

PSY 101:001 Introductory Psychology – 4.0 Credit Hours
Spring Semester, 2024: Tuesday and Thursday 10:20am – 12:10pm
E100 Veterinary Medical Center

Instructor: Dr. Jonathan R. Weaver (pronouns - he/him/his) – weaver71@msu.edu

Office Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays 1pm-2pm (or email for an appointment) in Psychology 225b

Graduate TA: Kenya Mulwa (pronouns – he/him/his) – mulwaken@msu.edu

Office hours: Wednesdays 11:30am-12:30pm (or email for an appointment) [via zoom](#)

Undergraduate TA: Eric Huang (pronouns – he/him/his) – huanger3@msu.edu

Office hours: Wednesdays 2pm-3pm [via zoom](#)

Undergraduate TA: Elly Mills (pronouns – she/her/hers) – millsel3@msu.edu

Office hours: Tuesdays 5:30pm-6:30pm [via zoom](#)

Undergraduate TA: Eva Petroff (pronouns – she/her/hers) – petroffe@msu.edu

Office hours: Mondays 1pm-2pm [via zoom](#)

Undergraduate TA: Noor Sidhu (pronouns – she/her/hers) – sidhuh1@msu.edu

Office hours: Wednesdays 1pm-2pm [via zoom](#) (Passcode: 618311)

Technical Assistance: If you need technical assistance at any time during the course or to report a problem, you can:

- Visit the D2L Help Site – <https://help.d2l.msu.edu/>
- Call the D2L Help Line – (517) 432-6200 or (844) 678-6200
- Visit the MSU Tech Support Site – <https://tech.msu.edu/support/help/>
- Call the Tech Support Line – (517) 432-6200 or toll free (844) 678-6200
- Visit Packback Support – <https://help.Packback.co/hc/en-us>

E-Mail: All official course communication will happen with your MSU email account. You should communicate with your assigned TA in the first instance. **TA's are assigned based on your Packback/TA group number in D2L. To find your group number in D2L, click "Communication", then "Groups".** The TA allocations are as follows:

- Group 1: Kenya Mulwa
- Group 2: Eric Huang
- Group 3: Elly Mills
- Group 4: Eva Petroff
- Group 5: Noor Sidhu

Who to contact about what: If you have a **quick question** about the course, email your TA in the first instance. Your TA has taken this course and can help with questions and clarifications. You are more likely to get a quick response from your TA because they work with smaller groups of students. If your TA cannot answer your question, they will forward it for Dr. Weaver's review. Dr. Weaver and/or your TA will respond to your email within two business days during working hours (8am – 5pm Monday through Friday). Please follow up with us if you have not heard back after two business days. Please note, everyone's working schedule is different, but most of us will not respond to emails outside of business hours (i.e., during evenings and weekends).

- If you are having **difficulty with the course**, please see Dr. Weaver or your TA in office hours as soon as you can. We will not know you are struggling unless you tell us.
- If you are **interested in a particular topic and have more questions**, or if you **need support** or would like to **talk more about an idea from class**, please come to Dr. Weaver's office hours. One of his favorite things is discussing your ideas and interests!

E-Mail Policy: E-mail is the best way to get a hold of your assigned TA and/or Dr. Weaver. However, please use the following guidelines when communicating via email:

