

Course Syllabus

Welcome to Psychology 2012 - General Psychology!

Your Instructor: Dr. Shani Kerr

Instructor Office: Virtual

Instructor Office Hours: Thursdays from 9:30am-12:30pm and by appointment. Please reserve via Calendly here [Dr. Kerr's Office Hours Reservation](#).

The best way to contact me is via CANVAS messenger or the email address above. *Please allow 24-48 hrs. to respond to your emails during the weekdays. Emails sent on the weekend will be responded during the following weekdays.* **Please include PSY2012 in the subject line for easy track of communication.**

Graduate Teaching Assistants: TBD

PSY2012 is part of the General Education State Core.

State Core Course Description

In this course, students will gain an introduction to the scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. Topics may be drawn from historical and current perspectives in psychology.

State Core Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course:

1. Students will be able identify basic psychological theories, terms, and principles from historical and current perspectives.
2. Students will be able to recognize real-world applications of psychological theories, terms, and principles.
3. Students will be able to recognize basic strategies used in psychological research.
4. Students will be able to draw logical conclusions about behavior and mental processes based on empirical evidence.

In addition to these broad goals, we will have a set of specific learning objectives for each module.

Course Goals

1. To teach you the science behind psychology and how it differs from the media's interpretation.
2. To provide you with an introduction to the different areas within the field of psychology.
3. To teach you the concepts in the field and how to apply them.

General Education Student Learning Outcomes

Category	Institutional Definition	Institutional SLO
Content	Content is knowledge of the concepts, principles, terminology and methodologies used within the discipline.	Students demonstrate competence in the terminology, concepts, methodologies and theories used within the discipline.
Communication	Communication is the development and expression of ideas in written and oral forms.	Students communicate knowledge, ideas, and reasoning clearly and effectively in written or oral forms appropriate to the discipline.
Critical Thinking	Critical thinking is characterized by the comprehensive analysis of issues, ideas, and evidence before accepting or formulating an opinion or conclusion.	Students analyze information carefully and logically from multiple perspectives, using discipline specific methods, and develop reasoned solutions to problems. These will be accomplished through assignments and assessments given in this course.

Course Materials

Everything you need for the course can be accessed right here on Canvas. Our textbook is the e-book version of *Psychology: From Inquiry to Understanding* (5th edition) and is hosted on Pearson Publishing's Revel platform. For the best price and quickest access, I recommend that you opt in to this class through UF All Access. (You can learn more about UF All Access [here](#)). As you read, be sure to engage with the videos and other interactive features that are embedded in the text, as you will be responsible for this material on

exams. The exception to this is the writing prompts that appear every so often throughout the text—you are **not** required to respond to these.

I strongly recommend that you download the Revel mobile app to your laptop, tablet, and/or mobile phone. (**Seriously—please do this! :)**) The app has several useful features, including:

- Offline access to the textbook (for when your internet is spotty during hurricane season!)
- Access to the complete audio version of the book
- Access to the Revel section quizzes that will help you prepare for the quizzes and exams
- Access to flash cards for the key terms in each chapter

Learn more about the Revel app [here](#).

Our textbook is integrated with the Canvas website for this class. Also on Canvas, you'll find the 13 modules that comprise this course. The learning center page for each module contains links to the required lectures, readings, external videos, and all assignments and exams. You will have access to 3 modules at a time.

Course Organization and Schedule

This course contains thirteen modules, each organized around a general psychology topic. One module corresponds with approximately one class week and contains its own set of required activities and assignments. Class weeks generally run from Monday through Sunday (except for the first week of the semester, [see below]), and graded work for each module is due on Sunday at 11:59pm. During every third module, you will take an exam; exams are also due at 11:59pm on Sunday.

This table shows how topics and due dates will flow as we proceed through the semester:

Module	Class Week	Topic	Due Date for Graded Work	What is Due?
1	Aug 21 - Aug 31	Psychology and Scientific Thinking: A Framework for Everyday Life	Aug 31	1. Course Orientation Quiz

				2. Introduce Yourself to Your Discussion Group 3. Chapter 1 Quiz
2	Sept 2 - 7	Research Methods: Vital Safeguards Against Error	Sept 7	1. Chapter 2 Quiz 2. Module 2 Discussion Board
3	Sept 8 - 14	Biological Psychology: Bridging the Levels of Analysis	Sept 14	1. Application Paper 2. EXAM 1
4	Sept 15 - 21	Sensation and Perception: How We Sense and Conceptualize the World	Sept 21	1. Chapter 4 Quiz 2. Module 4 Discussion Board
5	Sept 22 - 28	Consciousness: Expanding the Boundaries of Psychological Inquiry	Sept 28	1. Chapter 5 Quiz 2. Application Paper
6	Sept 29 - Oct 5	Learning: How Nurture Changes Us	Oct 5	1. Module 6 Discussion Board 2. EXAM 2
7	Oct 6 - 12	Memory: Constructing and Reconstructing Our Pasts	Oct 12	1. Chapter 7 Quiz 2. Application Paper
8	Oct 13 - 19	Thinking, Language, and Intelligence:	Oct 19	1. Chapter 8 Quiz

