

Introductory Psychology Psychology 101 (Section 003) Asynchronous Course

Fall 2020 Syllabus

Instructor Information

Instructor: **Dr. Amy Drahota**

Office Hours: Thursdays 6-8am EST and 12-2pm EST, or by appointment

- Thursdays 6-8am EST:
<https://msu.zoom.us/j/98978910637?pwd=QnpnTi9TMzhpeWN6SldOVmJxd0JYUT09> (Meeting ID: 989 7891 0637; Password: PSY101FS20)
- Thursdays 12-2pm EST:
<https://msu.zoom.us/j/95555862860?pwd=M2FLTHd6MXVHWGhoRGJ6ZXNudFNMz09> (Meeting ID: 955 5586 2860; Password: PSY101FS20)

Email: MSUPsych101@gmail.com

Note 1: The class TA will respond to emails unless there is a need for my review

Note 2: I respond to PSY 101 emails that have been sent to me from the TA on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 5-6am EST, and Fridays from 5-6pm EST

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Teaching Assistant: **Ruofan Ma**

Office Hours: Wednesdays 1-2pm EST and 7-8pm EST

- Wednesdays 1-2pm EST:
<https://msu.zoom.us/j/95834841031?pwd=SHcvdGRlalcYTnk1VnBUVnVRN2dCQT09> (Meeting ID: 958 3484 1031; Password: PSY101FS20)
- Wednesdays 7-8pm EST:
<https://msu.zoom.us/j/95543693481?pwd=K00wUHpUNXBKWFhoMXBlaFkwUWdGQT09> (Meeting ID: 955 4369 3481; Password: PSY101FS20)

Email: MSUPsych101@gmail.com

Course Description

This course is asynchronous, which means that all activities for this course will be available through the course website, and we will not have any required synchronous (or live) meetings.

Please note that this class is worth 4 credits. Typically, 4-credit classes require 12-16 hours worth of work a week. Please take this into account when planning your schedule.

This course introduces the foundational concepts of psychology, a scientific discipline investigating human behavior, and help students become critical consumers of psychological media. The scientific investigations that make up psychology are broad and far-reaching, and I hope that this class will be your first step toward a greater understanding of yourself and the world around you.

Textbook & Course Materials

Required Text: *Psychology 2e (2019)* by Rose M. Spielman and colleagues. This is a free online textbook that can be found at <https://openstax.org/details/books/psychology>.

- Note: You can purchase this textbook through Amazon as well. I purchased mine for about \$30.

Required Technology: *D2L (course website)*

- The course website can be found on D2L (<https://d2l.msu.edu/>). This website will provide you with the video lectures, lecture notes, activities, quizzes, exams, grades, class calendar (with due dates) and other important class information.
- If you need technical assistance at any time during the course or to report a problem, you can visit [Desire2Learn Help Site \(http://help.d2l.msu.edu/\)](http://help.d2l.msu.edu/).



Psychology 2e

Resource Persons with Disabilities (RCPD)

- **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 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 (additional time, less disruptive room, etc.), you must contact me and present your VISA at least two weeks before the exam date to obtain access to an alternative exam.**
- To make an appointment with a specialist at the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities, contact: (517) 353-9642 or TTY: (517) 355-1293 or visit their website.
- Website for RCPD: <http://rcpd.msu.edu>

Academic Assistance

- This is a university and you are expected to produce college level work. If you have any trouble with assignments or the material covered in class, please speak with the teaching assistant or me. 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.

Emails and Email Policy

- **Emails should be addressed to:** MSUPsych101@gmail.com
- You must use the following guidelines before e-mailing:
 1. *First, ask yourself this question: "Can this question be answered by looking in the syllabus or looking on the D2L course site?"*

- If it can, **do not email**. Look in the appropriate resource.
 - 2. 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.
 - 3. Please address the e-mail properly (i.e., Hello Ruofan; Hello Dr. Drahota).
 - 4. Proof read your e-mail. Is your question conveyed clearly with correct grammar and spelling? Did autocorrect make it sound super weird?
 - 5. Please sign your e-mail with your full name so we know who you are. We can't wait to get to know all of you, but maizeandbluearetheworst@spartans.com makes it hard for us to know who you are.
 - 6. Please be polite.
- Check your D2L e-mail regularly! During the course, we will e-mail you with announcements and reminders. Please read these e-mails as soon as you receive them, and please check your e-mail regularly.
 - Please note that you can change your settings so that all D2L emails are automatically pushed to your @msu.edu email account. For instructions, see: <https://help.d2l.msu.edu/node/4410>.

