

Fall 2023 Syllabus

Psychology 101: Introductory Psychology**Section 002****Mondays and Wednesdays: 8:00 AM – 9:20 AM****Fridays: 8:00 AM – 8:50 AM****Veterinary Medical Center E100****Course Units: 4.00****Instructional Team****Instructor:** Dr. Amy Drahota ([pronouns](#): she/her/hers)**Office:** Psychology Building, Room 125-B**In-person office hours:** Mondays 1-2pm, Wednesdays 10-11am, or by appointment**Course email address:** MSUPsych101@gmail.com

- The Graduate TA will respond to emails unless there is a need for Dr. Drahota's review
- Responses will be provided within 48 business hours of receiving an email
- Questions that can be answered by reading the course syllabus may not be answered
- As necessary, Dr. Drahota will respond to PSY101 emails on Tuesdays & Thursdays

Graduate Teaching Assistant: Hyewon Yang ([pronouns](#): she/her/hers)**Email:** MSUPsych101@gmail.com

1. The GTA will respond to emails on Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays between 8am-2pm
2. Responses will be provided within 48 business hours of receiving an email

Virtual office hours: Fridays 12-1pm through Zoom

3. Hyewon will hold exam study sessions during her office hour prior to scheduled exams

Zoom URL: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/99967559276>**Undergraduate Teaching Assistant:** Eli Rubin ([pronouns](#): he/him/his)

Contacting the Instructional Team: Dr. Drahota, the Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA), and the Undergraduate Teaching Assistant (UA) are here to help you understand and critically think about the course material. I encourage you to connect with at least one of us during office hours to get clarification on course material or to get additional information about topics we have (or haven't) covered in class that are of interest to you. If you cannot make office hours, or need a longer time to meet, please make an appointment to meet with someone from the instructional team at another time.

Course Description

Psychology is a scientific discipline investigating human behavior and the mind. The scientific investigations and the impact of psychology are broad and far-reaching. This course will introduce students to the foundational concepts of psychology and aims to provide greater understanding to students of themselves and the world, as well as help students become critical consumers of psychological media found in the popular press.

Student Learning Outcomes

There are four learning objectives for this course:

1. **Explore the field of psychology.** Psychology is both broad and complicated. In this course, you will be exposed to a variety of areas of interest (disciplines) within the field of psychology, as well as the research methods used to investigate these areas.

2. **Learn skills associated with scientific study and critical thinking.** Whether you choose to continue studying psychology after this class or not, there are several basic scientific and critical thinking skills that will serve you well regardless of your major. These skills are an integral part of all science endeavors, and you will learn to employ them in understanding the nature of psychology.
3. **Apply the knowledge and skills gained in this course to everyday life.** Psychology is unique in its clear relation to our everyday lives. Studying psychology directly benefits you by developing a better understanding of yourself, others, and the world around you.
4. **Demonstrate your knowledge of psychological science.** Through exams, quizzes, and activities, you will demonstrate knowledge about psychological topics learned throughout the semester.

Course Format and Structure: The class associated with this course takes place in person. This means that your attendance in class is required during the scheduled class sessions. Outside of class, you will be expected to engage with the class topics through readings, watching videos, and completing assignments. These can be accessed through the course website, found at MSU's [Desire to Learn \(D2L\)](#).

Syllabus Flexibility: Elements of this syllabus are subject to change per the discretion of the instructor. Minor changes will be announced during class. If major changes ensue, a revised schedule will be posted or distributed. Any changes to readings will be announced and an update will be posted on the course website.

Textbook and Course Materials

Required Textbook

1. *Psychology 2e* (2020) by Rose M. Spielman and colleagues. This is a free online textbook that can be accessed through your Top Hat subscription (see below) and through the link: <https://openstax.org/details/books/psychology-2e>. Through these sites, you can download the textbook to your device(s). If you would prefer a physical copy, you can purchase the book online through Amazon or the OpenStax website. For reference, I purchased mine for about \$30 (note, I've found a few differences between the online and printed textbooks).