- **First, ask yourself this question: “Can this question be answered by looking in the syllabus or looking on the D2L course site?”**
 - We have spent a lot of time preparing the course materials so you have all the information you need to succeed in this course. It is your responsibility to read that information.
- Decide if email is the best option before you send. If your question is complicated or will need further discussion, do not just automatically send off an email. Come to office hours instead. Some things are better discussed face to face!
- Use PSY 101 in the subject line. That makes it clear you are a student in this course asking a question. This helps to prevent e-mails from going directly to the junk folder.
- When **using your phone to send an email**, remember you are writing to a professional person who is doing their job, not sending a text to a friend. Treat every email as professional communication. We are in a place of work.
- Use the appropriate salutation. Please address every email properly.
 - For your professor, you should say “Hi Dr. Weaver” or “Hello Dr. Weaver”.
 - For one of the TAs, you should say “Hi [First Name]” or “Hello [First Name]”.
- Always sign off your e-mails with your full name, so we know who you are. Include a sign off like “Thanks”, or “Best wishes” with your name. This is a sign of courtesy.
- Proofread your e-mail. Is your question clearly conveyed? Did ChatGPT make it sound super weird?
- Be polite.
 - Please do not use abusive email behaviors.
 - For example, do not use abusive subject line behavior like typing the word “URGENT” in the subject line. You may think you are highlighting the actionable items in your email, but the perception from the receiver is that you are implying that your message is more important than any other correspondence the receiver might have received. This may be viewed as a sign that you do not respect or value the receivers’ right to manage their own workload and time.
 - This guidance is adapted from Forbes - <https://www.forbes.com/pictures/egfj45ili/abusive-subject-line-behavior/?sh=21f183a3662d>
 - When a TA or professor responds to help you via email, it is good practice to respond and thank them for their help.
- Finally, emergencies can arise in life, but it is unlikely that a true emergency will arise in relation to this course (i.e., a situation that requires immediate action to be resolved - and cannot be resolved any other way). Please do not use the 'urgent' flag in your emails.
 - Most solutions to academic problems cannot be put in place immediately, and all emails will be addressed in a timely and appropriate manner regardless of how they are flagged.
 - See again the Forbes guidance, this time on issues with overusing the priority flag - <https://www.forbes.com/pictures/egfj45ili/over-use-of-the-priority-flag/?sh=bc4d76069f6>
- More guidance on **email communication in the academic context** is provided in [this link](#) and [this link](#).
- Why is there so much guidance about email habits to avoid?
 - **Answer – this advice will serve you well in all professional settings!**

Check your e-mail and course site regularly! During the course, we will e-mail you occasionally and post announcements on the course site often with important information and reminders. Please read these e-mails and announcements as soon as you receive them, and please set up D2L to forward course emails and announcements to your email address. See D2L for information on how to do this.

Course Webpage: On D2L (<https://d2l.msu.edu/>). This page will provide you with the notes for the lectures, readings, grades, and other important class information.

Required Textbook: Go to <https://openstax.org/details/books/psychology-2e> to download the book that we will use throughout the semester. **The book is free.**

Additional Readings: Additional content sources will be posted on D2L. **You are expected to come to lecture with at least a basic understanding of the main purpose and points of all readings, although you may find that you need to skim some of them.** You should read with an eye towards developing broad understandings and seeking inspiration for research ideas. You are not expected to come up with research ideas, but doing so often fuels curiosity, better inspiration for Packback posts, and a deeper understanding of the material.

Course Overview: The purpose of this course is to give you a broad introduction to psychology and critical thinking. The scientific investigations that make up psychology as a field are broad and far-reaching, and this class is your first step toward a greater understanding of yourself and the world around you.

Course Goals: There are three major goals for you in PSY 101. First and foremost, you will explore the field of psychology, which is both broad and, sometimes, complicated. In this course, you will be exposed to a variety of areas of interest within the field of psychology, as well as the research methods employed to investigate these areas. Second, you will learn the skills associated with scientific study and critical thinking. Whether or not you choose to continue studying psychology after this class, there are a number of basic scientific and critical thinking skills that will serve you well regardless of your area of study. These skills are an integral part of the psychological sciences, and you will learn to employ them in understanding the nature of psychology. Finally, you will apply the knowledge and skills gained in this course to everyday life. Unlike most other sciences, psychology is unique in its obvious relationship to our everyday lives. Studying psychology directly benefits you with a better understanding of yourself, others, and the world around you.

Learning Objectives: This course has six learning objectives, which will be achieved through a variety of activities and assignments. At the completion of this course, you should be able to:

1. Identify basic concepts and research findings, and give examples of psychology's integrative themes.
 - a. Psychological science relies on empirical evidence and adapts as new data develop.
 - b. Psychology explains general principles that govern behavior, while recognizing individual differences.
 - c. Psychological, biological, social, and cultural factors influence mental processes and behavior.
 - d. Our perceptions filter our experiences of the world through an imperfect personal lens.
 - e. Applying psychological principles can change our lives in positive ways.
2. Apply psychological principles to everyday life.
3. Draw appropriate, logical, and objective conclusions about behavior and mental processes from empirical evidence.
4. Evaluate misconceptions or erroneous behavioral claims based on evidence from psychological science.
5. Evaluate basic psychological research.
6. Describe ethical principles that guide psychologists in research and practice.

