# PSY101: Introductory Psychology, Section 003

Fall 2025**Syllabus**

**Dr. Gwendolyn Seidman**

Department of Psychology

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## Part 1: Course Information

Credit Hours: 4

Meeting Days/Times: MW 5:00 – 6:50 PM

Meeting Location: Anthony Hall, Room 1281

### Instructor Information

Instructor: Dr. Gwendolyn Seidman

Office: Psychology 252B

Office Hours: Monday 3:00 – 4:00 PM, Wednesday 2:00 – 3:00 PM

Appointments Outside Office Hours: Please email me to make an appointment

Office Telephone: **517-353-3621**

E-mail: [seidman9@msu.edu](mailto:seidman9@msu.edu)

Email is the best way to reach me: Put PSY101 in the subject line to make sure I see your email.

Website: <https://psychology.msu.edu/directory/gwendolyn-seidman.html>

| ***Name*** | ***E-mail*** | ***Office Hours Information*** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Graduate TA:  Jamie Shi | [shijiami@msu.edu](mailto:shijiami@msu.edu) | Thursdays 4:00 – 5:00 PM on zoom: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/4499401376> passcode PSY101 |
| Undergraduate Asst: Taryn Marshall | [marsh566@msu.edu](mailto:marsh566@msu.edu) | Tuesdays 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM on zoom: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/4637454149> |
| Undergraduate Asst: Madeline Stuckwisch | [stuckwi2@msu.edu](mailto:stuckwi2@msu.edu) | Mondays 10:00 - 11:00 AM on zoom: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/6185451964> passcode 508927 |
| Undergraduate Asst: Gabriella Washburn | [washbu66@msu.edu](mailto:washbu66@msu.edu) | Thursdays 3:00 – 4:00 PM on zoom <https://msu.zoom.us/j/4178123276> |

### Teaching Assistants

### 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/) or call the Help Line (517) 432-6200 or (844) 678-6200
* Visit the [MSU Tech Support Site](https://tech.msu.edu/support/help/) or call (517) 432-6200 or toll free (844) 678-6200
* For e-book and Learning Curve support, visit the [Macmillan support site](https://mhe.my.site.com/macmillanlearning/s/) (This site has links to help resources and online chat window. If this does not solve your problem, your request will be sent to a representative).
* For iClicker technical problems, visit the [iClicker support site](https://www.iclicker.com/support).

### E-Mail

All official course communication will happen with your **MSU email account**. **You should**

**communicate with your assigned TA in the first instance**. TAs are assigned based on your TA

group number in D2L. To find your group number in D2L, click “Communication,” then “Groups”. The TA allocations are as follows:

* Group 1: Jamie Shi
* Group 2: Taryn Marshall
* Group 3: Madeline Stuckwisch
* Group 4: Gabriella Washburn

### Who to Contact About What

* If you have a **quick question** **about the course, email your group’s TA first.** 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 to Dr. Seidman. Dr. Seidman and/or your TA will respond to your email within **two business days on weekdays**. Please follow up with us if you have not heard back after two business days.
* If you are **having difficulty with the course**, please see Dr. Seidman 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, if you need support, or would like to talk more about an idea from class, please come to Dr. Seidman’s office hours. She used to teach at a college where her largest class size was only 30, and she enjoys learning more about her students!
* If you have **RCPD accommodations** for exams and want to arrange an accommodated **exam**, email the **graduate TA** at least one week prior to the exam.

### E-Mail Policy

E-mail is the best way to get in touch with your assigned TA and/or Dr. Seidman. However, please use the following guidelines when communicating via email:

* First, ask yourself: “**Can this question be answered by looking in the syllabus or 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. Looking at the syllabus and D2L will also get you a faster response than waiting for an email!
* **Decide if email is the best option**. If your question is complicated or needs further discussion, please come to office hours. 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. This helps to prevent e-mails from going directly to the junk folder.
* **Treat every email as professional communication**:
  + **Use an appropriate greeting** (e.g., “Hi Dr. Seidman,” for your professor, or Hello [first name]” for a TA) and **sign off with your full name**.
  + **Proofread** your e-mail. Is your question clearly conveyed? Did ChatGPT make it sound super weird?
  + **Do not use the urgent flag or type “URGENT”** in your subject heading. Emergencies 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). Most solutions to academic problems cannot be put in place immediately. (See guidance from [Forbes](https://www.forbes.com/pictures/egfj45ili/abusive-subject-line%20behavior/?sh=21f183a3662d) on overusing the priority flag).
  + Find more guidance on email communication in the academic context [here](https://www.bestcolleges.com/blog/email-etiquette-in-college/) and [here](https://medium.com/@lportwoodstacer/how-to-email-your-professor-without-being-annoying-af-cf64ae0e4087).

