PSY 101 – Introductory Psychology
Section 01, Online Asynchronous
Summer 2025

Instructor Information:

Instructor: Hannah Todd

Email: toddha@gvsu.edu

> Email is my preferred method of communication. You can generally expect a response within 24 hours on weekdays and within 48 hours on weekends/holidays.

Phone: (616)331-2427

Office Hours: Thursdays from 1pm-2pm on Zoom or email me to schedule an appointment

Course Basics:

Course Description: This course will introduce you to psychology, the study of behavior and mental processes. Psychological theories and phenomena will be explored through multiple perspectives including biological, psychological, and social-cultural perspectives. This course will survey a variety of subfields within psychology, such as cognition, development, social, and biopsychology. After completing this course, you will have an understanding of what psychology is, the methods used to study psychology, and how psychological concepts apply to everyday life.

Learning Objectives: Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

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

Course Format: This course is an online asynchronous course. Therefore, we do not have set meeting times but rather you will watch lecture videos, view supplemental resources, and complete assignments through Blackboard Ultra. I aim to release the materials for each week on the previous Friday to give you ample time. You may complete the work at your own pace as long as you submit each assignment before the deadline.

Required Textbook and Materials:

Textbook: This course will use [OpenStax Psychology (2nd edition)](#) by Spielman, Jenkins, and Lovett (2020). This textbook is free to access online and is pre-loaded into Blackboard Ultra.

Technology: You will need regular access to a laptop or tablet for this course. Please see the "Technology Requirements" under the Respondus Learning Module on our Blackboard Ultra site for additional information about what systems can be used for exams.

You will need to access your student email and Blackboard Ultra account regularly throughout the week. Additionally, if you have not already, please create your GVSU Zoom account as you will need to use your student Zoom account if you wish to attend virtual office hours.

Assignments & Assessments:

All assignments and assessments will be completed through Blackboard Ultra

Exams (3 x 100 = 300 points): There will be three exams during this course. Each exam will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions. The final exam will NOT be cumulative. Exams will be completed through Blackboard Ultra using Respondus Lockdown Browser.

Please refer to the Repondus Learning Module on Blackboard Ultra during the first week of class to learn how to download GVSU's Respondus Lockdown Browser and complete a practice test. It is your responsibility to test this ahead of time, and you will not get extensions on exams due to not downloading and testing Respondus ahead of time. If you have any troubles with Respondus, please first contact GVSU's IT and then notify me.

Worksheets (6 x 20 = 120 points): There will be six worksheet assignments this semester to apply what you have learned through your reading and lecture videos. Worksheets will consist of a variety of question types, such as multiple-choice, matching, labelling, fill-in-the-blank, and short-answer.

Discussion Board (7 x 10 = 70 points): There will be seven discussion boards this semester to further explore what you have learned in your reading and lecture videos. There will usually be one discussion board per week, however there are two in the first week to provide an opportunity to introduce yourselves.

I will provide 2-3 topics for you to choose from each week. You will be expected to create a 150-200+ word response to one of the topics. While some of the topics may be more subjective, others are more objective and may require you to find sources. Do not forget to cite any sources you use in APA format within your response (note citations won't count towards your word count). Responses will be graded based on answering a proposed topic, originality/creativity, meeting the word count and deadline, respectfulness, and using correct grammar/punctuation. This is further explained in the rubric on Blackboard Ultra.

Remember the discussion board is meant to be used in a professional and respectful manner. Please use full sentences with correct grammar and punctuation. Furthermore, make sure that you and your responses are kind and respectful of all, even if you disagree with other people's viewpoints.

Panopto Quiz Questions (15 x 3 = 45 points): There will be Panopto quiz questions embedded in some of your Panopto lecture videos to test for understanding. You will earn points by watching the video and completing the embedded question(s). There will generally be 3 questions per chapter and depending on how the chapter is broken up into smaller lecture videos, not all lecture videos will contain an embedded question.

Grading:

Assessment	Possible Points
Exams	300
Worksheets	120
Discussion Board	70
Panopto Quizzes	45
Total	535

Letter Grade	Percentage
A	93-100
A-	90-92.9
B+	87-89.9
B	83-86.9
B-	80-82.9
C+	77-79.9
C	73-76.9
C-	70-72.9
D+	67-69.9
D	60-66.9
F	<60

Course Policies & Resources

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

Withdrawing from a Course: The ultimate deadline for withdrawing from any summer course is Friday, July 25th, by 5:00pm.

Late Assignments: As this course is only 6 weeks long, it is important that assignments and assessments are submitted by the published deadline to stay on track. However, I understand that we are all human, so I want to be flexible while holding you accountable. Worksheets, Panopto

quizzes, and discussion boards can be submitted after the deadline, however for each day the assignment is late, 25% of the total points earned for that assignment will be deducted. For example if a Worksheet that was due on Thursday is submitted on Friday, the maximum points that can be earned are 15 points (75%).

If you experience extenuating circumstances that will cause your assignment to be late, please speak to me as soon as possible to see if additional accommodations are appropriate.

Makeup Exams: Due to exam integrity, exams need to be submitted by the published deadline. I understand that emergencies can come up and accommodations may be available for excused reasons including: intercollegiate events, personal illness, family emergency, religious holiday. This is not an exhaustive list.