Honors Option: An honors option is not offered for this course.

Course Mode: **PSY 101 Section 001 is meeting in person for all lectures and exams**, but all Quizzes and Packback assignments will be online. **You will need to have access to a computer with consistent access to a high-speed internet connection.**

Course Format: Please note that most lectures will not just be a rehashing of reading material, but rather will attempt to clarify, extend, and illustrate the readings. The only way to develop the kinds of skills this course is designed to nurture is through lots of practice. Therefore, much of our regular lecture periods will be spent working through examples to illustrate the course material. This "working through" will not consist of the instructor simply laying out a question and then answering it for you, but will consist of contributions and discussion by students as well as students answering questions during class.

Unit Structure: The course is broken up into four units with 2-3 topics per unit. Lecture notes and readings will be provided as we work through the topics. Each unit will have multiple Quizzes and Packback assignments (amount for each depends on the unit). At the conclusion of each unit there is a Unit Exam. See below for details and the course schedule at the end of the syllabus for dates and times.

Weekly Time Breakdown: Each week you will be expected to complete the readings, come to the lectures, participate in the Packback forum (when applicable), and take the Quizzes (when applicable). As a 4-credit, 16-week course, **you are expected to spend about 10-12 hours each week on course material.** This should look like 3-4 hours of reading and taking notes on the readings, 4 hours of coming to lecture, 1 hour to review the previous material, 1 hour for Quizzes, and 1-2 hours of planning, reading, and working on Packback posts and interacting with the Packback forum.

Evaluation Criteria:

- **Quizzes:** There are 10 Quizzes in total. Only your top six Quizzes will be counted towards your final grades for a total of 30 points (6% of your total grade). **Your four lowest scored Quizzes of the semester will be dropped.**
 - **The Quizzes are designed to help you study and cushion your grade.** See the posted study tips for more information.
 - For each Quiz you will be provided with a pdf file with the Quiz questions. The file is located under the “Quizzes” content area on the D2L course page.
 - You will have at least a week to take each Quiz.
 - **Each of the unit Quizzes will close / are due at 9am the day of that Unit’s Exam** to allow you plenty of time to study using the Quizzes. Note that is East Lansing, MI time. For example, Unit 1’s Quizzes – Quiz 1 and Quiz 2 – both close at 9am on 1/30 (a Thursday). See the course schedule at the end of syllabus for dates.
 - To get to each Quiz click on "Assessments" then "Quizzes".
 - **You can take the Quizzes as many times as you like throughout the time they are open.**
 - These Quizzes are designed to take 30 minutes to complete 20 questions, but once you start each Quiz you will have an hour to complete the questions.
 - Each Quiz question is worth 0.25 points each.
 - Ten questions will appear on the screen at a time, and you are allowed to backtrack.
 - Quizzes will be graded automatically by D2L and you can see your questions and answers to help you study and potentially re-take the Quiz if you would like to obtain a higher score. Again, you can take the Quizzes as many times as you like throughout the week they are open.
 - **There are no makeup Quizzes.** This is because of the large amount of drops (4), the unlimited amount of times you can take them, and the long time that they are open (at least a week).
 - **The reason this is capped at four total drops is that more than that amount means that you have not had the opportunity to demonstrate a sufficient level of mastery consistent with the course goals.**
 - **Use your drops wisely! Look at over the course schedule at the end of the syllabus for close/due dates and plan accordingly. A common strategy is to save two or three quiz drops for the end of the semester when you are juggling more course work.**
- **Research Experience:** One fundamental way of learning firsthand about psychological research is to participate in research studies. You are required to earn 7 hours of research participation credits through the Psychology SONA system. Each half-hour is worth 2.5 points. Therefore, research experience is worth 35 points (7% of your final grade). **More detailed information for setting up your SONA account and how to sign up for research hours will be provided on the D2L course webpage.**
 - **Notes about Research Experience:** Make sure that you are on the Psychology SONA site and signed up for the correct section of PSY 101. There are multiple sections of PSY 101 this semester, so you need to select the specific section. We are Section 001. If you sign up in the

wrong SONA system - The Department of Communication Arts and Sciences also has a SONA site – or section we will not have access to this data and cannot grant participation credit for experiments done under the other site.