### D2L Access and PowerPoint Slides

* The Course D2L website contains PowerPoint slides, assignments, and other course materials. **Note: PowerPoint notes are only an outline and do not contain all the lecture material that you need to know for exams - To do well in this course, you must also take notes in class**.
* **On D2L, PowerPoint slides are grouped into Units**, with each unit corresponding to material on one of the four regular exams.
* Check D2L for course announcements and reminders regularly.

### Course Description

Psychology is the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. That means that psychology is a field that attempts to *scientifically* figure out what makes humans tick. Throughout this course, we will address important questions about you and the people around you, such as: What motivates people to do what they do? Why do we see what we think we see? How do we remember things (including the material we need to study for tests!)? How do we learn? How can we avoid errors in our thinking? How do we manage to get along with other people? How do we come to know ourselves? Where does intelligence come from? How does a person qualify as having a mental disorder and how do we treat such disorders?

### Textbook & Course Materials

**Achieve “Read and Practice”** for **Exploring Psychology, 13th Ed.** by David G. Myers, C. Nathan DeWall, and June Gruber.

* This is the required electronic resource that **includes the entire e-book and Learning Curve resources.**  You can purchase Achieve access directly through the D2L Course when it opens.  **Look for “Achieve” in the course information module of D2L**.  **You CANNOT access our specific course outside of D2L so you MUST always go through D2L to get to Achieve**.
* **If you want a hard copy of the book**, when you purchase, select “packages” and get the combination of the “Read and Practice” e-book with a looseleaf or paperback copy.
* **Important Info:**
  + Achieve Read and Practice access is REQUIRED for this class.
  + You must access Achieve through D2L (make sure you enable pop ups!)
  + Achieve includes both the entire eBook AND the Learning Curve adaptive study coach. The adaptive quizzes will be part of your grade.
  + Used books DO NOT include Achieve access.
* **Where to Purchase Achieve Access:**
* When you follow an Achieve link in D2L, you will be given the option to enter a codefrom the bookstore, purchase access directly or use the free **two-week grace period**.
* You can purchase Achieve access with a credit or debit card directly through the D2L Course when it opens.  Click on ANY “Achieve” link in D2L Content. Do not Google Achieve to get there. You CANNOT access our specific course outside of D2L so you **must** always go through D2L to get to Achieve.
* The cost direct from the Achieve link in D2L is $55.99. Look for “Achieve” in D2L Content.
* You can purchase the PSY 101 Achieve Read and Practice access card at an MSU bookstore and use that access code in D2L.
* As a reminder, Achieve includes the eBook- you do not purchase a book separately. The ebook will download and it doesn’t expire for 4 years.
* If you sign up for a free account during the two-week grace period, you must purchase access within two weeks to continue in the course. **Failure to purchase access on time will result in your inability to complete assignments and does not constitute a valid excuse for late work**. **You cannot keep re-enrolling with a new account/email every two weeks because your grades will not sync on D2L.**
* BE SURE to get ***Achieve Read and Practice***, the full Achieve is more expensive and the code will not work interchangeably.

Students must use the iClicker app (free for MSU students) for participation/attendance. See [sign-up details in Part 4](#_iClicker_Attendance_and) of the syllabus

### Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities (RCPD)

* To make an appointment with a specialist, contact: (517) 353-9642

Or TTY: (517) 355-1293

* [Web site for RCPD](http://MYProfile.rcpd.msu.edu): MYProfile.rcpd.msu.edu

## Part 2: Instructional Objectives

The primary learning objectives for this course are:

* Identify how psychologists think about and study human behavior.
* Describe and define major psychological theories, theorists, principles, and concepts.
* Analyze different approaches to solving problems related to behavior and mental processes, including skeptical inquiry and scientific approaches.
* Apply psychological phenomena to the interpretation of everyday events.
* Draw appropriate, logical, and objective conclusions about behavior and mental processes from empirical evidence.

You will meet the objectives listed above through a combination of the following activities in this course:

* Attend lectures.
* Complete in-class exams and online exercises.
* Participate in psychology research studies.

