

PSY 2012 - GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY

Section: 16742 (1H85)

Fall 2024

Instructor: Dr. Shani Kerr (pronounced “Car”)

Class Meeting Time and Place: Online

Email: s.kerr@ufl.edu *

Instructor Online Office Hours: Thursdays 2:00 – 3:00 pm, by appointment (email for appointment)

Graduate Teaching Assistant: TBA

*The best way to contact me is via CANVAS messenger or the email address above. *Please allow 24-48 hrs. to respond to your emails during the weekdays. Emails sent on the weekend will be responded during the following weekdays. Please include PSY2012 in the subject line for easy track of communication.*

PSY2012 is part of the General Education State Core.

State Core Course Description

In this course, students will gain an introduction to the scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. Topics may be drawn from historical and current perspectives in psychology.

State Core Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to...

1. identify basic psychological theories, terms, and principles from historical and current perspectives.
2. recognize real-world applications of psychological theories, terms, and principles.
3. recognize basic strategies used in psychological research.
4. draw logical conclusions about behavior and mental processes based on empirical evidence.

Social and Behavioral Sciences General Education Subject Area Objectives

Social and behavioral science courses provide instruction in the history, key themes, principles, terminology, and underlying theory or methodologies used in the social and behavioral sciences. Students will learn to identify, describe and explain social institutions, structures or processes. These courses emphasize the effective application of accepted problem-solving techniques. Students will apply formal and informal qualitative or quantitative analysis to examine the processes and means by which individuals make personal and group decisions, as well as the evaluation of opinions, outcomes or human behavior. Students are expected to assess and analyze ethical perspectives in individual and societal decisions. **Please note that a minimum grade of C is required for general education credit.**

General Education Student Learning Outcomes

Category	Institutional Definition	Institutional SLO
CONTENT	Content is knowledge of the concepts, principles, terminology and methodologies used within the discipline.	Students demonstrate competence in the terminology, concepts, methodologies and theories used within the discipline.

COMMUNICATION

Communication is the development and expression of ideas in written and oral forms.

Students communicate knowledge, ideas, and reasoning clearly and effectively in written or oral forms appropriate to the discipline.

CRITICAL THINKING

Critical thinking is characterized by the comprehensive analysis of issues, ideas, and evidence before accepting or formulating an opinion or conclusion.

Students analyze information carefully and logically from multiple perspectives, using discipline specific methods, and develop reasoned solutions to problems. These will be accomplished through assignments and assessments given in this course.

Required Textbook

Author: Lilienfeld

Title: Psychology: From Inquiry to Understanding, 5th edition

ISBN: UF ALL ACCESS

Please note that PSY 2012 participates in the UF All Access program for the Fall 2020 semester. Students will have two options to gain access to the required materials when classes begin in August. Students will have a choice to “Opt-In” to REVEL e-book access through a link provided in Canvas the week before classes begin for a reduced price and pay for these materials through their student UF account. Students who do not choose this option will be able to purchase a standalone code or package through the UF Bookstore. All options provide access to the same online materials. You can log in to the Gator1 Central portal and view your participating courses the week before classes begin here:

<https://www.bsd.ufl.edu/G1CO/IPay1f/start.aspx?TASK=INCLUDED>

Overview

This course is an overview of major topics in modern psychology, the scientific study of behavior, and mental processes. As a first course in the discipline of psychology, it introduces some of the fundamental concepts, principles, and theories with a consideration for the complexity of human behavior.

Course Goals

1. To teach you the science behind psychology and how it differs from the media’s interpretation.
2. To provide you with an introduction to the different areas within the field of psychology.
3. To teach you the concepts in the field and how to apply them.

Materials and Supplies Fees

There are no additional fees for this course.

Students with Special Needs

If you are a student with a disability and would like to request disability-related accommodations, you are encouraged to contact the Disability Resource Center as early in the semester as possible. The Disability

Resource Center is located in 001 Building 0020 (Reid Hall). Their phone number is 392-8565. If you have a documented disability you must contact me immediately so accommodation can be made from that point on.

Sexual Harassment & Disclosures of sexual violence

Sexual Harassment is not tolerated in this class, in the Department of Psychology, or at the University of Florida. Sexual harassment includes: the inappropriate introduction of sexual activities or comments in a situation where sex would otherwise be irrelevant. Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination and a violation of state and federal laws as well as of the policies and regulations of the university. All UF employees and students must adhere to UF's sexual harassment policy which can be found here: <https://hr.ufl.edu/forms-policies/policies-managers/sexual-harassment/>. Please review this policy and contact a university official if you have any questions about the policy.

