Psychology 101 (Section 014): Introductory Psychology

Fall, 2021

# Course Information:

**Time/Format:** Inseat Tuesdays 3:00pm – 4:20pm, Asynchronous in D2L

# Course Personnel:

**Instructor**: Professor Kandy McKeown **Teaching** **Assistant**: Lauren Raycraft

Email: mckeow31@msu.edu raycraf4@msu.edu

**Office** **Hours**: Tuesdays and Thursday 1-2:30pm Virtual Tuesday/Thursday Virtual 4:45-5:45pm

In person by appointment

**Undergraduate Assistants** :

Rishabh Rai rairisha@msu.edu

Annika Erb erbannik@msu.edu

# Course Objectives:

* To learn about the major theories and findings from the field of psychology.
* To learn about the research methods that psychologists use.
* To learn to think critically about conclusions made by psychologists and other social scientists.
* To apply ideas from psychology to your own life experiences.

# Course Readings and Materials:

**Required Text**: *Open Stax: Introductory Psychology: Psychology 2e*

Available at: https://openstax.org/details/books/psychology-2e

This is a **free**, online textbook that is specifically designed for this course. You have the option of paying a small fee to have a paper copy sent to you (see the course website for details). The readings and dates are listed online.

Free!!!

There will also be additional readings, videos etc online within D2L. The folders are organized and labeled by week and date

# Course Policies and Assignments

**Course Material**: This course will have two components, inseat and online via D2L in an asynchronous format. This means that you will meet once a week in the Natural Science Building and then will have materials posted on the course website (organized by week). You will need to complete the assigned readings prior to coming to class as this will be a mini lecture with in class activities. Specifically, there are assignments that will be available for you to complete by the end of each week. There are 4 unit exams that will take place online and will only be open during the specified class time. We will not meet during those times, however I will be available via webex should you need a question answered as well as Lauren being available. It is important to keep track of the assignments associated with each week and each exam day. Some assignments will be completed on your own, others while in class. **You will need to have a laptop, tablet, smartphone with you in every class as any in class activities will require you to log into D2L. Save a tree ☺**

**Grading:** There are 1000 total points that you can receive in this class. These points come from the following categories of assignments: 4 Exams (125 each), SONA research (70), 14 chapter associated assignments (20 each), Final Exam (200). There are also 3 optional assignments, you can choose 1 for extra credit.

**Exams:** The course is organized by week and unit. At the end of each unit, there will be an on-line exam, consisting of 125 question. You will have 80 minutes to complete each exam, and each is worth 125 points (one point per correct answer). These exams cover any material that we have discussed during the week, including textbook readings, additional readings, lectures, videos, or other activities. These are open-book exams, so you can use your book and notes to complete the exams. **However, you must complete each exam on your own; you cannot work with others.** Your exams will be graded immediately, but because different students are taking the exams at different times, the answers will not be revealed until all sections have completed the exam.

****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. Research experience is worth 7% of your final grade. You can register an account and sign up for studies here: [https://msu-psychology.sona-systems.com](https://msu-psychology.sona-systems.com/). More detailed information that provides all the information that you need to use the system is provided on D2L. You can also watch an online tutorial here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_1OnT2ZU6QQ>. The Psychology SONA system closes on TBD, at 5pm. There will not be any experiments conducted after this time.

****Notes about Research Experience:****

Make sure that you are on the Psychology SONA site and signed up for the correct section (we are section 16). The Department of Communication Arts and Sciences also has a SONA site. We do not have access to this data and cannot grant participation credit for experiments done under the other site. In addition, students under 18 are ineligible for SONA experiments. Contact Audra Jeffrey ([jeffre22@msu.edu](mailto:jeffre22@msu.edu)), the SONA Student Coordinator in Room 100, Psychology Building, if you are under 18 in order to learn about non-SONA options for fulfilling your research education requirement. Finally, your instructor and course assistants have nothing to do with SONA. ALL SONA questions, inaccuracies, or problems should be directed to Audra Jeffrey. 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 have penalty points.

Assignments:

There will be 14 assignments. Some will take place in class, others will be completed on your own and submitted to D2L. The goal of these assignments will be to have you apply ideas from the course to your own life and display your ability to critically think about the material. Each assignment will be worth 20 points. You will be required to submit these assignments to an electronic “drop box” on the course web site. This drop box will record the time that you submitted the assignment. You will lose 10 % for each day it is late, after 2 days no late assignments will be accepted. **You cannot work with others on the individual at home assignments. Working with others will be considered academic dishonesty.**

Consistent with MSU’s efforts to enhance student learning, foster honesty, and maintain integrity in our academic processes, we use a tool called Turnitin to compare a student’s work with multiple sources. The tool compares each student’s work with an extensive database of prior publications and papers, providing links to possible matches and a ‘similarity score’. The tool does not determine whether plagiarism has occurred or not. Instead, the instructor must make a complete assessment and judge the originality of the student’s work. All submissions to this course may be checked using this tool.