Course Objectives

The primary learning objectives for this course are to:

- **Explore the field of psychology**, which is both broad and 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 utilized to investigate these areas.
- **Learn the skills associated with scientific study and critical thinking**. Whether 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 psychological science, and you will learn to employ them in understanding the nature of psychology.
- **Apply the knowledge and skills gained in this course to everyday life**. Unlike most other sciences, psychology is unique in its clear relation to our everyday lives. Studying psychology directly benefits you with a better understanding of yourself, others, and the world around you.

Both the textbook, activities and lectures emphasize an empirical approach to a scientific understanding of human behavior across psychology's diverse sub-fields. Each week will have modules that involve lectures, an activity or demonstration, a video and chapter quiz. To be successful in this course, students must synthesize information presented through these formats. **This means that studying for tests should involve reviewing and integrating the essential ideas contained in both the D2L content and the textbook.**

Graded Course Activities

- **Exams:** Seven exams will be given during the semester. Six will occur during the semester and one will occur during finals week. The exams will be comprised of 50 questions.
 - Exams will be **open-note and open-book**.

- Exams will be timed. You will have **1½ hours to complete each exam** (please talk with me if you have VISA accommodations).
- Each exam will consist of **multiple-choice questions**.
- You will take exams **through D2L**.
- **Your lowest exam score will be dropped.** For example, if you do well on the first six exams, your grade on the cumulative final exam will not matter (that is, it will be dropped) so you will not need to take it. Alternatively, if you do poorly on one of the first 6 exams, you can take the final exam to make up for the previous exam.
- **No make-up exams will be given** unless you have a valid, documented excuse (e.g., a note from the dean, a note from your doctor recommending that you not attend class). Any notes must explicitly state that “This student was unable to take the exam on (date) because _____.” Simply having a bad cold is not an acceptable excuse. The note cannot come from someone in your family. **You must notify the professor that you have a valid excuse by the end of the day of the exam or you will not be allowed to take the makeup exam.** There are no exceptions to these rules.
- If you cannot take the 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 the professor **at least two weeks in advance** of exam day. Absence from an exam **for any other reason** – family obligations, job interviews, and vacations – will result in a grade of 0 for that exam. This is why you are able to drop your lowest exam grade... life can be complicated at times. I get it. **BUT, DO NOT ASK TO MAKE UP THE EXAM IF YOU HAVE ANY OF THESE REASONS FOR MISSING THE EXAM!**
- **Exams will be available for 24 hours.** That is, if the exams “opens” at 5am EST on a Friday, you have until 5am EST on Saturday to begin the exam. If you begin the exam 1 minute prior to the exam’s close, you will still have the full time to complete the exam. However, I do not recommend waiting until the last moment to complete the exam because if you have a glitch in your network or some other problem, you may not be able to resolve the problem before the exam closes. I will not re-open an exam due to bandwidth problems or network problems. Please plan accordingly.
- Exam scores and grades will be available soon after the exam closes. If you would like to review your exam, you can do so during office hours or by appointment. Please note, however, I am still working to learn how to allow students to review exams during office hours and should have this worked out before the first exam.
- **Syllabus Quiz:** Students must complete the syllabus quiz on D2L. This quiz is worth 10 points and is designed to make sure that you read and understand the syllabus details including the objectives of the course, graded course assignments, office hours, and email policies. The syllabus quiz is **due on 9/6/20 by 11:59pm**. Late quizzes will not be accepted.
- **Chapter Quizzes:** Each chapter will have a chapter quiz at the end of the module/ chapter materials.