Psychology 2e

Required Technology and Programs

1. D2L Course Website

- This course has a [D2L](#) website (<https://d2l/msu.edu>) where you will find class policies, schedules, lecture notes, assignments, grades, and important class information. During the semester, the instruction team will email you and/or post information, announcements, and reminders on the course D2L website. Please read these emails or posts as you receive notification about them, and please check your email regularly.
- Also, it is helpful to make sure you set up D2L to forward emails from the D2L site to the email address that you use most regularly; information about how to do this can be found at <https://help.d2l.msu.edu/node/4410>.

2. Top Hat Subscription

- In-class participation is a requirement for this course and will be evaluated through questions presented throughout each Monday and Wednesday classes.
- Participation questions will be presented through the Top Hat classroom response system (<https://app.tophat.com/login>). We will use Top Hat during every class. You will

be able to submit answers to in-class questions using Apple or Android smartphones and tablets, laptops, or through text messages.

- Our Top Hat course is named **Introductory Psychology (FS23 PSY101-002)**, and the join code is: **547293**.
- Top Hat will require a paid subscription, and a full breakdown of all subscription options available can be found here: www.tophat.com/pricing. Scholarships are available through Top Hat. Please speak with me by September 15, 2023 if you feel that you are eligible for a Top Hat Scholarship.
- You can visit the Top Hat Overview (<https://success.tophat.com/s/article/Student-Top-Hat-Overview-and-Getting-Started-Guide>), which outlines how you will register for a Top Hat account and provides a brief overview.
- If you need assistance with Top Hat at any time, due to the fact that they require specific user information to troubleshoot these issues, please contact their Support Team directly by way of email (support@tophat.com), the in-app support button, or by calling 1-888-663-5491 x1.

Course Policies

Academic Honesty: The Spartan Code of Honor states, "As a Spartan, I will strive to uphold values of the highest ethical standard. I will practice honesty in my work, foster honesty in my peers, and take pride in knowing that honor is worth more than grades. I will carry these values beyond my time as a student at Michigan State University, continuing the endeavor to build personal integrity in all that I do." In addition, Article 2.III.B.2 of the Student Rights and Responsibilities ([SRR](#)) states that "The student shares with the faculty the responsibility for maintaining the integrity of scholarship, grades, and professional standards." The Psychology Department adheres to the policies on academic honesty as specified in [General Student Regulations 1.0, Protection of Scholarship and Grades](#); [the all-University Policy on Integrity of Scholarship and Grades](#); and [Ordinance 17.00, Examinations](#).

Therefore, unless authorized by your instructor, you are expected to complete all course assignments, including homework, lab work, quizzes, tests, and exams, without assistance from any source. You are expected to develop original work for this course; therefore, you may not submit course work you completed for another course to satisfy the requirements for this course. Also, you are not authorized to use the www.allmsu.com Web site to complete any course work in this course. Students who violate MSU academic integrity rules may receive a penalty grade, including a failing grade on the assignment or in the course. Contact your instructor if you are unsure about the appropriateness of your course work. (See also the [Academic Integrity webpage](#).)

Inclusive Environment: MSU is committed to creating and maintaining an inclusive community in which students, faculty, and staff can work together in an atmosphere free from all forms of discrimination. The Office of Institutional Equity (OIE) reviews concerns related to discrimination and harassment based on sex, gender, gender identity, race, national origin, religion, disability status, and any other protected categories under the University Anti-Discrimination Policy (https://www.hr.msu.edu/policies-procedures/university-wide/ADP_policy.html) and Policy on Relationship Violence and Sexual Misconduct (<https://civilrights.msu.edu/policies/rvsm.html>). If you experience or witness acts of bias, discrimination, or harassment, please report these to OIE: <http://oie.msu.edu/>.