## Part 3: Course Outline/Schedule

| **Week** | **Date** | **Lecture Topic** | **Reading** | **Assignment Due** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Week 1 | M 8/25 | Introduction & History of Psychology | Ch. 1 p 1-14 |  |
|  | W 8/27 | Research Methods in Psychology  **Last Day for Open Add: 8/29** | Ch. 1 p 15-39 | Ch. 1 LC\* Fri 8/29  Syllabus Quiz F 8/29 |
| Week 2 | M 9/1 | **NO CLASS - LABOR DAY** |  |  |
|  | W 9/3 | Neuroscience | Ch. 2 p 40-68 |  |
| Week 3 | M 9/8 | Neuroscience continued; Genetic and Evolutionary Approaches | Ch. 2 p 69-84; Ch. 5 p 189-191 | Ch. 2 LC Tues 9/9 Unit 1 Paper\*\* |
|  | W 9/10 | Consciousness, Sleep | Ch. 3 p 85-105 |  |
| Week 4 | M 9/15 | Sleep continued, Drugs | Ch. 3 p 106-120 | Ch. 3 LC Tues 9/16 |
|  | W 9/17 | **EXAM 1 (Unit 1)**  **Last Day to Drop with Refund 9/18** |  |  |
| Week 5 | M 9/22 | Sensation and Perception | Ch. 6 p 194-219 |  |
|  | W 9/24 | Sensation and Perception continued | Ch. 6 p 219-238 | Ch. 6 LC Fri 9/26 |
| Week 6 | M 9/29 | Lifespan Development | Ch. 4 p 121-146 |  |
|  | W 10/1 | Lifespan Development continued; Learning | Ch. 4 p 146-164 Ch. 7 p 239-249 | Ch. 4 LC Fri 10/3 |
| Week 7 | M 10/6 | Learning continued | Ch. 7 p 249-271 |  |
|  | W 10/8 | Memory | Ch. 8 p 272-290 | Ch. 7 LC Fri 10/10  Unit 2 Paper |
| Week 8 | M 10/13 | Memory continued  **Last Day to Drop w/ No Grade Reported: 10/13** | Ch. 8 p 290-303 | Ch. 8 LC Tues 10/14 |
|  | W 10/15 | **EXAM 2 (Unit 2)** |  |  |
| Week 9 | M 10/20 | NO CLASS - FALL BREAK |  |  |
|  | W 10/22 | Thinking and Language | Ch. 9 p 304-326 |  |
| Week 10 | M 10/27 | Language and Intelligence | Ch. 9 p 327-348 | Ch. 9 LC Tues 10/28 |
|  | W 10/29 | Motivation | Ch. 10 p 249-372 |  |
| Week 11 | M 11/3 | Emotion | Ch. 10 p 372-388 | Ch. 10 LC Tues 11/4  Unit 3 Paper |
|  | W 11/5 | Stress, Health, and Happiness | Ch. 11 | Ch. 11 LC Fri 11/6 |
| Week 12 | M 11/10 | **EXAM 3 (Unit 3)** |  |  |
|  | W 11/12 | Social Psychology | Ch. 12 p 421-457 |  |
| Week 13 | M 11/17 | Social Psychology continued; Personality | Ch. 12 p 457-471 Ch. 13 p 472-481 | Ch. 12 LC Tues 11/18 |
|  | W 11/19 | Personality continued | Ch. 13 p 481-505 | Ch. 13 LC Fri 11/21 |
| Week 14 | M 11/24 | Disorders | Ch. 14 p 506-526 |  |
|  | W 11/26 | Disorders **ONLINE LECTURE NO CLASS MEETING** | Ch. 14 p 526-550 | Lecture quiz on D2L |
| Week 15 | M 12/1 | Therapy | Ch. 15 | Ch. 14 LC Mon 12/1  Unit 4 Paper |
|  | W 12/3 | **EXAM 4 (Unit 4)** |  | **SONA closes 5 PM Fri 12/5** |
| Finals | F 12/12 | **CUMULATIVE FINAL EXAM**  **Fri 12/12 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM** |  | Extra credit assgnmts due Mon 12/8 |

\*LC = Learning Curve

\*\*Unit papers only due for students who are completing the alternative to SONA research participation.

