

PSY 101 (Section 001): Introductory Psychology – Spring Semester, 2020 (4 Credit Hours)

Meets: Tuesday & Thursday 10:20am – 12:10pm in B115 Wells Hall

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

Office hours: Monday 1pm-3pm & Wednesday 10am-noon (or by appointment) in Psychology 252A

Graduate TA: Heather Bomsta (pronouns - she/her/hers) – bomstahe@msu.edu

Office hours: Thursday 9am-10am (or by appointment) in Erickson Kiva (near Sparty's)

Undergraduate Assistant: Averie Allen (pronouns – she/her/hers) – allenav1@msu.edu

Office hours: Monday 1pm-2pm in Giltner Hall 349

Undergraduate Assistant: Aastha Bahl (pronouns – she/her/hers) – bahlaast@msu.edu

Office hours: Monday 11:30am-12:30pm in Giltner Hall 349

Undergraduate Assistant: Kristen Zylka (pronouns – she/her/hers) – zylkakri@msu.edu

Office hours: Thursday 5:30pm-6:30pm in Giltner Hall 349

Texts and Materials: Go to <https://openstax.org/details/books/psychology> to download the book that will be used throughout the semester. The book is free.

Finally, we will be using the I>CLICKER device (see www.iclicker.com for general information) in the class. This is a device which will permit you to record your answers to mini-quiz questions in class. Each student must have their own I>CLICKER (or I>CLICKER2 or I>CLICKER+, but not the WEB>CLICKER). They are available (new or used) in local bookstores, and can also be purchased new (amazon) or used (eBay) on the Internet. To register your I>CLICKER, login to D2L and select this course.

Once on your Course Homepage, locate the I>CLICKER registration link in Content. Register your I>CLICKER remote by entering your I>CLICKER remote ID in the field provided and clicker “Register”. We will use them every day in class, and you are responsible for bringing your I>CLICKER to lecture.

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

Course Overview: The purpose of this course is to give you a broad introduction to psychology. 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 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.

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

Evaluation Criteria: Listed below are the assigned course criteria.

Orientation Quiz: This quiz assesses your understanding of the course policies as outlined in this syllabus and the “PSY 101 Syllabus and Course Basics Overview” video that is available on D2L (<https://d2l.msu.edu/>). You can take the Orientation Quiz as many times as you like in order to maximize your score. Be sure to read

this syllabus FIRST! The Orientation Quiz determines 1% of your course grade. It will open Friday (1/10) at 5pm and is due by 1/31 at 5pm. Note that the orientation quiz includes a consent form asking if you agree to allow your in-class activity assignments (described below) to be used in teaching-related research focused on increasing student learning in large lecture classes. Allowing your assignments to be used in this way is completely optional and will not affect your grade on the Orientation Quiz or on the in-class assignments.

In-Class Activities: Eight unannounced in-class activities will be given periodically throughout the semester. Each activity will be worth 1% of your course grade. Your lowest three in-class activity grades will be dropped. Therefore, only your top 5 in-class activity scores will be counted towards your final grade for a total of 5% of your course grade. For each activity students will be given an index card and a question prompt will be presented. Students will respond to the prompt and then exchange their cards with a classmate, who will then respond. Index cards will then be exchanged back in order for everyone to read their classmate's response. Finally, the index cards will then be turned in for credit. Note that to receive credit, names and APIDs of both partners must be written clearly on the index cards. **Excused or unexcused absences also will not receive in-class activity credit for that day of class.** Please understand that in a class of 500+ students, keeping track of points like this is difficult. Therefore, makeup credit simply cannot be given in these circumstances. Again, to account for this, three in-class activity grades are dropped. Questions regarding in-class activity points should be directed to Rachael Goodman-Williams (goodm169@msu.edu).

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 5% of your final grade. You can register an account and sign up for studies here: <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 April 24, 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 and signed up for the correct section (we are section 1). 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), 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.

Extra Credit: You may accumulate an additional **3.5 hours** for 1.05% extra course points. Specifically, for every half-hour extra you accumulate (up to 3.5 hours) you will earn 0.15% extra course points. For example, if you complete 9 total hours you would earn the 5% for the research experience plus an extra 0.6% course points for the additional 2 hours (or, 4 half-hours x 0.15% = 0.6%). You will receive course points for **up to 10.5 hours** of research participation but can receive partial credit.

Alternative to Research Experience: If you do not wish to participate in psychological research, you may write a series of papers that are designed for this situation. Details about the paper requirements will be posted on D2L. All papers are due by April 10th, 2020, at 5pm. The assignment folder will close promptly at 5pm, and no papers will be accepted after this. **There will be no exceptions to this rule.**

Written Assignments: There are four short assignments offered in this class, each are 2 pages in length. You will pick two out of the four to complete. This is not a lowest score gets dropped situation. Your first two

graded assignments will be counted. For example, if you turn in all four assignments, only the first two assignments will be graded and counted towards your final grade. The four assignment options will be posted on the D2L course webpage for you to plan accordingly. Each assignment's specific due date is only for that assignment. For example, you cannot turn in Assignment 3 when Assignment 1 is due, or you cannot turn in Assignment 1 when Assignment 2 is due. These papers will allow you the opportunity to apply the concepts learned in the class to the outside world. Each assignment is worth 3% of your final grade, so in total the two graded assignments account for 6% of your final grade. See each assignment for more details.