- **Students under 18 are ineligible for SONA experiments.** Contact Audra Jeffrey (jeffre22@msu.edu), the SONA Student Coordinator, if you are under 18 in order to learn about non-SONA options for fulfilling your research education requirement.
- **Your instructor and course assistants have nothing to do with SONA. All SONA questions, inaccuracies, or problems should be directed to Audra Jeffrey (jeffre22@msu.edu), the SONA Student Coordinator.**
- It is your responsibility to sign up, participate in the experiments, and track your personal history on the computer. Neither the instructor nor the course assistants have a record of your research participations until the end of the course. We do not know how many credits you have or if you are signed up for a specific study.
 - **Alternative to research participation:** If you do not wish to participate in psychological research, you may write the available Alternative Unit Papers that are designed for this situation. Details about the paper requirements will be posted on D2L. **Note that each Alternative Unit Paper is worth potentially two hours of research participation.** Details and requirements for the Alternative Unit Papers will be posted on D2L. See the course schedule at the end of the syllabus for close dates, but note that the assignment folders will close promptly at 5pm on the due dates, and no papers will be accepted after this. **There will be no exceptions to this rule.**
 - **Plan accordingly.**
 - **Turnitin will be used for all Alternative Unit Papers that are turned in for this course.** See D2L for more information about Turnitin guidelines.
- **Packback:** Participation is a requirement for this course, and the Packback platform will be used for online discussion about class topics. Packback is an online community where you can be fearlessly curious and ask open-ended questions to build on top of what we are covering in class and relate topics to real-world applications. Your participation on Packback will be counted towards your final grade for a total of 35 points (7% of your total grade). These are used to create a sense of community in our course. See the course schedule at the end of the syllabus and see the Packback instructions/details posted on the D2L course webpage for instructions and expectations. Below are some highlights.
 - **How to Register on Packback:** You can only access Packback from inside the D2L course! Packback Registration is part of your Week 1 Activities, so please follow the instructions in D2L. You can access Packback in D2L by navigating to Content > Packback Information / Packback – PSY 101 Section 001. **You must use your MSU email address to register for Packback.** Once you click the link, follow the steps and you will have access to your Packback community!
 - **How to Get Help From the Packback Team:** If you have any questions or concerns about Packback throughout the semester, visit <https://help.Packback.co/hc/en-us>.
 - If you need more help, contact their customer support team directly at help@Packback.co.
 - There are ten Packback assignments and they are worth 5 points each. **Your lowest three Packback scores of the semester will be dropped.** Only your top seven Packback scores will be counted towards your final grade for a total of 35 points (7% of your total grade).
 - **You must join and participate in the Packback group that matches your Packback/TA group number in D2L.**
 - The prompt/guide for each Packback will be available in a PDF version on D2L at least three days in advance of the Packback assignment opening. **The actual Packback assignment will open at 7am Monday during the Packback assignment week and close at 5pm Thursday of that same week.**

