

Eastern Oregon University
Course Syllabus

Number of Course: Psychology 201

Name of Course: General Psychology

Catalog Description: An examination of fundamental processes of human and animal behavior with emphasis on methodology, biological bases of behavior, learning, motivation, perception, and cognitive processes.

Credit Hours: 4

Required Texts or Suggested Materials:

Are available at: <http://eou.bncollege.com/>

Prerequisites:

Learning Outcomes:

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

1. Describe the origins of modern psychology and be familiar with the major figures that have shaped the discipline.
2. Describe the different fields of psychology and the different types of psychological professionals that exist.
3. Understand the components of the scientific method and experimental methodology and how they apply to the study of behavior and mental processes.
4. Demonstrate a general understanding of learning theory including concepts such as classical and operant conditioning, habituation, sensitization, extinction, reinforcement, and punishment.
5. Convey an appreciation for the role that genetics plays in behavior.
6. Understand evolutionary theory as it applies to behavior.
7. Explain the organization of the nervous system and neuronal functioning.
8. Understand the critical role that biology and chemistry play in behavior.
9. Understand the concept of motivation as it applies to psychological processes.
10. Describe what sleep is, the various types and stages of sleep, and the different theories of why we sleep.
11. Describe the physical structure of each of the sensory systems and understand how these systems function to transmit information to the brain.
12. Explain how the brain synthesizes, analyzes, and interprets sensory information.
13. Understand the different types of memory and the key brain structures involved in memory.
14. Think critically about psychology and exercise a degree of skepticism in considering ideas related to behavior and mental processes.

Course Requirements:

Your progress and final grade in this course will be assessed by the points you accumulate from the following sources: in-class exams, in-class quizzes, and optional extra-credit opportunities.

Grading Policies:

Course grades will be based upon the percentage of total points earned throughout the quarter on the exams, quizzes, and optional extra credit. There will be 250 points available from exams and 75 points available from quizzes for a total of 325 points over the course. Extra-credit points are added in addition to the total points available for the course. Grades will be assigned based on the following scale:

A	302- 325 pts	(93% or greater of available points)
A-	293 - 301	(90 to 92.9%)
B+	283 - 292	(87 to 89.9%)
B	270 - 282	(83 to 86.9%)
B-	260 - 269	(80 to 82.9%)
C+	250 - 259	(77 to 79.9%)
C	237 - 249	(73 to 76.9%)
C-	228 - 236	(70 to 72.9%)
D+	218 - 227	(67 to 69.9%)
D	205 – 217	(63 to 66.9%)
D-	195 – 204	(60 to 62.9%)
F	0 - 194	(below 60% of total points)

Means of Assessment:

One missed in-class exam can be “made up” through the optional comprehensive exam during Finals week. I will use your top five exam scores to compute your final grade; if you miss an in-class exam, for whatever reason, you must take the comprehensive final exam. The missed exam’s “0” will be the low score I drop, and I will use the score on the comprehensive final in its place.

Missed quizzes cannot be “made up.” There will be approximately twenty opportunities to earn quiz points throughout the quarter. I will use your best 15 quizzes to calculate your total quiz points.

Examinations: Program learning outcomes 1 – 14 and GEC outcomes 1 – 3 will be assessed through in-class exams. There will be 5 in-class exams and an optional comprehensive final. Exams will be worth 50 points. Your best five exam scores will be utilized in computing your final grade. The exam format will consist of multiple choice and essay questions. The exams will cover both in-class discussions and text readings. It is your responsibility to attend class and read the textbook! The optional comprehensive final exam will be available during the final exam period to “make up” a missed exam or to possibly replace an in-class exam’s score.

In-class quizzes: Program learning outcomes 1 – 14 and GEC outcome 1 will be assessed through in-class quizzes. Up to twenty in-class quizzes will be administered throughout the quarter over information we are currently covering in class (including reading assignments). These quizzes will be worth 5 points each, and will be unannounced. Your best fifteen quiz scores will be used in determining your final grade.