## Part 4: Grading Policy

### Graded Course Activities

| ***Points*** | ***Percent*** | ***Description*** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 400 | 70.18% | Exams (Best 4 out of 5 Exam Scores); 80 points each |
| 72 | 12.63% | Learning Curve Assignments (Best 36 out of 42); 2 points each |
| 2 | 0.35% | Syllabus Quiz |
| 40 | 7.02% | iClicker Attendance/Participation (20 out of 22 class periods counted); 2 points each |
| 56 | 9.82% | Research Experience: 14 units of .5 hours, each unit worth 4 points |
| **570** |  | **Total Points Possible** |

### Exams

* There will be five exams. Four of these exams will cover material learned since the prior exam. The fifth exam is a cumulative final that will cover material from the entire course.
* Only your best four exams will count toward your grade. Your lowest grade (or missed exam) will be dropped.
* All exams are multiple choice and will be administered in class on the dates indicated on the syllabus schedule.
* Exam review sheets on D2L provide more detailed information about exam content.

### Missed Exam and Makeup Exam Policy

* If something unexpected happens that prevents you from completing an exam by end time of the exam, please notify Dr. Seidman with documentation within 24 hours of the exam. Failure to notify Dr. Seidman within 24 hours of the end exam time will result in you not being allowed to make up the exam.
* If you cannot take an exam due to a religious holiday, required participation in a university-sanctioned event (e.g., a commitment for a sports team), or another acceptable foreseeable event, you must notify Dr. Seidman at least 2 weeks in advance.

### Other Exam Policies

* Exams will begin at the start of the class period.
* 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.
* During exams, you may only have pencils and erasers at your desk.
  + Leave refreshments or other materials zipped up in your 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.
* For those of you with extended time via your **RCPD accommodations,** please email **the graduate TA** a week before each exam to arrange the appropriate accommodations.

### 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 4 points. Therefore, research experience is worth 56 points (9.82% of your final grade). You will receive partial credit if you do not complete the full 7 hours. You may complete an additional 2 hours of SONA credit for extra credit (see Extra Credit section of syllabus below). 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.

* Important Notes about SONA Participation:
  + Make sure 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 must select Section 003. 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 studies 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.
  + All SONA questions, inaccuracies, or problems should be directed to Audra Jeffrey (jeffre22@msu.edu), the SONA Student Coordinator. Your instructor and course assistants are unable to help you with SONA and do not have access to the system.
  + It is your responsibility to sign up, participate in the experiments, and track your participation history. Neither the instructor nor the course assistants have a record of your research participation 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.
  + See the course schedule for close dates, but note that the assignment folders will close promptly at midnight on the due dates, and no papers will be accepted after this.
  + Turnitin will be used for all Alternative Unit Papers to check for plagiarism. An Artificial Intelligence (AI) detector may be used to determine if AI was used. Plagiarism and AI use constitute academic integrity violations and will result in failure for the research component of the course and an official report to your dean for an academic integrity violation.
  + If you earn 100% on all four papers, you will earn enough extra points to be equivalent to the 8 extra credit points available to students who choose to do additional SONA credits for extra credit.

### Syllabus Quiz

By the end of the first week of class, you will complete a brief syllabus quiz on D2L (worth 2 points). This will give you an incentive to review important information on the syllabus, so you are better prepared to succeed in this class.

### Learning Curve Assignments

* To help you stay on top of the material and test your knowledge, you will complete online Learning Curve assignments for each chapter of your textbook. These assignments are game-like quizzes that adapt to your needs based on your performance. ***Research shows that completing Learning Curve assignments results in a 10% increase in exam performance (that’s a whole letter grade!).***
* Learning Curve assignments are contained in the e-book and can only be accessed through D2L.
* Grading: Each Learning Curve Assignment is worth up to 2 points. Each chapter contains 2 or more modules which each have their own Learning Curve assignments. Because it adapts with you, if you spend the time to master the material, you can earn 100%.
* Due Dates: Learning Curve assignments for each chapter are due in bulk (one due date for each chapter’s assignments), but I would encourage you to spread them out. Some students find it most helpful to complete these assignments before class and others find it most helpful to do so after class. Most are due Tuesdays or Fridays. Consult the syllabus schedule and D2L for due dates. All assignments are due at midnight on their due date.
* Late Assignments: Learning curve assignments can be submitted up to two days late. There will be a 10% per day penalty for any late assignments.
* Missed Assignments: There are 42 Learning Curve assignments, but only your best 36 will count toward your grade. This means you can miss up to 6 with no direct negative impact on your grade. However, I strongly recommend that you complete all of them because of their learning benefits.

### iClicker Attendance and Participation

To help keep you engaged during lectures, each lecture will use the iClicker system for interactive quizzing and polling. iClicker questions will be interspersed throughout the lecture, so make sure to attend the entire lecture to answer all questions. Detailed instructions for creating your iClicker account appear below and will be discussed during our first class. For instructions, see the documentation [here](https://tech.msu.edu/service-catalog/teaching/student-response/iclicker/).