- There will be 15 Chapter Quizzes in total.
- Each chapter quiz will be worth 25 points.
- Your lowest quiz score will be dropped.
- No make-up quizzes will be allowed.
- Due before or at 11:59pm on Sunday of each week.
- **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 40 points of your final grade. You can register an account and sign up for studies here: <https://msu-psychology.sona-systems.com>. You can also watch an online tutorial here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1OnT2ZU6QQ>.
 - **The Psychology SONA system closes on Friday, December 11, 2020 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. 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.
 - **Students under 18 years of age are ineligible for SONA experiments.** Contact Audra Jeffrey (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 (jeffre22@msu.edu).** 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.
 - **Alternative to Research Experience:** If you do not wish to participate in experiments, you may write 8 research-based papers that have been designed for this situation. Details about the paper requirements will be posted on D2L next week. Papers are due 1 week before the research participation is due to allow for time to grade. This means that you must get these papers in by **Friday, December 11, 2020 at 5pm**. No papers will be accepted after this date and time. **There will be no exceptions to this rule.** The system will not accept anything after 5pm on this date! In fact, the portal to submit these papers closes at 5pm so nothing is able to be turned in after this day and time.

Grade Point Assignment

Requirement	Grade Points
Exams: Highest 6 out of 7 Exam Scores	300
Syllabus Quiz	10
Chapter Quizzes: Highest 14 out of 15 Chapter Quizzes	350
Research Experience: 7 hours (or Alternative Assignment: 7 papers)	40
TOTAL	700
Extra Credit: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can participate in 1 extra hour of research = 10 points• Additional extra credit activities will be offered throughout the course	

Grading Scale

Percentage	Point Range	Grade
89 – 100	623 – 700	4.0
84 – 88.9	588 – 622	3.5
79 – 83.9	553 – 587	3.0
74 – 78.9	518 – 552	2.5
69 – 73.9	483 – 517	2.0
64 – 68.9	448 – 482	1.5
59 – 63.9	413 – 447	1.0
0 – 58.9	0 – 412	0.0

- **Policy on grade changes: *I adhere to these cut-offs.*** 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. At the end of the semester, if you believe that I made an error in calculating your grade, please let me know. I will check your grade, and I will change it if (and only if there is evidence that) I have made an error. *This is the only circumstance under which I will change a grade.* **Under no circumstance will I “bump up” your grade or give you a special extra credit opportunity. I never do this, so DO NOT ask.**

Course Policies

Commit to Integrity: Academic Honesty

Article 2.3.3 of the [Academic Freedom Report](#) 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 1.0, Protection of Scholarship and Grades; the all-University Policy on Integrity of Scholarship and Grades; and Ordinance 17.00, Examinations. (See [Spartan Life: Student Handbook and Resource Guide](#) and/or the MSU Web site: www.msu.edu.)

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.)

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.

Understand When You May Drop This Course

Commercialized Lecture Notes

You are encouraged to take notes on the asynchronous materials and textbook available through D2L. However, you are **not permitted to take notes or tape-record for the purpose of sale or distribution**, no matter how financially lucrative my lectures might be.

Commercialization of lecture notes and university-provided course materials is not permitted in this course.

Disruptive Behavior

Article 2.III.B.4 of the Academic Freedom Report (AFR) 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 AFR states that "The student has a right to scholarly relationships with faculty 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 through the Student Judicial Affairs office."

Attendance

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.

Religious Observations

If you anticipate being absent from class due to a major religious observance, please provide notice of the date(s) to me, in writing, **at least two weeks in advance of the religious holiday.**

Course Outline/Schedule

Important Note: Refer to the D2L course calendar for specific meeting dates and times. Activity and assignment details will be explained in detail within each week's corresponding learning module.

Disclaimer: Below you will find a general indication of when we will cover the topics in the course. However, as the instructor, I reserve 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 I deem 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.**

Calendar on the next pages will provide information about when quizzes, exams, and research experiences are due.

Additionally, the calendar found on D2L will provide you with the dates in which things are due.