As mandatory reporters, university employees (e.g., administrators, managers, supervisors, faculty, teaching assistants, staff) are required to report knowledge of sexual harassment to UF's Title IX coordinator. Title IX violation includes sexual harassment, sexual assault, stalking, domestic/intimate partner violence, etc. For assistance or to inform Title IX any incident(s) that may constitute a Title IX violation, please complete the Title IX Information Form here: <https://titleix.ufl.edu/title-ix-reporting-form/>, or email inform@titleix.ufl.edu, or call 352-273-1094.

Course Technology and UF Policy on Software Use

All faculty, staff, and students at the university are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

In-Class Recording

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor. A "class lecture" is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session. Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To "publish" means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

Assignments and Grading

Application Papers. You will have 5 application papers that required you to think critically about the concepts and theories covered in the module. Each paper should be no longer than one double-spaced page and contain two paragraphs.

Chapter quizzes. You will have 9 open-book/open-note chapter quizzes, each with 25 multiple-choice items. You may take the chapter quizzes as many times as you wish (you will get a different set of questions each time), and your highest score will be recorded in the grade book.

Discussion Posts. You will have 6 discussion boards where you discuss a relevant topic with a group of 15-20 classmates. Discussion participation will take place in two steps: In the first step, you will write a response to the discussion prompt. This response is due by 11:59pm on Thursday of the module week. By the end of the module (11:59pm on Sunday), you will respond to at least two classmates in your discussion group.

Research requirement. The Department of Psychology requires all students enrolled in PSY2012 to engage in research-related activities, either as a participant in or consumer of research. You will be graded based on your completion of a particular number of research credits. Additional details and deadlines for meeting this requirement see the Homepage, scroll to the bottom and "hit" the blue box "Research Experience" for instructions.

Exams. We will have an exam during every third module, for a total of four exams worth 4.6% approximately each. Exams are non-cumulative, and will cover all material presented in the modules, including textbook chapters, enrichment lectures, required external videos, and required supplemental readings. Although exams in this class are open note/open book, we will use exam proctoring from Honorlock to verify your identity and that you do not communicate with others or record test questions during the test. (More information about Honorlock is provided in the Course Policies section below.) Exams must be taken within the five-day window preceding their due date. Exam windows run from 12pm Wednesday through 11:59pm on Sunday.

Grading Scale

Assignment	Percentage of Grade
Chapter Quizzes	46.2%
Application Papers	18.9%
Discussion Posts	13.2%
Exams	18.9%
Research Experience	2.8%
Total	100%

Grade	Scale	Grade	Scale
A	93-100%	C	73-76%
A-	90-92%	C-	70-72%

B+	87-89%	D+	67-69%
B	83-86%	D	63-66%
B-	80-82%	D-	60-62%
C+	77-79%	E	<60%

Note: Final total percentage points with a decimal value equal to or greater than .5 will be rounded to the next number. For further information about current UF grading policies for assigning grade points, please see <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>.

The lectures and the readings from the textbook listed below define the full syllabus of this course. Certain sections of the textbooks that are not examinable are identified in class. Another reason to come to class.

Policy for Disputing a Grade

You will have one week (including weekends and holidays) after any course material grade has been posted to dispute your grade. The exception will be the last exam because there won't be enough time to complete disputes and turn grades in. Disputes will NOT be accepted after that date. If you want to dispute a grade you will need to write a paragraph explaining the dispute. For quizzes write out the question on the test and a paragraph explaining why your answer is correct with references to the material in the text for each question or writing assignment you are disputing. Then send a private email with this information to the instructor's email address.

Honor Code

I am not willing to give a passing grade to those who do not abide by the UF honor code. Any student who cheats or helps another student cheat will receive an **F (Fail)** in this class. When students enroll at the university, they commit themselves to the standard drafted and enacted by students.

Preamble: In adopting this honor code, the students of the University of Florida recognize that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the university community. Students who enroll at the university commit to holding themselves and their peers to the high standard of honor required by the honor code. Any individual who becomes aware of a violation of the honor code is bound by honor to take corrective action. The quality of a University of Florida education is dependent upon community acceptance and enforcement of the honor code.

Honor Pledge: We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied:

"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

It should be clear that academic dishonesty, such as cheating, is NOT tolerated at the University of Florida. Cheating is defined in the University Handbook, and it is the student's responsibility to be familiar with its many forms (including plagiarism). If there is a suspected academic honesty violation, the Student Honor Code Procedures will be followed.