Limits to Confidentiality: Discussions and/or materials submitted for this class are generally considered confidential pursuant to the University's student record policies. However, students

should be aware that University employees, including instructors, may not be able to maintain confidentiality when it conflicts with their responsibility to report certain issues to protect the health and safety of MSU community members and others. As the instructor, I must report the following information to other University offices (including the MSU Police Department) if you share it with me:

- Suspected child abuse/neglect, even if this maltreatment happened when you were a child,
- Allegations of sexual assault or sexual harassment when they involve MSU students, faculty, or staff, and
- Credible threats of harm to oneself or to others.

These reports may trigger contact from a campus official who will want to talk with you about the incident that you have shared. In almost all cases, it will be your decision whether you wish to speak with that individual. If you would like to talk about these events in a more confidential setting you are encouraged to make an appointment with the [MSU Counseling Center](#).

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: Michigan State University is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services, and activities. Requests for accommodations by persons with disabilities may be made by contacting the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities at 517-884-RCPD or on the web at rcpd.msu.edu. Once your eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, you will be issued a Verified Individual Services Accommodation ("VISA") form. Please present this form to me at the start of the term and/or two weeks prior to the accommodation date (test, project, etc.). Requests received after this date may not be honored. If you require testing accommodations (e.g. (that is), additional time.) you must contact me and present your VISA **at least two weeks before the exam date** to schedule an alternative exam.

Disruptive Behavior: Article 2.III.B.4 of the [Student Rights and Responsibilities \(SRR\)](#) for students at Michigan State University states: "The student's behavior in the classroom shall be conducive to the teaching and learning process for all concerned." Article 2.III.B.10 of the [SRR](#) states that "The student and the faculty share the responsibility for maintaining professional relationships based on mutual trust and civility." [General Student Regulation 5.02](#) states: "No student shall . . . interfere with the functions and services of the University (for example, but not limited to, classes . . .) such that the function or service is obstructed or disrupted. Students whose conduct adversely affects the learning environment in this classroom may be subject to disciplinary action."

Academic Assistance: If you have any trouble with assignments or the material covered in class, please speak with anyone on the instructional team. We all want to help with students having an introduction to the major concepts within the field of psychological science. Additionally, MSU has resources to assist students, such as the [Campus Tutoring Center](#), [Campus Writing Center](#), and [Neighborhood Student Success Center](#). We understand that a lot is expected of you here at MSU, but we all want to help you to produce your best work.

Course Assignments and Grading Information

Exams: There will be five (5) exams in this course.

- **Exams 1 – 4 will occur during regularly scheduled class sessions**, and will be made up of 40-50 questions, depending on the number of chapters that the exam will cover. These exams will focus on material covered since the previous exam.

- **Exam 5 will take place during MSU Finals Week.** This exam will be cumulative; that is, it will have questions about every chapter covered during the semester). It will be comprised of 100 multiple choice questions.
- **Your lowest exam score will be dropped.** This means that if you do well on the first four exams, your grade on the cumulative final exam will not matter, and you will not need to take it (i.e., earning a 0 that will be dropped from your final grade). Or, if you do poorly on one of the first four exams, you can take the final exam to make up for it.
- **Make-up exams will only be given in certain cases:** 1) a documented medical or family emergency or 2) a documented scheduled conflict. Absence from an exam for any other reason will result in a grade of 0 for that exam. For those who are eligible, make-up exams must be completed within one week of the exam or one week after a student has returned (e.g. (that is), if a medical emergency has occurred). If a student does not complete a make-up exam by this time, the student will receive a score of 0.
 - 1) A documented medical or family emergency means that you must have a note from a professional (e.g. (that is), dean, advisor, doctor) recommending that you not attend class. Any notes must explicitly state that “This student was unable to take the exam on ____ (specified date) because ____ (specified reason).” The note cannot come from someone in your family. You must send an email to the instructional team as soon as you are aware of the conflict indicating that you have a valid excuse, even if you do not yet have the documentation.
 - 2) A documented scheduled conflict includes (but is not limited to): 1) a religious holiday, 2) required participation in a university-sanctioned event (e.g., a commitment for a sports team), or 3) some other acceptable event that can be foreseen. You must send an email to the professor at least one week in advance of exam. Absence from an exam **for any other reason** – family obligations, job interviews, and vacations – will result in a 0 for that exam.
- **Exams will begin immediately at the beginning of the scheduled class time and take place in the regular classroom.** You may arrive late, but no additional exams will be handed out after the first student completes the exam. During exams, you may only have pencils and erasers at your desk. Leave refreshments or other materials zipped up in your book bag or do not bring them at all. Turn off anything that makes noise and please do not wear hats. Once the exam has begun, there will be no talking or disruptions. Leaving the room is reserved only for emergency/urgent bathroom breaks.