		Getting Inside Our Talking Heads		2. Module 8 Discussion Board 3. Application Paper
9	Oct 20 - 26	Human Development: How and Why We Change Chapter 9.1 and 9.2 (pg. 354 – 369) Chapter 9.3 and 9.4 (pg. 370 – 394 and pg. 396 – 406)**	Oct 26	1. EXAM 3 2. Module 9 Discussion Board
10	Oct 27 - Nov 2	Social Psychology: How Others Affect Us	Nov 2	1. Chapter 12 Quiz 2. Module 12 Discussion Board
11	Nov 3 - 9	Personality: How We Become Who We Are	Nov 9	1. Chapter 13 Quiz
12	Nov 10 -16	Psychological Disorders: When Adaptation Breaks Down	Nov 16	1. EXAM 4
13	Nov 17 - Nov 30	Psychological and Biological Treatments: Helping People Change	Nov 30	1. Chapter 15 Quiz 2. Application Paper

** A section of the textbook may contain concepts that do not comply with Florida Statutes covering content in General Education courses as determined by the Board of Governors of the State University System of Florida. Those pages are not required reading, nor are there assignments associated with those concepts.

At any given time, you will have access to the modules that will be covered on the upcoming exam. You are free to work ahead within those modules, but you will not have access to later modules. This policy ensures that the amount of material your instructors are covering at any point in time does not become unmanageable. If you wish to get a jumpstart on future modules, consider reading ahead and taking the Revel section quizzes in your textbook.

Assignments and Grading

Application Papers (18.9%). You will have 5 application papers that required you to think critically about the concepts and theories covered in the module. Each paper should be no longer than one double-spaced page and contain two paragraphs.

Chapter quizzes (46.2%). You will have 9 open-book/open-note chapter quizzes, each with 25 multiple-choice items. You may take the chapter quizzes as many times as you wish (you will get a different set of questions each time), and your highest score will be recorded in the grade book.

Discussion boards (13.2%). You will have 6 discussion boards where you discuss a relevant topic with a group of 15-20 classmates. Discussion participation will take place in two steps: In the first step, you will write a response to the discussion prompt. This response is due by 11:59pm on Thursday of the module week. By the end of the module (11:59pm on Sunday), you will respond to at least two classmates in your discussion group.

Research requirement (2.8%). The Department of Psychology requires all students enrolled in PSY2012 to engage in research-related activities, either as a participant in or consumer of research. You will be graded based on your completion of a particular number of research credits. Additional details and deadlines for meeting this requirement see the Homepage, scroll to the bottom and "hit" the blue box "Research Experience" for instructions. The Research Requirement will be available in the second week of the semester.

Exams (18.9%). We will have an exam during every third module, for a total of four exams worth 4.6% approximately each. Exams are non-cumulative, and will cover all material presented in the modules, including textbook chapters, enrichment lectures, required external videos, and required supplemental readings. Although exams in this class are open note/open book, we will use exam proctoring from Honorlock to verify your identity and that you do not communicate with others or record test questions during the test. (More information about Honorlock is provided in the Course Policies section below.) Exams must be taken within the five-day window preceding their due date. Missed exams will be taken during UF's final exam week (email Dr. Kerr for permission to do so). Exam

windows run from 12pm Wednesday through 11:59pm on Sunday. Please make note of the following exam windows:

Exam 1: Sept 10 - 14

Exam 2: Oct 1 - 5

Exam 3: Oct 22 -26

Exam 4: Nov 12 - 16

Final grades in PSY2012 will be assigned as follows:

A 93 - 100%

A- 90 - 92%

B+ 87 - 89%

B 83 - 86%

B- 80 - 82%

C+ 77 - 79%

C 73 - 76%

C- 70 - 72%

D+ 67 - 69%

D 63 - 66%

D- 60 - 62%

E 0 - 59%

****Note: A minimum grade of C is required for General Education credit.** Final total percentage points with a decimal value equal to or greater than .5 will be rounded to the next number. For further information about current UF grading policies for assigning grade points, please see catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.**

Final percent values will be rounded to the nearest whole number. For example, a grade of 89.50% would be rounded to 90, but a grade of 89.49% would remain an 89.

Grades in PSY2012 are based on objective criteria and are not negotiable. In the interest of fairness to all students, I ask that you kindly refrain from contacting me or the TAs at the end of the semester to request special consideration or extra credit work beyond what is already offered.