Students should submit papers without identifying information included in the paper (e.g. name or student number), the system will automatically show this info to faculty in your course when viewing the submission, but the information will not be retained by Turnitin. Student submissions will be retained only in the MSU repository hosted by Turnitin.

Makeups**:**

We realize that completing class work during this challenging time can be difficult. The most important policy regarding makeup assignments is that you contact the instructor or course assistants at **least 12 hours before** the close of an assignment to let them know that you will not be able to complete an assignment and to work out alternative arrangements. If you have any technical difficulties when taking an on-line exam, contact D2L support (their number is: 517-432-6200) so they attempt to troubleshoot or at least document the problem. **You may not be able to retake an assignment for which you had technical difficulties if you do not document the problem with D2L support at the time it occurs**. Reminder: Lauren and I will both be available via zoom during exam times.

If you cannot take the exam because of a university-scheduled event (e.g., a commitment for a sports team), a religious holiday, or some other acceptable event that you could have foreseen, you must notify the TA **at least one week before the assignment**.

****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](http://rcpd.msu.edu/#_blank). Once your eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, you will be issued a Verified Individual Services Accommodation ("VISA") form. Please email 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 able to be honored. When sending the form, please specify which accommodations you will actual request to use, as some students are entitled to accommodations that they don’t intend on using.

Questions:

If you have questions about any of the material in the textbook or lectures, please attend my office hours or the teaching assistants’ office hours.

# Graded Activities

4 Unit Exams 500 (125each)

Final Exam 200

Sona Research 70

Theories of Change 20

IV/DV worksheet 20

Brain Structures 20

Neuron 20

Reinforcement Schedules 20

Learning Theories 20

Multiple Intelligence 20

Big 5 Personality 20

Newborn Reflexes 20

Defense Mechanisms 20

A Class Divided 20

Albert Ellis Irrational beliefs 20

Personality Disorders Party 20

Which Treatment Is Best 20

# Extra Credit: You may only choose one:

Wellness Activity 10 Extra Credit

Inside Out 10 Extra Credit

Life’s Greatest Miracles 10 Extra Credit

**Grade Breakdown**. Your grade will be calculated in the following way. There are 500 total points available in this class.

To get this grade: You need this percentage: Which is this many points:

4.0 90% 900

3.5 85% 850

3.0 80% 800

2.5 75% 750

2.0 70% 700

1.5 65% 650

1.0 60% 600

0.0 <59% <599

**Your total points (i.e., the actual points you get from exams, homework, participation, etc.) will be rounded to the nearest whole number.**

The D2L site keeps track of your progress throughout the class, including the readings you access, the activities you upload, and the time you spend watching the lectures. If you complete 100% of the activities (including spending the right amount of time watching the lectures) during the week in which they were assigned, and you are 1 point below the cutoff for the next grade, then you can petition to be bumped up to the next grade. This is the only condition under which any grade adjustments will be made, so plan ahead!

Course Policies

Students are expected to adhere to the policies of Michigan State University whether noted in this syllabus or not. Instructors have the right to add or adjust policies within limits for the specifics of their courses. While the below may appear at first glance to be common policy boilerplate there may be nuances or course specifics within it that the student must be aware of and adhere to.

Applicable policies, syllabus statements, and resources for students:

* [Spartan Code of Honor](http://splife.studentlife.msu.edu/spartan-code-of-honor-academic-pledge)
* [Mental Health](https://caps.msu.edu/faculty-staff/Syllabus-Language.html)
* [Religious Observance Policy](https://reg.msu.edu/ROInfo/Notices/ReligiousPolicy.aspx)
* [Student Athletes](https://ombud.msu.edu/classroom-policies/#absence-athletics)
* [Pronoun preference](https://lbgtrc.msu.edu/home/resources-for-staff-and-faculty/)

Commit to Integrity: Academic Honesty

Article 2.III.B.2 of the [Academic Rights and Responsibilities](http://splife.studentlife.msu.edu/student-rights-and-responsibilities-at-michigan-state-university/article-2-academic-rights-and-responsibilities) states that "The student shares with the faculty the responsibility for maintaining the integrity of scholarship, grades, and professional standards." In addition, the [insert name of unit offering course] adheres to the policies on academic honesty as specified in [General Student Regulations](http://splife.studentlife.msu.edu/regulations/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](https://ombud.msu.edu/academic-integrity/). See [Spartan Life Online](http://splife.studentlife.msu.edu/) (splife.studentlife.msu.edu) and/or the [MSU Web site](http://www.msu.edu/) (msu.edu) for more.