- We are looking for you to incorporate course material and references, **but most importantly – we are looking for how the critical thinking components have been highlighted.**
 - In order to earn credit for your Packbacks, you should submit the following per each deadline period. Note that you can earn 0-5 points for each Packback assignment. **Each Packback assignment component listed below is all or nothing for its assigned points.** Specifically, **partial credit for individual Packback weekly components (e.g., 1 out of 2 points for a response to Dr. Weaver) is not given.**
 - 1 response to Dr. Weaver’s pinned Packback post with a minimum Curiosity Score of 80, worth 2 points.
 - 1 open-ended Question posted in your group with a minimum Curiosity Score of 80, worth 1 point.
 - 1 response to another student’s Question with a minimum Curiosity Score of 80, worth 2 points.
 - **Moderated responses/questions do not earn credit.** If one of your responses or questions has been moderated (<https://help.Packback.co/hc/en-us/articles/360054366631-Introduction-to-Packback-s-Auto-Flagging-Moderation>), **you have until 5pm the day of that Unit’s Exam to get the responses or questions unmoderated.**
 - Please email your TA if you have any questions about how we are using Packback in this course (e.g., Packback assignment requirements, etc.).
 - **There are no makeup Packbacks.** This is because of the large amount of drops (3), the long time that they are open (3+ days), and the ability to go back and get responses or questions unmoderated.
 - **The reason this is capped at three total drops is that more than that amount means that you have not had the opportunity to demonstrate a sufficient level of mastery consistent with the course goals.**
 - **Use your drops wisely! Look at over the course schedule at the end of the syllabus for close/due dates and plan accordingly. A common strategy is to save one or two Packback assignment drops for the end of the semester when you are juggling more course work.**
- **Exams:** Five exams will be given **in person** – four Unit exams, and one cumulative exam during the final exam period. Any material from lectures, readings, videos, and related materials are fair game for exam questions. The first four unit exams emphasize material covered since the previous exam. The final exam is cumulative. Each exam will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions worth 2 points each. Therefore, each exam is worth 100 points (20% of your final grade). **Your lowest exam score will be dropped.** Specifically, only your top four exam scores will count towards your final grade for a total of 400 points (80% of your final grade). For instance, if you do well on the four unit exams, your grade on the cumulative final exam may not matter. If you are comfortable with your grade you do not need to take (or show up) to the final exam. Or, if you do poorly on one of the four unit exams, you can take the final exam to make up for it.
 - A study guide will be posted for each exam.
 - **Unit Exams (Exams 1-4) will begin at 10:20am. The Final Exam will begin at 7:45am.**
 - The Final Exam date and time is set by MSU and is the only time the Final Exam is offered. No early Final Exams will be given unless a student has RCPD Exam Accommodations, a religious holiday, or a required university-sanctioned event.
 - You may arrive late, but no more exams will be handed out after the first student completes the exam.
 - Unit Exams 1-4 must be turned in by 12:10pm, so you will have 110 minutes to complete them.
 - The Final Exam must be turned in by 9:45am, so you will have 120 minutes to complete it.
 - 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.
 - Turn off anything that makes noise, take off headphones, take out ear buds, do not wear hats with a forward facing bill, and take off smart watches.
 - Once the exam has begun, there will be no talking or disruptions.
 - Leaving the room is reserved for emergencies.
 - **You need to show your MSU ID in order to turn in your exams.**
 - See the course schedule at the end of syllabus for dates and times.
 - For those of you with extended time via your RCPD accommodations, please email Dr. Weaver a week before each exam to work out the appropriate accommodations.
 - Exam grades will be posted online as soon as they are available from the scoring office and Dr. Weaver has had a chance to correct any potential scoring errors.
 - Questions for exams will not be posted after, but you may view your exams with Dr. Weaver during office hours. **However, each exam must be looked at before the next exam is given. For example, after Exam 2 has been given you are no longer permitted to view Exam 1.**
 - **Makeup Exams:** Plan to complete your exams during the day and time they are given. Also, keep in mind the dropped exam that is already built into the course. Obviously, things happen. If something happens that prevents you from completing an exam by end time of the exam, **please notify Dr. Weaver with documentation by the end of the day for the exam. Failure to notify Dr. Weaver within 24 hours of the end exam time will result in you not being allowed to makeup the exam. Additionally, makeup exams must be taken within 48 hours of the end time of the missed exam.**
 - If you cannot take an exam because of a religious holiday, required participation in a university-sanctioned event (e.g., a commitment for a sports team), or some other acceptable event that can be foreseen, you must notify Dr. Weaver **at least two weeks in advance.**
- **Extra Credit:** You may accumulate an additional hour of research experience for 5 extra course points, which is 1% extra. You will receive course points for up to 8 hours of research participation but can receive partial credit.