You will receive 2 points for each class:

* iClicker questions start on the first day of class, but will only begin to count for your grade the second week of classes. There will be no iClicker questions on exam days.
* You should use the iClicker app for your phone or login on your laptop (free for MSU students)
* Please create an iClicker account using your MSU email address (instructions are [here](https://mhe.my.site.com/iclicker/s/article/How-to-Create-an-iClicker-Student-Account)). It is recommended that you download the app on your phone. You can also login on your laptop, but because of wifi connectivity issues, this can create problems.
* You can then add this class to your account by going to <https://join.iclicker.com/> and entering the **code: CYCY**
* We will use iclickers in 22 classes, but you can miss two of these without penalty. That means that you can get a total of **40 points** from iClicker questions.
* For each day, **you must answer 75% of the iClicker questions** to earn credit.
* **You do not need to get the questions correct** to get credit - You simply need to respond using your iClicker app.
* If you forget your phone or have some other technical problem, there is a **one-time-use** sign-in sheet. Once you have used your one sign in, any future classes where you miss iClicker questions will result in no credit for that day.
* For recurring problems and technical support, contact the help center on iClicker’s website:  [https://www.iclicker.com/support](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/www.iclicker.com/support__;!!HXCxUKc!3fZFcjQf-OqzxsdvK-4xHhritbnjK6stQNzIc5rKU49kbwPr8JkdcZXHREHDkD8nOSa8BP9BGZctntL-_G_tv5KIbeOBzQ$)
* **Please note:** If you have someone else use your iClicker account for you when you are not in class, this is a violation of academic integrity policies. **You will lose all class participation points for the semester and will be reported to your dean for an academic integrity violation.**

### Extra Credit

You may earn up to 20 points of extra credit in this course. This is equivalent to a 3.2% grade bump (roughly the difference between a B+ and an A-). Any extra credit points you earn will be added to your course total at the end of the semester. Extra credit assignments include the following:

* Psychology songs assignment: At the end of the semester, submit an assignment on D2L suggesting psychology-related songs that Dr. Seidman might use in future semesters! Details about the assignment are posted on D2L (earn up to 6 points).
* Additional SONA research hours: You may complete up to 2 additional hours, with each .5 hour participation unit worth 2 points. Therefore, you can earn up to 8 points extra credit.
* iClicker perfect attendance: If you earn iClicker points for all 22 lectures, you will get 2 bonus points.
* Ch. 15 Learning Curve: Because it is the end of the semester, Ch. 15 Learning Curve is not required. However, if you do complete it, you will earn up to an additional 4 points of extra credit. If you complete the assignments with a 100% score, you will earn the full 4 points.
* Any additional extra credit opportunities will be announced on D2L. Students may not request any additional extra credit opportunities beyond those offered to the entire class.

### Viewing Grades

* All grades will be posted on D2L.
* Learning Curve grades will post immediately.
* iClicker participation grades will be posted at the end of the week.
* Exam grades will be posted online as soon as they are available from the scoring office and Dr. Seidman 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. Seidman or the Graduate Teaching Assistant during office hours.
* Research participation grades will be posted at the end of the semester. Use your SONA account to keep track of your credits.

### Grade Assignment (Grading Scale)

| ***To get this grade:*** | ***You need this percentage:*** | ***Which is this many points:*** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 4.0 | 89.5-100% | 511-570 |
| 3.5 | 84.5-89.4% | 482-510 |
| 3 .0 | 79.5-84.4% | 454-481 |
| 2.5 | 74.5-79.4% | 425-453 |
| 2.5 | 69.5-74.4% | 397-424 |
| 1.5 | 64.5-69.4% | 368-396 |
| 1.0 | 59.5-64.4% | 340-367 |
| 0 | < 59.4% | < 340 |

## Part 5: 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 Psychology Department 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. 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. 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 Dr. Seidman at the start of the term and/or one weeks prior to the accommodation date (test, project, etc.). For accommodations for a specific exam, contact the graduate TA at least one week before the exam date.** Requests received after this date will be honored whenever possible.

### Drops and Adds

**The last day to add this course is the end of the first week of classes. The last day to drop this course with a 100 percent refund and no grade reported is** 9/18/25. The last day to drop this course with no refund and no grade reported is 10/13/25. You should immediately make a copy of your amended schedule to verify you have added or dropped this course.

### Notetaking 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.