In-Class Mini-Quizzes: During every lecture, Dr. Weaver will pose a number of multiple-choice questions that you will answer using your i>clicker device. Each day you will get a certain % correct which will be listed as your In-Class Mini-Quiz% for the day. Excluding the first two lectures (1/7 and 1/9), exam days, and the day there will not be class (2/27) there are 23 lectures. Therefore, you will have 23 In-Class Mini-Quiz% scores. On certain days you may unavoidably miss the lecture, or find it hard to grasp the material. To make allowances for such occasions, Dr. Weaver will drop your lowest **six** In-Class Mini-Quiz% scores. Thus, the In-Class Mini-Quiz points you receive are determined by your highest 17 In-Class Mini-Quiz% scores. In-Class Mini-Quiz questions determine 8% of your course grade.

If you forget your i>clicker or if your batteries are dead, you cannot obtain credit for that day of class. **Excused or unexcused absences also will not receive credit for that day of class.** Please understand that in a class of 500+ students, there will be at least one person who forgets their clicker or batteries each day and Dr. Weaver simply cannot give credit in these circumstances. **Please do not ask!** Also, please note that **recording answers using anybody's i>clicker but your own constitutes providing false information to Dr. Weaver and is a violation of class and University rules.**

Exams: Five exams will be given in class – four during the regularly scheduled class period, and one during the final exam period. The first four exams emphasize material covered since the previous exam. The final exam is cumulative. Each exam will consist of multiple-choice questions. Your four best exam scores will account for 75% of your final grade. Your lowest exam score will be dropped. For instance, if you do well on the first four exams, your grade on the cumulative final exam will 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 first four exams, you can take the final exam to make up for it.

Makeup Exams: No makeup exams will be given unless you have a valid excuse. **You must notify Dr. Weaver that you have a valid excuse by the end of the day of the given exam. Failure to do so will result in you not being 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 Dr. Weaver **at least two weeks in advance** of the 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.

Exams 1-4 will begin at 10:20am. The Final Exam will begin at 7:45am. You may arrive late, but no more exams will be handed out after the first student completes the exam. Exams 1-4 must be turned in by 12:10pm. The Final Exam must be turned in by 9:45am. 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, take off head phones, 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 emergency bathroom breaks only.

Exam grades will be posted online as soon as they are available from the scoring office. Exams will not be posted, but you may view your exams during Dr. Weaver's, or Heather's, 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.

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

Requirement	% of final grade
Orientation Quiz Score	1%
Top 5 (out of 8) In-Class Activities	5%
Research Experience	5%
Chosen 2 (out of 4) Written Assignments	6%
Top 17 (out of 23) In-Class Mini-Quiz Scores	8%
Top 4 (out of 5) Exam Scores	75%
Total	100%
Extra Credit	+1.05% potentially

The grading scale is as follows:

Percentage	Grade
89.50 – 100	4.0
84.50 – 89.49	3.5
79.50 – 84.49	3.0
74.50 – 79.49	2.5
69.50 – 74.49	2.0
64.50 – 69.49	1.5
59.50 – 64.49	1.0
0 – 59.49	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. 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, having a fellow student click in answers for them on mini-quiz questions, clicking in answers for a fellow student on mini-quiz questions, having a fellow student submit an in-class activity for them, submitting an in-class activity for a fellow student, or plagiarizing an assignment will receive a ZERO for the course, and be reported to the University.

Academic Honesty: Any and all forms of cheating are unacceptable. Students are expected to complete quizzes and exams individually and without outside help. Any student caught cheating on in-class activities, written assignments, mini-quizzes, or exams will receive a ZERO in this course. Legalistic Details: 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 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. For extensive details see *Spartan Life: Student Handbook and Resource Guide*. Further information about cheating can be found on a website provided by the MSU Ombudsman (<https://www.msu.edu/~ombud/academic-integrity/student-faq.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 work (including in-class activities, written assignments, and exams) without assistance from any source (except as specified in the assignment). 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). 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. Contact your instructor, or TA, 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 absent from class due to a major religious observance, please provide notice of the date(s) to Dr. Weaver, in writing, by the 1/17/20.

Note taking and recording: You are encouraged to take notes on the lecture and are permitted to tape-record class sessions for your own purposes. However, you are not permitted to take notes or tape-record for purposes of sale and distribution, no matter how financially lucrative Dr. Weaver's lectures might be.