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](https://ombud.msu.edu/academic-integrity/).)

Limits to Confidentiality

Essays, journals, and other 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 Department of Police and Public Safety) 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.

Inform Your Instructor of Any Accommodations Needed

[From the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities](https://www.rcpd.msu.edu/get-started/faculty-departmental-resources/model-statements-disability-inclusion) (RCPD): 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](https://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 will be honored whenever possible.

Technical Assistance

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

* Visit the [Distance Learning Services Support Site](https://www.lib.msu.edu/dls/) (lib.msu.edu/dls)
* Visit the [Desire2Learn Help Site](http://help.d2l.msu.edu/) (help.d2l.msu.edu)
* Or call Distance Learning Services: (800) 500-1554 or (517) 355-2345
* To learn D2L use, login with your MSU NetID and password at [d2l.msu.edu](https://d2l.msu.edu/d2l/home), select “Self Registration” from the menu bar, register for and complete the course named “Students - Getting Started with D2L.” Also be aware of the “Help” option on the D2L Home page menu.

Disruptive Behavior

Article 2.III.B.4 of [Student Rights and Responsibilities](http://splife.studentlife.msu.edu/student-rights-and-responsibilities-at-michigan-state-university/article-2-academic-rights-and-responsibilities) 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 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](http://splife.studentlife.msu.edu/regulations/general-student-regulations) 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 may be subject to disciplinary action through the Student Judicial Affairs office.

\*\*\*Required\*\*\*Attendance

[University Attendance Policy](https://ombud.msu.edu/classroom-policies/) (in part): Students whose names do not appear on the official class list for this course may not attend this class. Students who fail to attend the first four class sessions or class by the fifth day of the semester, whichever occurs first, may be dropped from the course.

Participation

Students are expected to participate in all inclass and online activities as listed on the course calendar.

Build Rapport

If you find that you have any trouble keeping up with assignments or other aspects of the course, make sure you let your instructor 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 your instructor when difficulties arise during the semester so that we can help you find a solution.

Complete Assignments

Assignments for this course will be submitted electronically through [D2L] unless otherwise instructed**.** Assignments must be submitted by the given deadline or special permission must be requested from instructor before the due date. Extensions will not be given beyond the next assignment except under extreme circumstances.

\*\*Right to adjust calendar with due notice is retained\*\*

See Next Page for course Calendar

Table Course Calendar

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Weekly Schedule | Chapters to Read | Assignment | Exams |
| UNIT 1 | | | |
| Week 1 Sept 2, 7 &9 | Getting to Know the course and Chapter 1 | Theories of Change |  |
| Week 2 Sep 14/16 | Chapter 2 - Research | IV/DV worksheet |  |
| UNIT 2 | | | |
| Week 3 Sep 21/23 | Chapter 3 – Biopsychology | Brain Structures  Neuron |  |
| Week 4 Sept 28/30 | Chapter 9 Human Development | Newborn Reflexes |  |
| Week 5 Oct 5/7 | No In person Class/ Exam week |  | Unit 1/2 exam |
| UNIT 3 | | | |
| Week 6 Oct 12/14 | Chapter 6 Learning | Reinforcement Schedules  Learning Theories |  |
| Week 7 Oct 19/21 | Chapter 8 Memory |  |  |
| Week 8 Oct 26/28  Oct 25/26 Break | Chapter 7 Intelligence NO IN PERSON CLASS ONLY ONLINE REQUIREMENTS | Multiple Intelligence |  |
| Week 9 Nov 2/4 | No In person Class Exam Week |  | Unit 3 Exam |
| UNIT 4 | | | |
| Week 10 Oct 29/31 | Ch 10 Emotions |  |  |
| Week 11 Nov 9/11 | Ch 11 Personality | Defense Mechanisms  Big 5 Personality |  |
| Week 12 Nov 16/18 | Chapter12 Social Psychology | A Class Divided |  |
| Week 13 Nov 23 | No In person Class Exam Week |  | Unit 4 exam |
| UNIT 5 | | | |
| Week 14 Nov 30,  Dec 2 | Chapter 15 Disorders DSM IV vs V  Chapter 16 Treatments, | Albert Ellis Irrational beliefs  Personality Disorders Party  Which Treatment Is Best  Wellness Activity  Watch Mystery of Mental Illness “New Frontiers” |  |
| Week 15 Dec 7/9 | No In person Class Exam Week |  | Unit 5 Exam |
| Week December 13 Final Exam | Final Exam Cumulative | Wednesday, December 15th 10 am -12 noon ONLINE | Final Exam |