al., 2013
September 21/23		
Tuesday: Memory		Top Hat: Module 8
Thursday: Motivation		Top Hat: Module 11 Pyszczynski et al. (2015; pp. 1-43)
September 28/30		
Tuesday: Assessment 1		
Thursday: Emotion		Top Hat: Module 11
October 5/7		
Tuesday: Consciousness		Top Hat: Module 6
Thursday: Learning		Top Hat: Module 7
October 12/14		

Tuesday: Development	Development Assignment (Due October 21)
Thursday: Development	Top Hat: Module 4
October 19/21	
Tuesday: Language and Thought	Top Hat: Module 9
Thursday: Personality	Top Hat: Module 12 Personality Assignment (Due Nov. 18)
October 24-26 (Fall Break) **October 28**	
Thursday: Social Psychology	Top Hat: Module 13
November 2/4	
Tuesday: Social Psychology	Top Hat: Module 13
Thursday: Assessment 2	
November 9/11	
Tuesday: Psychological Disorders	Top Hat: Module 14
Thursday: Psychological Disorders	Top Hat: Module 14
November 16/18	
Tuesday: Psychological Treatment	Top Hat:Module 15
Thursday: Psychological Treatment	Top Hat: Module 15
November 23 **November 24-26 (Fall Break)**	
Tuesday: Intelligence	Top Hat: Module 10
November 30 / December 2	

Tuesday: Nature versus Nurture Thursday: Culture and Perception	Top Hat:Module 18 Top Hat: Module 18
December 7/9	
December 7– Last day to Participate in Research Enrichment	
Tuesday: Culture and Perception Thursday: Exam Review	Top Hat: Module 18
December 16 - Assessment 3 @ 2:00 - 3:50 p.m.* Assessment is non-cumulative	

Grades will be determined by adjusting the class average to 75% (B) and assigning letter grades based on the below distribution. Thus, your grade in this class is based on your performance relative to the rest of the class.

This is a *tentative* grade distribution

Rating	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Percentage Grades
Excellent	A	4.0	90-100%
Excellent	A-	3.7	85-89%
Good	B+	3.3	80-84%
Good	B	3.0	75-79%
Good	B-	2.7	70-74%
Satisfactory	C+	2.3	65-69%
Satisfactory	C	2.0	60-65%
Satisfactory	C-	1.7	55-59%
Poor	D+	1.3	50-54%
Minimal Pass	D	1.0	45-49%
Failure	F	0	0-44%

Missed Exam/Assignment:

Unfortunately, many of you do not have adequate health insurance. Because if this, I typically will not require a note from a health professional to document your absence. However, documentation will be necessary if you are absent for the final exam or miss more than one major component of the course. A registered health professional must provide the medical certificate, acknowledge the date of the missed exam/assignment, and provide their contact information. *If you miss any class component, you must report your illness to me within 48 hours of the exam/assignment due date.* For missed exams or

assignments, students will be given an extension or have the weight of the missed examination/assignment added to the final examination.

Academic Integrity: Grand Valley State University is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behavior (See section 4) and avoid any behavior which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offense. Cheating, plagiarism and misrepresentation of facts are serious offenses and will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct. Failure in the course and/or expulsion may result from violations of academic integrity.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: 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 (Room 200 STU; https://dsrgvsu@gvsu.edu). Furthermore, if you have a physical disability and think you will need assistance evacuating this classroom and/or building in an emergency, please make me aware so that I can develop a plan to assist you.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT CENTRE: Students who require additional help in developing strategies for better time management, writing, study or examination skills should contact the Advising Resource Centre (200 STU; https://www.gvsu.edu/sasc/) for free tutoring sessions.

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Enrichment Activities:
Learning about Psychological Research
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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 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 Ember 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.

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

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The mission of the Grand Valley State University General Education Program is to provide a broad-based liberal education experience that fosters lifelong learning and informed citizenship. The program prepares students for intelligent participation in public dialogues that consider the issues of humane living and responsible action in local, national, and global communities.

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 – use systematic reasoning to examine and evaluate information and ideas and then synthesize conclusions to propose new perspectives and solutions. Students will:
   - Assess relevant information, perspectives and assumptions.
   - Construct logical conclusions based on reason and evidence.
   - Formulate novel approaches or create innovative interpretations.
   - Evaluate the novel approaches or innovative interpretations.

2. Ethical Reasoning – use a decision-making process based on defining systems of value. Students will:
   - Recognize ethical issues when presented in a complex situation.
   - Demonstrate understanding of key concepts and principles underlying various systems of reasoning.
   - Accurately apply ethical theories and terms to situations.
   - Demonstrate the ability to deal constructively with ambiguity and disagreement.

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