Grading: Your final grade will be based on the following course points:

Requirement	Points	% of final grade
Top 6 (out of 10) Quizzes	30	6%
Research Experience	35	7%
Top 7 (out of 10) Packbacks	35	7%
Top 4 (out of 5) Exam Scores	400	80%
Total	500	100%
Extra Credit	5	+1% potentially

The grading scale is as follows:

Total Points	Grade
447.5 – 500	4.0
422.5 – 447.49	3.5
397.5 – 422.49	3.0
372.5 – 397.49	2.5
347.5 – 372.49	2.0
322.5 – 347.49	1.5
297.5 – 322.49	1.0
0 – 297.49	0.0

Policy on grade changes: Extra credit is the only way to increase your point total if you are concerned about falling on the wrong side on one of these cut-offs. Also, **please note that a round up feature (e.g., 447.5 / 400 = 89.50%) is already included in the grading scale.** At the end of the semester, if you believe that an error was made in calculating your grade, please let Dr. Weaver know. Your grade will be checked and changed if an error was made. **This is the only circumstance under which your grade will change.** Under no circumstance will your grade be “bumped”, or a special extra credit opportunity be given. Please don’t ask. **There will be no exceptions.**

Cheating: Any student caught cheating on an exam, cheating on a Quiz, plagiarizing the extra credit or Packback assignments, or using AI engines to create the extra credit or Packback assignments will **receive a zero for the exam, Quiz, Packback assignment, or extra credit, a zero for the course, and be reported to the University. This includes sharing answers in any form via group messaging applications like GroupMe.**

Academic Honesty: Any and all forms of cheating are unacceptable. Students are expected to complete Quizzes, exams, Packback assignments, and the extra credit assignments individually and without outside help. Any student caught cheating on Quizzes, exams, Packback assignments, or the extra credit assignments will receive a ZERO in this course. 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 (<https://spartanexperiences.msu.edu/about/handbook/student-rights-responsibilities/article-two-academic-rights-and-responsibilities.html>) 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 (<https://spartanexperiences.msu.edu/about/handbook/regulations/general-student-regulations.html>); the all-University Policy on Integrity of Scholarship and Grades (<https://spartanexperiences.msu.edu/about/handbook/regulations/student-group-regs-rulings-policies-ordinances/integrity-of-scholarship-and-grades.html>); and Ordinance 17.00, Examinations (<https://trustees.msu.edu/bylaws-ordinances-policies/ordinances/ordinance-17.00.html>). Make sure you are familiar with MSU definitions regarding academic dishonesty. Ignorance is not an excuse.

You are expected to develop original work for this course; therefore, unless authorized, you are expected to complete all course assignments, including Quizzes and exams, without assistance from any source (except as specified). This also means that you may not submit course work you completed for another course to satisfy the requirements for this course. In addition, plagiarism of written work is forbidden. It includes taking the work of another individual or source and presenting it as your own. This is considered plagiarism even if the source has given you permission to use their work, or the work is in the public domain (e.g., on the web). Additionally, the policy of this class is that you must be the creator of all work you submit for a grade. The use of others’ work or the use of intelligent agents, chat bots, or AI engines to create your work is a violation of this policy and will be addressed as per MSU codes of conduct. Students who violate MSU academic integrity rules may receive a penalty grade, including a failing grade on the assignment or in the course; and may be reported to the Office of Academic Affairs and the Office of Student Affairs. See also the Academic Integrity webpage (<https://ossa.msu.edu/academic-integrity>). Contact Dr. Weaver if you are unsure about the appropriateness of your course work. Or, for examples of what constitutes plagiarism, see: <https://wts.indiana.edu/writing-guides/plagiarism.html>

Policy on Religious Observations: If you anticipate being unable to complete a graded portion of the course due to a major religious observance, please provide notice of the date(s) to Dr. Weaver, via email, by 1/23/24.

Note taking and recordings: As members of a learning community, students are expected to respect the intellectual property of course instructors. All course materials presented to students are the copyrighted property of the course instructor and are subject to the following conditions of use:

- Students may not post recordings or other course materials online or distribute them to anyone not enrolled in the class without the advance written permission of the course instructor and, if applicable, any students whose voice or image is included in the recordings.
- Commercialization of lecture notes and university-provided course materials is not permitted in this course.
- Any student violating the conditions described above may face academic disciplinary sanctions, including receiving a penalty grade in the course.