Course Policies

Academic integrity. Required syllabus statement regarding cheating: “Cheating is defined in the UF Handbook, and it is the student’s responsibility to be familiar with its many forms (including plagiarism). If a student is caught cheating, the first offense will result in a zero for that exam or assignment and a record of the event will be placed in a temporary file with the Office of Student Affairs. The second offense will result in an ‘E’ for the course, and the student will go before the Honor Court. As a result of completing registration at UF, every student has agreed to the following statement: *I understand that UF expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University.*”

Cheating on exams and assignments takes many forms, including but not limited to: copying the work of another student, plagiarizing, allowing another student to copy your work, completing work on behalf of another student, and sharing or discussing online exam questions with students who have not yet taken the test. The range of behaviors defined as cheating are clearly explained in the University of Florida Student Conduct & Honor Code, which you can access [here](#). I am committed to treating all instances of cheating seriously. Please do not cheat.

Assistance for students with disabilities. If you have a disability, you may be eligible for educational accommodations. If you have not yet established your eligibility for accommodations, please contact the Disability Resource Center at (352) 392-8565, accessuf@ufsa.ufl.edu, or Room 0001 in Reid Hall. If you have already established your eligibility, please contact me as early in the semester as possible so that we can work together to make sure you have what you need to succeed in class. Please note that accommodation requests are not retroactive; you must request what you need ahead of time.

Exam proctoring. Although you are allowed to use your book and notes on the four exams in this class, they will be proctored through Honorlock. Proctoring ensures the integrity of our exams by verifying each exam taker's identity, and ensuring that students do not communicate with each other during the test.

A word about Honorlock, from Honorlock:

"Honorlock will proctor your exams this semester. Honorlock is an online proctoring service that allows you to take your exam from the comfort of your home. You DO NOT need to create an account, download software or schedule an appointment in advance. Honorlock is available 24/7, and all that is needed is a computer, a working webcam/microphone, your ID, and a stable internet connection.

To get started, you will need Google Chrome and download the [Honorlock Chrome Extension](#).

When you are ready to complete your assessment, log into Canvas, go to your course, and click on your exam. Clicking "Launch Proctoring" will begin the Honorlock authentication process, where you will take a picture of yourself, show your ID, and complete a scan of your room. Honorlock will be recording your exam session through your webcam, microphone, and recording your screen. Honorlock also has an integrity algorithm that can detect search-engine use, so please do not attempt to search for answers, even if it's on a secondary device.

Honorlock support is available 24/7/365. If you encounter any issues, you may contact them through live chat on the [support page](#) or within the exam itself. Some guides you should review are [Honorlock MSRs](#), [Student FAQ](#), [Honorlock Knowledge Base](#), and [How to Use Honorlock](#).

Late work policy. All work for this class must be submitted by the due date. Exceptions to this policy will be considered only in cases of serious emergency. I strongly recommend that you complete your work early in the week to avoid missing the Sunday deadline.

Requests for regrades. You have one week after a grade has been posted to dispute your grade and request that the grader take a second look at your work. Please note that requests for regrades will not be considered after the one-week window has passed. In your request for a regrade, contact the grader with information about the assignment you are referring to and a clear explanation of why you believe your grade is not accurate. If needed, refer to material in the textbook or other course resources (e.g., posted videos, rubrics, etc.) to provide evidence for why the grade you received is incorrect. Contact Dr. Kerr for assistance with regrades only if you are unable to come to a satisfactory resolution with the grader, or if Dr. Kerr was the grader. This policy applies to all types of graded work in this class, including application papers, chapter quizzes, discussion board posts, and exams. Please check the [Instructor Contact](#) page for information about who to contact for each assignment type.

GatorEvals. Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via ufl.bluera.com/ufl. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results.

Statement about sexual harassment. Sexual harassment is not tolerated in this class, in the Department of Psychology, or at the University of Florida. Sexual harassment includes the inappropriate introduction of sexual activities or comments in a situation where sex is otherwise irrelevant. Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination and a violation of state and federal laws, as well as of the policies and regulations of the university. All UF employees and students must adhere to UF's sexual harassment policy, which can be found here: hr.ufl.edu/forms-policies/policies-managers/sexual-harassment. Please review this policy and contact a university official if you have any questions about the policy. As mandatory reporters, university employees (e.g., administrators, managers, supervisors, faculty, teaching assistants, staff) are required to report knowledge of sexual harassment to UF's Title IX coordinator. For more information about UF's Title IX office see: titleix.ufl.edu. You can also complete a Sexual Harassment Report online (Title IX) at: titleix.ufl.edu/title-ix-reporting-form.