



Elementary Psychology

COURSE SYLLABUS

Textbook/material required: Kalat, J. W. (2016). *Introduction to psychology*. Cengage Learning.

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the fundamental principles of psychology, covering particularly the topics of personality, intelligence, motivation, emotion, decision making, attention, perception, learning, memory, and thinking.

1. Course Objectives

This course has a main goal: to familiarize students with the science of psychology, the study of behavior. This goal will be accomplished by a thorough understanding of:

- the scientific research method in psychology
- the vocabulary of scientific psychology
- the different theories of personality
- the basics of the different sub-areas of psychology (such as sensation and perception, learning and memory, motivation, personality, and stress)

2. Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of psychology through knowledge of behavioral principles.
2. Demonstrate critical thinking skills necessary to critically assess real world issues and the various perspectives on them.
3. Evaluate scientific studies with an understanding of what constitutes a valid research method.
4. Demonstrate effective communication skills by reading primary and secondary source material, discussing course content and writing papers.
5. Demonstrate understanding of the diverse assumptions and values that shape our experiences and/or behaviors of the world.

3. Course Weekly Calendar

DATE	CLASS TOPIC & DESCRIPTION	REFERENCE IN THE TEXTBOOK	ASSIGNMENT/TASK
WEEK ONE	<p><i>INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>WHAT IS PSYCHOLOGY?</i>• <i>PHILOSOPHICAL ISSUES IN PSYCHOLOGY</i>• <i>DIFFERENT APPROACHES TO UNDERSTANDING</i>• <i>THE HUMAN BEING</i> <p><i>RESEARCH METHODS</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>THE MAJOR TYPES OF RESEARCH</i>• <i>CONSIDERATIONS IN COMPLETING AN EXPERIMENT</i>• <i>RESEARCH ETHICS</i>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>ETHICS OF ANIMAL RESEARCH</i> 		
<i>WEEK TWO</i>	<p><i>THE BRAIN AND NERVOUS SYSTEM</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>NERVOUS SYSTEM: DIVISIONS AND SUBDIVISIONS</i> • <i>ORGANIZATION OF THE BRAIN</i> • <i>4 LOBES AND ITS FUNCTIONS</i> 		
<i>WEEK THREE</i>	<p><i>SENSATION:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>BASIC PROCESSES</i> • <i>STRUCTURE OF SENSE ORGANS</i> • <i>SENSATION VS PERCEPTION</i> <p><i>PERCEPTION</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>PERCEPTUAL THRESHOLD</i> • <i>RULES OF ORGANIZATION</i> • <i>PERCEPTUAL CONSTANCY</i> • <i>DEPTH PERCEPTION</i> • <i>OPTICAL ILLUSIONS</i> 		
<i>WEEK FOUR</i>	<p><i>LEARNING</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>CLASSICAL CONDITIONING</i> • <i>OPERANT CONDITIONING</i> • <i>SOCIAL LEARNING</i> 		ASSIGNMENT 1
<i>WEEK FIVE</i>	<p><i>MEMORY & FORGETTING</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>WHAT IS MEMORY</i> • <i>TYPES OF MEMORY</i> • <i>TYPES OF LONG-TERM MEMORY</i> • <i>MEMORY PROCESSES</i> • <i>REASONS OF FORGETTING</i> • <i>MNEMONICS</i> 		CLASS ACTIVITY
<i>WEEK SIX</i>	<p><i>WORK MOTIVATION, JOB SATISFACTION, AND LEADERSHIP</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>HUMANISTIC PSYCHOLOGY, HIERARCHY OF NEEDS AND MOTIVATION</i> • <i>REALISTIC GOALS</i> • <i>JOB SATISFACTION AND MOTIVATION</i> • <i>JOB BURNOUT</i> • <i>GOOD LEADER. TYPES OF LEADERSHIP</i> 		QUIZ
<i>WEEK SEVEN</i>	<p><i>INTELLIGENCE</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>PSYCHOMETRICS</i> • <i>BASIC THEORIES OF INTELLIGENCE</i> 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IQ TESTS AND MENTAL AGE • NATURE-NURTURE APPROACH 		
WEEK EIGHT	<p>SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ATTITUDE & COGNITIVE DISSONANCE • PERSUASION • CONFORMITY VS. OBEDIENCE TO AUTHORITY • GROUP POLARIZATION VS. GROUPTHINK • PROSOCIAL BEHAVIOR VS. ALTRUISTIC 		
WEEK NINE	<p>SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SOCIAL LOAFING • STEREOTYPE VS. PREJUDICE. DISCRIMINATION • ATTRIBUTION & ATTRIBUTION ERRORS • FRUSTRATION-AGGRESSION HYPOTHESIS • DEINDIVIDUALIZATION VS. DEHUMANIZATION 		
WEEK TEN	<p>EMOTIONS AND STRESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EMOTIONS & EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE • STRESS. PRIMARY APPRAISAL • PSYCHOSOMATIC SYMPTOMS • GAS • STRESS CAUSES • PTSD • STRATEGIES OF COPYING WITH STRESS 		CLASS ACTIVITY 2
WEEK ELEVEN	<p>PERSONALITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PERSONALITY THEORIES • PSYCHOANALYTIC THEORY • HUMANISTIC PSYCHOLOGY • TRAIT PERSONALITY THEORY • MEASUREMENT OF PERSONALITY 		
WEEK TWELVE	WORKSHOPS		
WEEK THIRTEEN	WORKSHOPS		
WEEK FIFTEEN	WORKSHOPS		
WEEK SIXTEEN	FINAL EXAM		

