

Course Description

This course is a comprehensive introduction to the subject areas, theoretical perspectives, and methods in the field of psychology. Topics covered include research design and scientific reasoning, brain structure and function, sensation and perception, principles of learning, memory, human development, personality, stress and health, social behavior, consciousness, psychological disorders and therapy.

Learning Objectives

- Explain how a behavior might be understood or modified from the various perspectives in psychology.
- Describe influential studies from the history of psychology and how they relate to modern psychology;
- Be able to discuss the main ideas of journal articles reporting contemporary psychological research;
- Engage in basic behavioral research, including formulating hypotheses, collecting data, and interpreting results;
- Apply critical thinking principles to what you read and hear concerning behavior and its causes, with particular emphasis on discerning among opinion, myth, pseudoscience and science;
- Demonstrate how psychological theory and principles relate to, and can improve, everyday life.
- Be familiar with various degree types and some career options in the field of psychology.

Prerequisite(s), Co-Requisites, and Recommended Preparation: none

Course Notes

The syllabus, information about the research participation requirement, and assignments related to discussion section will be posted on Blackboard. Lecture slides and detailed chapter outlines are provided on Blackboard to facilitate note taking. Content will be provided in lecture that is not on the slides. Arrange to get notes from another student or two if you miss lecture.

Required Textbook

Gazzaniga . M. S. (2018). *Psychological science (6th edition)*. New York, NY: W.W. Norton & Company.

<http://books.wwnorton.com/books/detail-formats.aspx?id=4294994979>

You may have any format of the text (hardback, paperback, electronic (e-text)). However, having your own access to Inquizitive in your name is required. The lowest priced option is the e-text package at \$70.

If you buy/borrow/rent a used book, Inquizitive may be purchased for \$25 at

<https://digital.wwnorton.com/psychsci6>.

Please wait to purchase or register an account for Inquizitive until the semester begins; you'll be told how to access it through our course Blackboard for grading purposes.

This course fulfills a requirement of the General Education (GE) program in effect for students who began college Fall, 2015, or thereafter. It does not count toward the GE program that remains in place for students who began before Fall, 2015. Please check with your academic advisor about your GE requirements.

Descriptions and Policies on Course Grade Components

Exams

Four exams will cover material from lectures and lab, the text, in-class activities and other assigned readings or videos. The emphasis is on your ability to apply concepts to examples and critically think about the subject matter, rather than simply to memorize key terms. Topics covered in lecture are especially likely to be tested, but all content in the assigned sections of the text could appear on the test. The format is matching and multiple choice. You must bring a pencil and "Accuscan" form #29240 to each exam.

Midterm exams. The three midterms are non-cumulative, with 60 multiple-choice and matching items and you will have 70 minutes to complete it.

Final exam. The final exam covers the last two chapters plus cumulative content from the semester for which a study guide will be provided. It is 70 matching and multiple-choice items; you will have 90 minutes to complete it.

Exam Day Procedure: You will be assigned a test-taking seat upon arrival. No hats or smart watches may be worn and your phone must be silenced and put away before exams are distributed. When finished, you must turn in your exam directly to a TA who will check off your attendance on a photo roster. Once you have received an exam, you may not leave the auditorium for any reason (including illness or restroom visits) and then return to complete the exam. Looking at another student's desk, displaying your paper to another, and touching your phone or any other source of information constitute cheating and will be reported to the Office of Judicial Affairs.

Lab Section

The lab that accompanies PSYC 100 provides hands-on experience with the principles and methods of psychological science and meets these University's objectives for a laboratory in the Life Sciences GE category. You do not need special equipment or a manual. Lab activities are conducted via computer or paper-pencil in the scheduled classroom. The lab topics relate to the current or recent chapter. All of the learning objectives of this course are addressed in the semester's lab activities.

Weekly Lab Participation Grade. Each weekly lab is worth 5 points. The expectations to earn the full 5 points are:

- Arrive on time, stay until dismissed, and participate fully in the activity and discussion. Point penalties will apply if these expectations are not met, or if phone/internet use or out-of-turn talking occurs.
- Most weeks, there is an assignment due either upon arrival or after the lab meeting, worth half (2.5) of the lab score. These lab assignments are posted on Blackboard at least 5 days in advance. If you attend lab but do not complete the associated prelab or postlab assignment you may still earn 2.5 points for your participation during lab. However, doing the prep assignment and then skipping lab, unexcused, does not earn you any points, as the assignment is to prepare you for lab. With an excused absence from your lab meeting your TA will give you a reasonable and relevant alternate assignment to earn the 5 points so long as you follow the "lab absence" policy below.

There will be a couple of additional, brief assignments over the semester (10 points total) that help you to apply principles we study beyond the classroom. Instructions and deadlines will follow.

Inquizitive

So, what *is* Inquizitive? It is an adaptive quizzing system that helps you to master the material in the textbook by testing yourself and learning from errors. You may complete the Inquizitive assignments from any device, however, a computer or tablet are best as the questions involve diagrams and drag and drop responses that would be difficult on a phone. Each chapter states a minimum number of questions that must be answered to earn a score. The program assigns you a percentage grade based on your accuracy and shows this to you as you work so that you may work toward raising it. If you study well before completing it, you'll earn more points, faster, and see more challenging questions that better refine your knowledge.