PSY 101-003: Introduction to Psychology
Fall Semester 2020

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Week 1			Sept 1	2 Start of semester	3 Dr. Drahota office hours	4	5
Week 2	6 Chapter 1 quiz (Due 11:59pm EST)	7	8	9 Ruofan's office hours	10 Dr. Drahota office hours	11 Exam 1: Ch 1-2 (Access opens at 12pm EST & closes at 11:59pm EST)	12
Week 3	13 Syllabus quiz (Due 11:59pm EST) Chapter 2 quiz (Due 11:59pm EST)	14	15	16 Ruofan's office hours	17 Dr. Drahota office hours	18	19
Week 4	20 Chapter 3 quiz (Due 11:59pm EST)	21	22	23 Ruofan's office hours	24 Dr. Drahota office hours	25 Exam 2: Ch 3 & 14 (Access opens at 12pm EST & closes at 11:59pm EST)	26
Week 5	27 Chapter 14 quiz (Due 11:59pm EST)	28	29	30 Ruofan's office hours	Oct 1 Dr. Drahota office hours	2	3
Week 6	4 Chapter 4 quiz (Due 11:59pm EST)	5 Simer's office hours	6	7 Ruofan's office hours	8 Dr. Drahota office hours	9 Exam 3: Ch 4-5 (Access opens at 12pm EST & closes at 11:59pm EST)	10
Week 7	11 Chapter 5 quiz (Due 11:59pm EST)	12 Simer's office hours	13	14 Ruofan's office hours	15 Dr. Drahota office hours	16	17
Week 8	18	19 Simer's office hours	20	21 Ruofan's office hours	22 Dr. Drahota office hours	23 Exam 4: Ch 6-7 (Access opens at 12pm EST & closes at 11:59pm EST)	24
Week 9	25 -Chapter 6 quiz (Due 11:59pm EST) -Chapter 7 quiz (Due 11:59pm EST)	26 Simer's office hours	27	28 Ruofan's office hours	29 Dr. Drahota office hours	30	31
Week 10	Nov 1 Chapter 8	2	3	4	5	6	7

	quiz (Due 11:59pm EST)	Simer's office hours		Ruofan's office hours	Dr. Drahota office hours	Exam 5: Ch 8-9 (Access opens at 12pm EST & closes at 11:59pm EST)	
Week 11	8 Chapter 9 quiz (Due 11:59pm EST)	9 Simer's office hours	10	11 Ruofan's office hours	12 Dr. Drahota office hours	13	14
Week 12	15 Chapter 10 quiz (Due 11:59pm EST)	16 Simer's office hours	17	18 Ruofan's office hours	19 Dr. Drahota office hours	20 Exam 6: Ch 10-11 (Access opens at 12pm EST & closes at 11:59pm EST)	21
Week 13	22 Chapter 11 quiz (Due 11:59pm EST)	23 Simer's office hours	24	25 Ruofan's office hours	26 Thanksgiving Holiday	27 Thanksgiving Holiday	28
Week 14	29 Chapter 12 quiz (Due 11:59pm EST)	30 Simer's office hours	<u>Dec 1</u>	2 Ruofan's office hours	3 Dr. Drahota office hours	4	5
Week 15	6 Chapter 15 quiz (Due 11:59pm EST)	7 Simer's office hours	8	9 Ruofan's office hours	10 Dr. Drahota office hours	11 -SONA system closes (Due on/before 5pm EST) -Alternative to Research Experience papers (Due on/before 5pm EST)	12
Week 16 Finals Week	13 Chapter 16 quiz (Due 11:59pm EST)	14	15	16	17 Exam 7: Ch 12, 15-16 (Access opens at 12pm EST & closes at 11:59pm EST)	18	19

As a reminder,

- 2 of your lowest or missed quizzes will be dropped from counting toward your final grade.
- 1 exam with your lowest score will be dropped from counting toward your final grade.
- SONA Research Experiences (7 hours) or the Alternative to Research Experience Papers (7 papers) are due on or before December 11, 2020 at 5pm EST.