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 <http://rcpd.msu.edu>. Once your eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, you will be issued an accommodation form (sometimes called a VISA). **Please present this form to Dr. Weaver at the start of the term and/or one week prior to the accommodation date (exam, Quiz, etc.) so the proper accommodations can be made.**

Academic Assistance: This is a university, and you are expected to produce college level work. If you have any trouble with the material covered in class, please make an appointment to speak with Dr. Weaver, or one of the course assistants. Additionally, the university has resources to assist students, such as the Campus Tutorial Center, the Campus Writing Center, Adult Student Services, and more. A lot is expected of you, but the university wants to help you to produce your best work.

Limits to Confidentiality: Please be aware that class materials are generally considered confidential pursuant to the University's student policies. However, all University employees, including instructors, cannot maintain confidentiality when it conflicts with their responsibility to report certain issues based on external legal obligations or health and safety considerations of MSU community members and others. Dr. Weaver and the Graduate TA for this course must report the following information (including your name and the details of the disclosure) to the Office of Institutional Equity (and the MSU Police Department) if you share it with us:

- **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.**

The Office of Inclusion will reach out to you via a confidential email, to see if you would like to pursue legal action and to provide you with additional university resources. **You have the right to choose whether or not you would like to utilize any of these services or even respond to the university's email.** 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 (<https://caps.msu.edu/>).

It is an MSU required mandate that Dr. Weaver and the Graduate TA for this course are required to follow as MSU employees. Given this, **you should not disclose experiences of abuse or sexual violence related to MSU unless you are comfortable having this information shared with the Office of Institutional Equity.** Despite the mandate, Dr. Weaver does not want to further the culture of silence surrounding abuse and sexual violence in this class. All are encouraged to use the resources listed below (not mandated university reporters) as they process their feelings and experiences in this course.

MSU Safe Place <http://safeplace.msu.edu/>
MCEDSV <http://www.mcedsv.org/>
RAINN <https://rainn.org/>
Feministing <http://feministing.com/>

NRCVDV <http://www.nrcdv.org/>
No More <http://nomore.org/>
The Joyful Heart Foundation <http://www.joyfulheartfoundation.org/>
Futures Without Violence <http://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/>

NNEVD <http://www.nnedv.org/>
NCDSV www.nsvrc.org

Course Climate: We are all working toward the same goals in this course! By building a strong learning community from the start, we will benefit.

- **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/relationship-violence-and-sexual-misconduct-and-title-ix-policy.html>). If you experience or witness acts of bias, discrimination, or harassment, please report these to OIE: <https://civilrights.msu.edu/>.
- **Student-student interactions:** Part of being a strong group member is being a good listener, being motivating and empathetic, and providing constructive feedback. We will focus on these characteristics throughout the semester.
- **Student-instructor interactions:** If you find that you have any trouble keeping up with assignments or other aspects of the course, make sure you let Dr. Weaver know as early as possible. As you will find, building rapport and effective relationships are key to becoming an effective professional. Make sure that you are proactive in informing Dr. Weaver when difficulties arise during the semester.
- **Lying:** Lying is an unacceptable behavior in both personal and professional relationships. Lying to get what you want is a manipulative behavior and will not be tolerated in this course. This includes lying to get an unfair advantage in a class or assignment. Do not do this!
- **Disruptive Behavior:** Article 2.III.B.4 of the Student Rights and Responsibilities (<https://spartanexperiences.msu.edu/about/handbook/student-rights-responsibilities/article-two-academic-rights-and-responsibilities.html>) 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 (<https://spartanexperiences.msu.edu/about/handbook/student-rights-responsibilities/article-two-academic-rights-and-responsibilities.html>) 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 (<https://spartanexperiences.msu.edu/about/handbook/regulations/general-student-regulations.html>) states: “No student shall obstruct, disrupt, or interfere with the functions, services, or directives of the University, its offices, or its employees (e.g., classes, social, cultural, and athletic events, computing services, registration, housing and food services, governance meetings, and hearings).” Students whose conduct adversely affects the learning environment in this classroom may be subject to disciplinary action through the Student Judicial Affairs office.

Dr. Weaver’s five rules for a happy and productive class: 1) Put your cell phones away and take out or off your headphones. 2) Show up to lectures on time. 3) Ask questions. 4) Be courteous of other people. 5) Wait for lecture to end before packing up your stuff to leave.