Class Participation: Participation is a requirement for this course, and we will use the Top Hat classroom response system (<https://app.tophat.com/login>) to record your participation during Monday and Wednesday classes. You will be able to submit answers to in-class questions using Apple or Android smartphones, tablets, laptops, or through text messages. Of the 26 days that will count toward your participation score, 6 will be dropped from counting toward your final class grade.

Quizzes: Eleven quizzes will be given on Fridays at the beginning of class. You will have 10 minutes to complete the quiz. The lowest quiz scores will be dropped from counting toward your final grade in the class.

Research Experience: One fundamental way of learning firsthand about psychological research is to participate in research studies.

- **You are required to earn 8 hours of research participation credits** through the [Psychology Department's SONA system](#). Research experience is worth 100 points toward your final grade.

- **You are responsible for registering for an account and signing up for studies** at <https://msu-psychology.sona-systems.com>. We will go over registration during our first week of class. Also, there is a detailed document on the D2L website that provides all of the information that you need to use the SONA system. You can also watch an online tutorial at <https://youtu.be/1OnT2ZU6QQ>.
- **Be sure that you register on the Psychology's SONA system.** Any questions, inaccuracies, or problems with the SONA system or your participation in experiments should be directed to Audra Jeffrey, the Department of Psychology's Human Subject Pool Administrator (jeffre22@msu.edu). It is your responsibility to sign up, participate in the experiments, and track your personal history on the computer.
- The Psychology **SONA system closes on Friday, December 8, 2023 at 5pm**. There will not be any experiments conducted after this date and time.
- **Students under 18 years of age are ineligible for SONA experiments.** Contact Audra Jeffrey if you are under 18 to learn about other options for fulfilling your research experience requirement.
- **Alternative to Research Experience.** If you do not wish to participate in research studies, you may write 8 research-based papers that have been designed for this situation. Details about the paper requirements are available on D2L. Papers will be due on **Friday, December 8, 2023 at or before 5pm** and will be turned in through D2L. The submission portal on D2L will close promptly at 5:00pm EST. Nothing will be accepted after this date and time.

Grading

Assignments	Point Totals	Grading Scale
Exams: Highest 4 out of 5 exam scores (50 pts each)	200	4.0: > 447.5 3.5: 422.5 - 477.4 3.0: 397.5 - 422.4 2.5: 372.5 - 397.4 2.0: 347.5 - 372.4 1.5: 322.5 - 347.4 1.0: 297.5 - 322.4 0.0: < 297.4
Quizzes: Highest 10 out of 11 quiz scores (10 pts each)	100	
Research Experience or Alternative to Research Experience papers: 8 hours or 8 papers (12.5 pts each)	100	
Class Participation: Dropping 6 missed days (5 pts ea.)	100	
CLASS TOTAL:	500	
Extra Credit:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students can participate in 2 extra hours of research experience or write 2 extra Alternative to Research Experience papers for extra credit. Each extra hour or paper can be worth up to 10 points. • Additional extra credit opportunities may be announced throughout the semester. 		

