



Psychology 1010: General Psychology

Spring Semester 2009



Instructor

Course Information

Instructor:	Jared Cox	Time:	Mon, Wed, Fri 1:30 - 2:20
Email:	jared.cox@aggiemail.usu.edu	Dates:	01/05 – 04/27; no class 01/19, 02/16, 03/09-13
Phone:	(435) 797 – 8101	Location:	Widtsoe Hall 007
Office:	EDUC 491	Text:	<i>Psychology Themes & Variations</i> (7 th ed.) by Weiten
Office Hours:	M, W, 2:30-3:30; F 10:30-11:30 and by Appointment		

How to Contact Me.

Email. This is the most effective way to contact me. I check my email messages several times throughout the day. I typically will respond to email received in blackboard within 24 hours of receipt, and I respond to email received in my aggiemail account within 72 hours.

Telephone. The telephone usually is not an effective way to contact me. I can not predict when I will be in my office or when I will be able to check messages. I will often reply to voice messages through email.

Course Description. General Psychology is a one semester course designed to expose and familiarize students with the basic concepts and principles of psychology and psychological investigation. Psychology is a vast field that investigates every aspect of behavior. Each student paid a \$15 fee to enroll in the course. The student fees are used to cover copying costs, equipment costs, costs associated with the required lab and costs associated with the course's plagiarism prevention service.

If you find a topic in the text, an assignment, or a lecture that particularly interests you, please feel welcome to discuss it with me; it is my hope that you will enjoy the course and grow both academically and personally.

Course Learning Objectives. There are seven broad objectives for this course. All class activities (reading assignments, writing assignments, lectures, exams, etc.) are designed to help students meet these objectives. While there are content-area specific learning objectives for each section and/or chapter of the course, for the course-level objectives I would like all students to:

- Know the 'facts' of the science of psychology
- Understand the concepts of the science of psychology
- Understand the processes by which knowledge is obtained in the field of psychology
- Apply concepts learned in the classroom or in the text to real-life
- Evaluate evidence presented in the classroom, text, or the popular media using the tools of psychology

Textbook. *Psychology Themes & Variations* (7th ed.) by Wayne Weiten, is required for this course. A web-based study aid called ThomsonNow is also available and is highly recommended. Reading assignments (see the schedule) are to be completed before class.

Blackboard. This course will make extensive use of Blackboard (<http://bb.usu.edu>). If you are registered for the course, the Blackboard resources will be available to you. All electronic communication will occur within the Blackboard email system. In addition, exam study guides, lecture slides, and lab opportunities (see below) will also be available via Blackboard.

The Lab. The lab system will be summarized in detail during the first week of the semester. Lab sections will not meet regularly, rather, students are required to obtain 10 “lab credits” (20 points each, 100 points total). During the course of the semester a variety of lab opportunities will be available.

Grading & Evaluation. There are ample opportunities to earn points—extra-credit will not be given under any circumstance. Exams account for approximately 83% of your final grade, the labs account for approximately 17% of your grade.

Exams. There will be four, non-cumulative, multiple choice exams during the semester and one cumulative exam. Each will contain 50 questions and will be worth 100 points. Questions will be drawn from the text as well as the lectures—material that is covered in *both* text and lectures will be emphasized. Many exam questions will require application, rather than recall, of material. For each exam you will need one *General Purpose Test Answer Sheet*; these will be provided for you.

Labs. You will be responsible for the completion of 10 labs during the course. Multiple lab opportunities will be posted on Blackboard for you to choose from. Due dates for the labs are listed below in the course schedule.

Quizzes. During the course of the semester there will be many quizzes. Each quiz will consist of 5 questions derived from the assigned reading(s). Quizzes will not be scored and will not be used in determining students’ grades. The quizzes will contain questions similar to those on the exams. Some questions from the quizzes may be on the exams.

Assignments, due dates, and possible points are outlined below:

Task	Possible Points
Exam 1	100
Exam 2	100
Exam 3	100
Exam 4	100
Final Exam	100
Labs	100

Course grade will be assigned as follows (total earned points, divided by 600, rounded to the tenth):

Grade	Range	Grade	Range	Grade	Range	Grade	Range
		B+	87.0-89.9%	C+	77.0-79.9%	D+	67.0-69.9%
A	93.0-100%	B	83.0-86.9%	C	73.0-76.9%	D	60.0-66.9%
A-	90.0-92.9%	B-	80.0-82.9%	C-	70.0-72.9%	F	0-59.9%

Extensions & Make-Ups. In the event of a University-approved absence or a significant medical problem please see the instructor to discuss making up a missed exam or assignment; in general, advance notice and/or appropriate documentation (e.g. written notification from a treatment provider) will be required to schedule a make-up exam. Neither family vacations (even with a note from your parents), nor friends’ weddings, nor accidentally sleeping in justify a make-up exam.

Classroom behavior. Principles of civility dictate that students do not talk when the instructor, or another student, is talking. Also, please turn off cell-phones and pagers. Please show up promptly (the size of the classroom prohibits subtle late-entrances) and stay until the class period is over (the size of the classroom prohibits subtle early-exits). Note that every faculty member has the right to remove any student from the classroom whenever a student has compromised the instructor’s ability to teach, and/or other students’ rights to learn. For more information see the University’s Classroom Civility Policy which can be found on the web at: studentlife.tsc.usu.edu/stuserv/pdf/student_code.pdf.