Course Organization and Schedule

This course contains thirteen modules, each organized around a general psychology topic. One module corresponds with approximately one class week and contains its own set of required activities and assignments. Class weeks generally run from Monday through Sunday (except for the first week of the semester, [see below]),

and graded work for each module is due on Sunday at 11:59pm. During every third module, you will take an exam; exams are also due at 11:59pm on Sunday.

This table shows how topics and due dates will flow as we proceed through the semester:

Module	Topic	What is Due?
1	Psychology and Scientific Thinking: A Framework for Everyday Life	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Course Orientation Quiz 2. Introduce Yourself to Your Discussion Group 3. Chapter 1 Quiz
2	Research Methods: Vital Safeguards Against Error	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chapter 2 Quiz 2. Module 2 Discussion Board
3	Biological Psychology: Bridging the Levels of Analysis	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Application Paper 2. EXAM 1
4	Sensation and Perception: How We Sense and Conceptualize the World	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chapter 4 Quiz 2. Module 4 Discussion Board
5	Consciousness: Expanding the Boundaries of Psychological Inquiry	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chapter 5 Quiz 2. Application Paper
6	Learning: How Nurture Changes Us	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Module 6 Discussion Board 2. EXAM 2
7	Memory: Constructing and Reconstructing Our Pasts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chapter 7 Quiz 2. Application Paper
8	Thinking, Language, and Intelligence: Getting Inside Our Talking Heads	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chapter 8 Quiz 2. Module 8 Discussion Board 3. Application Paper
9	Human Development: How and Why We Change	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. EXAM 3

		2. Module 9 Discussion Board
10	Social Psychology: How Others Affect Us	1. Chapter 12 Quiz 2. Module 12 Discussion Board
11	Personality: How We Become Who We Are	1. Chapter 13 Quiz
12	Psychological Disorders: When Adaptation Breaks Down	1. EXAM 4
13	Psychological and Biological Treatments: Helping People Change	1. Chapter 15 Quiz 2. Application Paper

No Classes: September 2: Labor Day

October 18-19: Homecoming

November 11: Veterans Day

November 25-30: Thanksgiving Break

Note: Please read the chapter before the specific class meetings. Course schedule might change as the needs occur. It is your responsibility to keep up with the change by coming to class and stay updated by checking Canvas. Also, it is not feasible to cover all of the materials in the textbook during the class meetings. Rather, I will focus on major and important themes in the chapters.

STUDY SKILLS

This class covers a large amount of material and it is crucial for students to keep up with the reading and study regularly. Make sure you 1) read the material when it is assigned, 2) read and study the text before and after hearing the lectures on those topics, and 3) study and test yourself in-depth on the days before each exam.

It is very important to read the chapter before it is covered in the lecture. This reading will provide you with some basic knowledge for each topic, to help you to understand the material more fully when you hear the lectures. A day or two after each lecture, read back over your notes to make sure that you understand everything you have written. Be certain, for example, that you can find a definition in your notes for each new term that was presented in class. Class attendance is not required. However, if you are having difficulty with the material, or if you are not performing as well as you want on quizzes, you should do the following: attend class EVERY TIME, pay close attention to the lecture, review the terms and alternative hypotheses sections in order to focus your reading, and use good note-taking skills.

Your text is well organized. Important terms are defined separately in the text. Always read the chapter summary and try to answer the questions in the text. Use the text headers to help you identify main ideas and take note of any definitions in the text. Compare these to the definitions received in class.

You can improve your knowledge and your test scores by reviewing all available learning materials and online resources provided for your text. If a term is not listed there, you do not need to know its meaning for the exam.

If a term is listed there, you should be prepared to answer any question about that concept from class or the book. In addition, I will periodically post a copy of lecture slides on the website after the lectures are completed.

Everyone has a different preferred way of studying. Some students find that outlining the text or rewriting class notes is a good way to study. Others find that flash cards are a good study aid -- they put an important term on one side of the card and put its definition on the other side, maybe with an example (make up your own example if you can). You may benefit from rewriting ideas in your own words, or it may help you to study aloud, defining terms, and explaining theories to a "study buddy." Complete all of the "Complete Review Systems" available in your textbook before the exam.

"Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>."

Campus Resources

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care: If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS): Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department: 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
<http://www.police.ufl.edu/>

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support: 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu. <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.

Career Resource Center: Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling.
<http://www.crc.ufl.edu/>

Library Support: <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center: Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.
<http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>

Writing Studio: 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>

Student Complaints Campus:

https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf

On-Line Students Complaints: <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process>