*Welcome to Introductory
Psychology!*

Course Schedule

Date	Class Topic	Assignments for Next Class
M – 8/28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class Orientation • Syllabus Review • SONA Registration 	Assignment Instructions: <input type="checkbox"/> Read Syllabus <input type="checkbox"/> Read Chapter 1
W – 8/30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Top Hat • Ch. 1: Introduction to Psychology 	Assignment Instructions: <input type="checkbox"/> Finish reading chapter 1 (if necessary) <input type="checkbox"/> Read chapter 2 in text
F – 9/1 OPEN ADD ENDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 2: Psychological Research 	Assignment Instructions: <input type="checkbox"/> In-class quiz 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Watch videos on D2L <input type="checkbox"/> Finish reading chapter 2 (if necessary)
M – 9/4	LABOR DAY HOLIDAY – NO CLASS	
W – 9/6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 2: Psychological Research 	Assignment Instructions: <input type="checkbox"/> Finish reading chapter 2 (if necessary)
F – 9/8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 2: Psychological Research • Ch. 3: Biopsychology 	Assignment Instructions: <input type="checkbox"/> In-class quiz 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Read chapter 3 in text
M – 9/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 3: Biopsychology 	Assignment Instructions: <input type="checkbox"/> Finish reading chapter 3 (if necessary) <input type="checkbox"/> Watch videos on D2L
W – 9/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 3: Biopsychology 	Assignment Instructions: <input type="checkbox"/> Study for Exam #1
F – 9/15	EXAM 1 covering Chapters 1-3	Assignment Instructions: <input type="checkbox"/> Read chapter 13 in text
M – 9/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 13: Stress, Lifestyle, & Health 	Assignment Instructions: <input type="checkbox"/> Finish reading chapter 13 (if necessary) <input type="checkbox"/> Watch videos on D2L
W – 9/20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 13: Stress, Lifestyle, & Health 	Assignment Instructions: <input type="checkbox"/> Finish reading chapter 13 (if necessary)
F – 9/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 13: Stress, Lifestyle, & Health • Ch. 14: Psychological Disorders 	Assignment Instructions: <input type="checkbox"/> In-class quiz 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Read chapter 14 in text
M – 9/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 14: Psychological Disorders 	Assignment Instructions: <input type="checkbox"/> Finish reading chapter 14 (if necessary) <input type="checkbox"/> Watch videos on D2L
W – 9/27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 14: Psychological Disorders 	Assignment Instructions: <input type="checkbox"/> Finish reading chapter 14 (if necessary)
F – 9/29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 15: Therapy and Treatment 	Assignment Instructions: <input type="checkbox"/> In-class quiz 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Read chapter 15 in text