Academic Honesty. Plagiarizing, cheating or violating other reasonable standards of academic behavior will not be tolerated. Any student who engages in academically dishonest behavior will receive an “F” for the course grade. All incidents of cheating will be reported for university-level disciplinary proceedings the results of which can include probation, suspension, expulsion, the assignment of HV (honors violation) to the students permanent transcript, etc (see section VI-1 of the Code of Policies and Procedures for Students at Utah State University: http://studentlife.tsc.usu.edu/stuserv/pdf/student_code.pdf). While complete definitions are available in the course catalogue (p. 21) the following are particularly relevant to this course:

Plagiarism: representing, by paraphrase or direct quotation, the published or unpublished work of another person as one’s own in any academic exercise or activity without full and clear acknowledgment. Plagiarism also includes using materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in the sale of term papers or other academic materials.

Cheating: (a) depending on the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; (b) substituting for another student, or permitting another student to substitute for oneself, in taking an examination or preparing academic work; (c) submitting substantially the same work for credit in more than one class, except with prior approval from the instructor.

Disability Resource Center. Students with physical, sensory, emotional or medical impairments may be eligible for reasonable accommodations in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. All accommodations are coordinated through the Disability Resource Center (DRC) in Room 101 of the University Inn, 797-2444 voice, 797-0740 TTY, or toll free at 1-800-259-2966. Please contact the DRC as early in the semester as possible. Alternate format materials (Braille, large print or digital) are available with advance notice.

Additional Resources

Academic Resource Center. Students qualify for services through the Academic Resource Center. The mission of the Academic Resource Center is to provide and promote services to enhance the learning skills, study strategies, and personal attitudes that influence students' academic success. If you would like more information, call the Academic Resource Center at 797-1128 or visit the Taggart Student Center, room 305.

Psychology Undergraduate Advising. Psychology majors, pre-majors and potential majors can rely on the psychology undergraduate advising center for a variety of services including guidance in undergraduate planning, exploration of career opportunities in psychology, exploration of research and applied opportunities in the field and general guidance regarding the navigation of the universities systems.

University Counseling Center. Students qualify for services through the University Counseling Center which exists to aid USU students in their personal, social, and academic adjustment and development during their university experience. If you would like more information, call the University Counseling Center at 797-1012 or visit the Taggart Student Center, room 306.

Psychology Related Websites.

<http://leonard.ed.usu.edu>

<http://www.peele.net/>

<http://psychclassics.yorku.ca/>

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/>

<http://psychology.about.com/>

http://dmoz.org/Science/Social_Sciences/Psychology/

<http://www.psychology.org/>

<http://www.des.emory.edu/mfp/james.html>

COURSE SCHEDULE

<i>Month</i>	<i>Day</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Reading Assignment</i>	<i>Labs</i>
Jan	Mon	5	Intro/History	6-13; 21-25	
	Wed	7	History		
	Fri	9	Research	Ch2	
	Mon	12	Research		
	Wed	14	Research		
	Fri	16	Bio bases	Ch3	
February	Mon	19	<i>No Class (MLK Jr. Day)</i>		
	Wed	21	Bio Bases		
	Fri	23	Bio Bases		
	Mon	2	Exam 1		Labs 1 & 2 Due
	Wed	4	Sensation & Perception	Ch4	
	Fri	6	Sensation & Perception		
	Mon	9	Consciousness	Ch5	
	Wed	11	Consciousness		
March	Fri	13	Consciousness		
	Mon	16	<i>No Class (President's Day)</i>		
	Tues	17	Learning	Ch6	
	Wed	18	Learning		
	Fri	20	Learning		
	Mon	23	Exam 2		Labs 3 & 4 Due
	Wed	25	Memory/Intelligence	Ch7; 349-373	
	Fri	27	Memory/Intelligence		
April	Mon	2	Memory/Intelligence		
	Wed	4	Motivation & Emotion	Ch10	
	Fri	6	Motivation & Emotion		
	Mon	9	<i>No Class (Spring Break)</i>		
	Wed	11	<i>No Class (Spring Break)</i>		
	Fri	13	<i>No Class (Spring Break)</i>		
	Mon	16	Development	Ch11	
	Wed	18	Development		
April	Fri	20	Development		
	Mon	23	Exam 3		Labs 5 & 6 Due
	Wed	25	Social	Ch16	
	Fri	27	Social		
	Mon	30	Social		
	Wed	1	Personality	Ch12	
	Fri	3	Personality		
	Mon	6	Personality		
	Wed	8	Disorders	Ch14	
	Fri	10	Disorders		
	Mon	13	Disorders		
	Wed	15	Exam 4		Labs 7 & 8 Due
Fri	17	Treatment	Ch15		
Mon	20	Treatment			
Wed	22	Treatment			
Fri	24	Review			
Mon	27	11:30 – 1:20 Final Exam		Labs 9 & 10 Due	