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 Dr. Weaver at the start of the term and/or two weeks prior to the accommodation date (exam, quiz, etc.). Requests received after this date may not be honored.**

If you require testing accommodations (additional time, less disruptive room, etc.) you must contact Dr. Weaver and present your VISA at least two weeks before the exam date to schedule an alternative exam. Typically, you can take the exam during a special exam session offered by the Psychology Department. Those exams occur in small group settings and Dr. Weaver will contact you regarding the specific times and locations. If you are unable to make the times offered, or that option does not meet your VISA accommodations, you may be able to schedule to take your exam at the RCPD office. In either case, the exam must be scheduled well in advance, so you need to adhere to the two-week prior notification requirement.

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 Heather must report the following information (including your name and the details of the disclosure) to the Office of Inclusion 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 (<http://counseling.msu.edu/>).

It is an MSU required mandate that Dr. Weaver and Heather 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 Inclusion.** 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.

MSU Safe Place <http://safeplace.msu.edu/> NRCDV <http://www.nrcdv.org/> NNEVD <http://www.nnedy.org/>

(517) 355-1100

NCDSV <http://www.ncdsv.org/>

MCEDSV <http://www.mcedsv.org/>

No More <http://nomore.org/>

RAINN <https://rainn.org/>

The Joyful Heart Foundation <http://www.joyfulheartfoundation.org/>

Feministing <http://feministing.com/>

Futures Without Violence <http://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/>

E-Mail Policy: E-mail is the best way to get a hold of us (Dr. Weaver or one of the course assistants). However, please use the following guidelines when e-mailing one of us:

- **First, ask yourself this question: “Can this question be answered by looking in the syllabus or looking on the D2L course site?”**
- 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.
- Please address the e-mail properly (i.e., Hi Heather; Hello Aastha).
- Proofread your e-mail. Is your question conveyed clearly with correct grammar and spelling? Did autocorrect make it sound super weird?
- 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.
- Be polite.

Check your e-mail and course site regularly! During the course, we will e-mail you or post on the course site from time to time with announcements and reminders. Please read these e-mails or posts as soon as you receive them, and please check your e-mail and the course site regularly.

Dr. Weaver's five rules for a happy and productive class:

1) Put your cell phones away. 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 page 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 1) Course Schedule for Spring 2020

Date	Lecture Topic	Readings
Tuesday: 1/7	Overview, Intro to Psychology, Psychological Research	Chapter 1 / Chapter 2
Thursday: 1/9	Psychological Research	Chapter 2

Date	Lecture Topic	Readings
Tuesday: 1/14	Psychological Research	Chapter 2
Thursday: 1/16	Biopsychology	Chapter 3
Tuesday: 1/21	Biopsychology	Chapter 3
Thursday: 1/23	Biopsychology	Chapter 3
Friday: 1/24	Assignment #1 Due at 5pm	Assignment #1 Due
Tuesday: 1/28	Exam 1	Exam 1
Thursday: 1/30	Lifespan Development	Chapter 9
Friday: 1/31	Orientation Quiz Due at 5pm	Orientation Quiz Due
Tuesday: 2/4	Lifespan Development	Chapter 9
Thursday: 2/6	States of Consciousness	Chapter 4
Tuesday: 2/11	Sensation and Perception	Chapter 5
Thursday: 2/13	Finish Sensation and Perception / Start Learning	Chapter 5 / Chapter 6
Tuesday: 2/18	Learning	Chapter 6
Thursday: 2/20	Learning	Chapter 6
Friday: 2/21	Assignment #2 Due at 5pm	Assignment #2 Due
Tuesday: 2/25	Exam 2	Exam 2
Thursday: 2/27	No Class! Recorded lecture will be posted on D2L. Thinking and Intelligence	Chapter 7
Tuesday: 3/3	No Class! Have a SAFE and fun break!	
Thursday: 3/5	No Class! Have a SAFE and fun break!	
Tuesday: 3/10	Thinking and Intelligence	Chapter 7
Thursday: 3/12	Finish Thinking and Intelligence / Start Memory	Chapter 7 / Chapter 8
Tuesday: 3/17	Memory	Chapter 8
Thursday: 3/19	Memory	Chapter 8
Friday: 3/20	Assignment #3 Due at 5pm	Assignment #3 Due
Tuesday: 3/24	Emotion	Chapter 10 (pp. 350 – 358)
Thursday: 3/26	Exam 3	Exam 3
Tuesday: 3/31	Personality	Chapter 11
Thursday: 4/2	Personality	Chapter 11
Tuesday: 4/7	Social Psychology	Chapter 12
Thursday: 4/9	Social Psychology	Chapter 12
Tuesday: 4/14	Social Psychology	Chapter 12
Thursday: 4/16	Psychological Disorders	Chapter 15
Friday: 4/17	Assignment #4 Due at 5pm	Assignment #4 Due
Tuesday: 4/21	Psychological Disorders	Chapter 15
Thursday: 4/23	Exam 4	Exam 4
Friday: 5/1	Final Exam – B115 Wells Hall	Final Exam: 7:45am – 9:45am