Date	Class Topic	Assignments for Next Class
M – 10/2	• Ch. 15: Therapy and Treatment	Assignment Instructions: <input type="checkbox"/> Finish reading chapter 15 (if necessary)
W – 10/4	• Ch. 15: Therapy and Treatment	Assignment Instructions: <input type="checkbox"/> Study for Exam #2
F – 10/6	EXAM 2 covering Chapters 13-15	Assignment Instructions: <input type="checkbox"/> Read chapter 5 in text
M – 10/9	• Ch. 4: States of Consciousness	Assignment Instructions: <input type="checkbox"/> Finish reading chapter 4 (if necessary) <input type="checkbox"/> Watch videos on D2L
W – 10/11	• Ch. 4: States of Consciousness	Assignment Instructions: <input type="checkbox"/> Finish reading chapter 4 (if necessary)
F – 10/13	• Ch. 5: Sensation and Perception	Assignment Instructions: <input type="checkbox"/> In-class quiz 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Read chapter 5 in text
M – 10/16 LAST DAY TO DROP CLASS	• Ch. 5: Sensation and Perception	Assignment Instructions: <input type="checkbox"/> Finish reading chapter 5 (if necessary) <input type="checkbox"/> Watch videos on D2L
W – 10/18	• Ch. 5: Sensation and Perception • Ch. 6: Learning	Assignment Instructions: <input type="checkbox"/> Read chapter 6 in text
F – 10/20	• Ch. 6: Learning	Assignment Instructions: <input type="checkbox"/> In-class quiz 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Finish reading chapter 6 (if necessary)
M – 10/23	MSU Break Days (10/23/2023 & 10/24/2023) – NO CLASS	
W – 10/25	• Ch. 6: Learning	Assignment Instructions: <input type="checkbox"/> Study for Exam #3
F – 10/27	EXAM 3 covering Chapters 5-7	Assignment Instructions: <input type="checkbox"/> Read chapter 7 in text
M – 10/30	• Ch. 7: Thinking and Intelligence	Assignment Instructions: <input type="checkbox"/> Finish reading chapter 7 (if necessary)
W – 11/1	• Ch. 7: Thinking and Intelligence	Assignment Instructions: <input type="checkbox"/> Watch videos on D2L <input type="checkbox"/> Finish reading chapter 7 (if necessary)
F – 11/3	• Ch. 7: Thinking and Intelligence	Assignment Instructions: <input type="checkbox"/> In-class quiz 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Read chapter 8 in text
M – 11/6	• Ch. 8: Memory	Assignment Instructions: <input type="checkbox"/> Finish reading chapter 8 (if necessary) <input type="checkbox"/> Watch videos on D2L
W – 11/8	• Ch. 8: Memory	Assignment Instructions: <input type="checkbox"/> Finish reading chapter 8 (if necessary)

Date	Class Topic	Assignments for Next Class
F – 11/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ch. 8: Memory 	Assignment Instructions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> In-class quiz 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Read chapter 9 in text
M – 11/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ch. 9: Lifespan Development 	Assignment Instructions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Finish reading chapter 9 (if necessary)
W – 11/15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ch. 9: Lifespan Development 	Assignment Instructions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Watch videos on D2L <input type="checkbox"/> Finish reading chapter 9 (if necessary)
F – 11/17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ch. 9: Lifespan Development 	Assignment Instructions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> In-class quiz 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Study for Exam #4
M – 11/20	EXAM 4 covering Chapters 7-9	Assignment Instructions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Read chapter 10 in text
W – 11/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ch. 10: Emotion and Motivation 	Assignment Instructions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Finish reading chapter 10 (if necessary)
F – 11/25	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY – NO CLASS	
M – 11/27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ch. 10: Emotion and Motivation 	Assignment Instructions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Finish reading chapter 10 (if necessary) <input type="checkbox"/> Watch videos on D2L
W – 11/29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ch. 10: Emotion and Motivation 	Assignment Instructions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Read chapter 11 in text
F – 12/1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ch. 11: Personality 	Assignment Instructions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> In-class quiz 10 <input type="checkbox"/> Finish reading chapter 11 (if necessary)
M – 12/4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ch. 11: Personality 	Assignment Instructions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Watch videos on D2L <input type="checkbox"/> Finish reading chapter 11 (if necessary)
W – 12/6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ch. 11: Personality 	Assignment Instructions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Finish reading chapter 11 (if necessary)
F – 12/8 LAST CLASS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exam 5 review Alternative to Research Experience papers DUE at or before 5:00pm EST today! Upload them on the course D2L page 	Assignment Instructions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> In-class quiz 11 <input type="checkbox"/> Study for Exam 5 if you plan to take it
M – 12/11 FINALS WEEK	COMPREHENSIVE FINAL EXAM in E100 Veterinary Medical Center from 7:45 – 9:45 AM	

Schedule Changes: Elements of this syllabus may be changed at the discretion of the instructor. Minor changes will be announced during class time. If major changes ensue, a revised schedule will be posted or distributed. Any changes to readings will be announced and an updated version of the calendar will be posted on the course website.