Extra-credit: You may earn a maximum total of 10 points of extra credit. Extra credit can be earned in a variety of ways. There will be extra-credit questions on the exams covering previous section material. Occasionally opportunities to engage in psychological research for extra credit are available over the quarter. These opportunities will be announced in class and on Canvas.

You may choose to write up to two article reviews for five extra-credit points each. Information regarding extra credit article reviews is available on Canvas.

Brief Outline of Course:

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the major theoretical perspectives and fundamental principles of the science of psychology. An emphasis is placed on developing an understanding of the relationship between these principles and life in contemporary society.

Students will be expected to develop an understanding of the scientific method as it applies to psychology and will also be expected to begin developing the critical thinking skills necessary to analyze scientific research. Students will be exposed to a variety of competing paradigms on topics related to behavior (e.g., research strategies, learning, brain/behavior relationships, motivation, perceptual processes, and memory) and required to think critically about each. They will learn to analyze and interpret the results of psychological research and learn to draw a distinction between “pop” psychology and explanations for behavior that are firmly grounded in empiricism and scientific methodology.

Psychology 201 is the first part of a two-course, 8-credit sequence in Introductory Psychology. This course covers primarily research methods, biological bases of behavior, learning, and memory. Psychology 202 focuses on intelligence, cognition, social aspects of psychology, personality, and mental disorders and their treatment. Psychology 201 is a prerequisite for taking Psychology 202

General Education Category and Outcomes:

SSC courses prepare students for critical thought and responsible action in a diverse and interconnected world through focus on developing reflective and/or critical consciousness regarding human behavior, individually and/or collectively, within its social, cultural, historical, economic, and political contexts. SSC courses should enhance student ability to analyze and interpret data; identify, evaluate and synthesize appropriate primary and secondary sources for continued research; discriminate between relevant concepts, theories and paradigms; assess social, economic and political institutions; and make compelling and reasoned arguments based on appropriate evidence in a variety of written and oral formats utilized by the discipline studied.

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

1. Content Knowledge: Demonstrate increased vocabulary, content, and conceptual knowledge in a breadth requirement.
2. Inquiry: A general education course introduces students to the heuristic of the discipline, its ways of knowing and processing the world, its forms of inquiry, and ways of solving problems.
3. Social Science (SSC): Demonstrate reflective knowledge and analytical judgments about the self, other cultures, and human behavior.

Writing Center Statements:

For on-campus courses

The Writing Center provides a place — physical or virtual — where every EOU writer can find an interested, responsive reader. Writing tutorials are free of charge for EOU’s undergraduate and graduate students who are writing for any course at any level, or who are writing resumes, job

letters, graduate applications, and more. Go to eou.mywconline.com to schedule an appointment in the Writing Center (Loso Hall 234).

For online or on-site courses

The Writing Center provides a place — physical or virtual — where every EOU writer can find an interested, responsive reader. Writing tutorials are free of charge for EOU students writing for any undergraduate course. Go to [EOU's eTutoring page](#) to submit a paper to a writing tutor.

For graduate courses

The Writing Center provides a place — physical or virtual — where every EOU writer can find an interested, responsive reader. Writing tutorials are free of charge for EOU students writing for any graduate course. Go to [EOU's eTutoring page](#) to submit a paper to a writing tutor. Click on [Graduate Students How To](#) for information about tagging your submission.

Classroom Decorum:

Academic Misconduct Policy:

Eastern Oregon University places a high value upon the integrity of its student scholars. Any student found responsible for an act of academic misconduct (including but not limited to cheating, unauthorized collaboration, fabrication, facilitation, plagiarism or tampering) may be subject to having his or her grade reduced in the course in question, being placed on probation or suspended from the University, or a combination of these. (Please see the Student Handbook online at <https://www.eou.edu/student-affairs/code-of-conduct/>).

Accommodations/Students with Disabilities policy:

Any student who feels he or she may need an accommodation for any type of disability, must contact the Disability Services Office in Loso Hall, Room 234. Phone: 541-962-3081.

Disclaimer:

This standard syllabus provides only general information on the course. For those enrolled in the course a detailed syllabus will be provided by the Instructor at the beginning of the term. Please keep in mind that not all courses are offered every year. Consult Webster for scheduling information.

Date: 2018