To request an accommodation, students must contact me BEFORE the exam date or as soon as possible after to explain why the accommodation is needed and provide documentation.

Accommodations: If you need accommodations due to a learning, physical, or other disability, please inform me and contact the Student Accessibility Resources (SAR) office by calling (616)331-2490 or emailing access@gvsu.edu. It is best to do this early in the semester so we can begin providing appropriate accommodations promptly. All discussions related to disabilities will remain confidential.

Statement on Academic Dishonesty: The following is from the Student Code, Sections 223.00 and 223.01: The principles of truth and honesty are recognized as fundamental to a community of teachers and scholars. This means that all academic work will be done by the student to whom it is assigned without unauthorized aid of any kind.

a. No student shall knowingly procure, provide or accept any materials which contain questions or answers to any examination or assignment.

b. No student shall complete, in part or in total, any examination or assignment for another person.

c. No student shall allow any examination or assignment to be completed, in part or in total, by another person.

d. No student shall submit work that has been previously graded, or is being submitted concurrently to more than one course, without specific authorization from the instructor(s) of the class(es) to which the student wishes to submit it.

e. 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 materials 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 writings 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.

Students can (and are encouraged to) study together, but all academic work should be the sole work of the individual student, unless otherwise stated. Students should also strive to avoid the appearance of dishonesty, behaviors like checking phone during exam that raise concerns that you may be potentially dishonest in your work. Any violation of academic integrity, even on a small scale, can result in a failing grade in the course. Instances of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR).

Statement on Artificial Intelligence: AI-based assistance, such as ChatGPT and Copilot, can be a helpful resource in certain circumstances, however it is important to recognize that there are times AI provides incorrect or incomplete information, and it can inhibit individuals from engaging in their own critical thinking and creativity. I know that students may use AI tools to edit their work, however in the interest of you getting the most out of this course and academic integrity, it is important that everything you submit in this course is your own work.

The following language comes from David Joyner (davidjoyner@fediscience.org): AI-based assistance, such as ChatGPT and Copilot, is treated the same way collaboration with other people is treated; you are welcome to talk about your ideas and work with other people, as well as with AI-based assistants. However, all work you submit must be your own. You should never include in your assignment(s) anything that was not written directly by you without proper citation (including quotation marks and in-line citation for direct quotes).

Including anything you did not write in your assignment without proper citation will be treated as an academic misconduct case. If you are unsure where the line is between collaborating with AI and copying from AI, the following is recommended:

1. Never hit "Copy" within your conversation with an AI assistant. You can copy your own work into your conversation, but do not copy anything from the conversation back into your assignment(s). Instead, use your interaction with the AI assistant as a learning experience, then let your assignment(s) reflect your improved understanding.

2. Do not have your assignment(s) and the AI agent open at the same time. Similar to above, use your conversation with the AI assistant as a learning experience, then close the interaction down, open your assignment(s), and let your assignment(s) reflect your revised knowledge. This includes avoiding using AI directly integrated into your composition environment: just as you should not let a classmate write content directly into your submission(s), so also avoid using tools that directly add content to your submission(s).

Additional Resources: Learn more about resources related to academics, finance, safety, wellness, and more on the [Students Resources List](#).

Course Schedule:

Note: All assignments are due by 11:59pm on the date listed unless otherwise noted

Week	Dates	Topics & Readings	Assignments & Deadlines
Wk 1	6/23-6/27	Ch 1: Introduction to Psychology Ch 2: Psychological Research Ch 3: Biopsychology	Worksheet 1 due Thu 6/26 Panopto Quizzes due Thu 6/26 Intro Discussion Board due Sun 6/29 Weekly Discussion Board 1 due Sun 6/29
Wk 2	6/30-7/4	Ch 4: States of Consciousness Ch 5: Sensation & Perception Happy 4th of July!	Worksheet 2 due Wed 7/2 Panopto Quizzes due Thu 7/3 Discussion Board 2 due Sun 7/6
Wk 3	7/7-7/11	Ch 6: Learning Ch 7: Thinking & Intelligence (Skip 7.2 Language)	EXAM 1 (Ch 1-5) on Tues 7/8 Worksheet 3 due Thu 7/10 Panopto Quizzes due Thu 7/10 Discussion Board 3 due Sun 7/13
Wk 4	7/14-7/18	Ch 8: Memory Ch 9: Development Ch 10: Emotion & Motivation	Worksheet 4 due Thu 7/17 Panopto Quizzes due Thu 7/17 Discussion Board 4 due Sun 7/20
Wk 5	7/21-7/25	Ch 11: Personality Ch 12: Social Psychology	EXAM 2 (Ch 6-10) on Tues 7/22 Worksheet 5 due Thu 7/24 Panopto Quizzes due Thu 7/24 Discussion Board 5 due Sun 7/27
Wk 6	7/28-8/1	Ch 14: Stress & Health Ch 15: Psychological Disorders Ch 16: Therapy & Treatment	Worksheet 6 due Thu 7/31 Panopto Quizzes due Thu 7/31 Discussion Board 6 due Thu 7/31
Wk 7	8/4-8/5	Final Exam	FINAL EXAM (Ch 11-12 & 14-16) on Tues 8/5

This schedule (including assigned readings) is subject to change. Students are responsible for any changes announced in Blackboard.