Disclaimer: On the next two pages is a general indication of when we will cover the topics in the course. However, as the instructor, Dr. Weaver reserves the right to adjust this schedule according to the pace of the course and the needs of the students. This also includes making any changes that Dr. Weaver deems necessary to the details and/or policies listed in this syllabus. **Check D2L regularly to keep up with the topics. You will be given notice of any changes. Also, please know that you are responsible for keeping track of all due dates.**

PSY 101 (Section 001) Course Schedule for Spring 2024

See D2L for Topic Readings

Week: Dates	Topic(s)	Activities: Due Dates
Unit 1 Content	Unit 1 Content	Unit 1 Content
1: 1/9 (Tuesday)	Syllabus; Getting to know the course; Intro to Psychology	Sign up for Packback
1: 1/11 (Thursday)	Psychological Research	Sign up for Packback
2: 1/16 (Tuesday)	Psychological Research	
2: 1/18 (Thursday)	Psychological Research Biopsychology	Packback #1 Due at 5pm
3: 1/23 (Tuesday)	Biopsychology	
3: 1/25 (Thursday)	Biopsychology	Alternative Unit 1 Paper Due at 5pm Packback #2 Due at 5pm
4: 1/30 (Tuesday)	Quizzes 1 and 2 – on D2L Exam 1 – E100 Vet Med	Quizzes 1 and 2 close at 9am Exam 1: 10:20am – 12:10pm Packback
Unit 2 Content	Unit 2 Content	Unit 2 Content
4: 2/1 (Thursday)	Lifespan Development	
5: 2/6 (Tuesday)	Lifespan Development	
5: 2/8 (Thursday)	Sensation and Perception	Packback #3 Due at 5pm
6: 2/13 (Tuesday)	No Lecture	Stay safe! Drink lots of water!
6: 2/15 (Thursday)	Sensation and Perception	Alternative Unit 2 Paper Due at 9am Packback #4 Due at 5pm
7: 2/20 (Tuesday)	Quizzes 3 and 4 – on D2L Exam 2 – E100 Vet Med	Quizzes 3 and 4 close at 9am Exam 2: 10:20am – 12:10pm
Unit 3 Content	Unit 3 Content	Unit 3 Content
7: 2/22 (Thursday)	Learning	Packback #5 Due at 5pm
8: 2/27 (Tuesday)	Spring Break	Stay safe! Drink lots of water!
8: 2/29 (Thursday)	Spring Break	Stay safe! Drink lots of water!
9: 3/5 (Tuesday)	Learning	
9: 3/7 (Thursday)	Thinking and Intelligence	Packback #6 Due at 5pm
10: 3/12 (Tuesday)	Thinking and Intelligence Memory	
10: 3/14 (Thursday)	Memory	Packback #7 Due at 5pm
11: 3/19 (Tuesday)	Memory	Alternative Unit 3 Paper Due at 5pm
11: 3/21 (Thursday)	Quizzes 5, 6, and 7 – on D2L Exam 3 – E100 Vet Med	Quizzes 5, 6, and 7 close at 9am Exam 3: 10:20am – 12:10pm

Unit 4 Content	Unit 4 Content	Unit 4 Content
12: 3/26 (Tuesday)	Personality	
12: 3/28 (Thursday)	Personality	Packback #8 Due at 5pm
13: 4/2 (Tuesday)	Personality Social Psychology	
13: 4/4 (Thursday)	Social Psychology	Packback #9 Due at 5pm
14: 4/9 (Tuesday)	Social Psychology	
14: 4/11 (Thursday)	Psychological Disorders	Packback #10 Due at 5pm
15: 4/16 (Tuesday)	Psychological Disorders	Alternative Unit 4 Paper Due at 9am
15: 4/18 (Thursday)	Quizzes 8, 9, and 10 – on D2L Exam 4 – E 100 Vet Med	Quizzes 8, 9, and 10 close at 9am Exam 4: 10:20am – 12:10pm SONA System closes at 5pm on 4/19 (Friday)
Final Exam	Final Exam	Final Exam
16: 4/26 (Friday)	Cumulative Final Exam (if needed) – E100 Vet Med	Final Exam: 7:45am – 9:45am