How do I do it, when is it due, and can I do it late? In order to receive credit, you must access each Inquizitive assignment through the Blackboard site for the lecture. A separate folder in the content area on Blackboard gives detailed weekly reading assignments, Inquizitive deadlines, and chapter outlines, and any additional reading materials. No extensions are given due to claims of technical difficulties. As the whole purpose is to help you prepare for exams, Inquizitive may not be completed after you take the exam—not even for partial credit. To receive an extension for a missed chapter deadline during a unit (still prior to the exam), you'll need to contact your TA within 24 hours of missing the deadline with an excuse and request for an extension. Only one, 3-day extension will be granted over the semester without written documentation from a physician or other authority. Additional extensions, or any extension beyond 3 days, will require written documentation as to why more than three extra days are needed.

Research Participation Requirement

Research is the foundation of psychological theory and practice, and one of the most effective ways to learn about research is through first-hand experience as a study participant. To this end, the psychology department has a research participation requirement for PSYC 100 students. Specifically, this is worth 15 points toward your course grade and requires that you participate in 7.5 credits worth of studies at usc.sona-systems.com. Four of these credits need to be earned from in-person (lab) studies and the rest may be online studies or in-person studies. A proportionate amount of partial credit will be granted if you complete fewer than 7.5 credits.

Most students fulfill the research participation requirement as study participants through usc.sona-systems.com. However, you may elect one of two alternatives if you do not want to participate in research: Volunteering for the JEP program (the psychology placement only) or writing a research paper. In-class presentations and information in the syllabus area on Blackboard describe these options in detail.

Assignment of Course Grades

Grade Component	Points	% of Grade
Exam 1	60	16%
Exam 2	60	16%
Exam 3	60	16%
Final Exam	70	19%
Inquizitive	40	11%
Lab Activities and Assignments	60	16%
Research Participation, JEP, or paper	15	4%
Total	365	

Letter grades will be assigned based on the percentage of points possible that you earn, as stated below. Percentages earned will not be rounded up. This course is not graded on a curve. Curves limit the number of students who may earn each letter grade—regardless of their performance—and put students in competition with one another. Please note that **grades will not be inflated based on request, nor will additional assignments be created so that a student may attempt to earn more points**. If you are struggling, please talk to your instructor or seek out help (see Support Services below) immediately. If you wait until late in the semester, or after you have taken a test or submitted work, there is no retaking or resubmitting of work to try to raise your grade.

A	93% and up	C+	77 - 79.9
A-	90 - 92.9	C	73 - 76.9
B+	87 - 89.9	C-	70 - 72.9
B	83 - 86.9	D+	67 - 69.9
B-	80 - 82.9	D	63 - 66.9
		D-	60 - 62.9
		F	<60%

If you take this course pass/fail, please know that a grade of C- (70%) is the minimum to pass.

Acceptable Excuses for Absences and how They Apply to Each Course Component

The following will count, with approved documentation: (1) **university-sponsored event** that you are required to attend on an exam/lab date; (2) unanticipated and unavoidable **emergency** on the exam/lab date, such as a documented incident on the way to campus; (3) death or life threatening emergency of a **close relative or friend** within a reasonable timeframe of the scheduled date (paper evidence of the emergency is required, and additional documentation by a university official may also be required); (4) **Medical excuses**: If you go to the student health center, sign the release form. Dated notes on letterhead from private physicians or therapists are also acceptable, but subject to approval. Inconveniences such as traffic, work, parking delays, and non-emergency appointments will not count as acceptable excuses.

Exam Absences and missed Inquizitive deadlines. If you miss an exam without an approved, documented excuse, you will receive a zero and may not make it up. Extensions for taking an exam are granted if you provide a doctor's note stating that you could not attend class on the exam date, or, for at least the three days immediately preceding it. With an approved excuse you must let me know within 24 hours of

its scheduled time, and take a make up by the end of the third day weekday after it was given. Only one midterm exam will be rescheduled. The final may not be rescheduled per university policy.

Lab Absence. Absences that you should know about and plan for in advance might include university-sponsored events, a job/grad school interview, or a family wedding. These require written documentation. Contact your TA at least the week before your absence to arrange a make-up, when possible, by attending another lab section. If you must miss lab due to illness, contact your TA within 24 hours of your absence to arrange a way to make it up. This may involve attending another section, when possible, or completing the exercise or an alternate version of it independently; make up assignments are generally due the following lab unless you are told otherwise. Only two labs may be missed and made up with acceptable excuses, so be sure you are registered for a lab that you can actually attend.

Student Responsibilities for Grades

We enter nearly 2,000 scores each semester and errors are rare; however, we do need students to monitor grades and promptly call attention to any discrepancies, as follows. Lab scores will be entered by the following lab. If your lab score is not entered correctly, discuss this with your TA within 2 weeks of the lab in question. If you are tardy to lab, make sure your TA notes your presence for partial credit; even if you have interacted with your TA that day, it is your responsibility to make sure you are marked present before leaving that day. Similarly, exam scores are entered within a few days of the exam and corrections must be addressed with your TA within 2 weeks from when the scores are posted. No changes to scores are made at the end of the semester, regardless of fault.

Policy on Use of Technology in the Classroom

Audio and video recording of lecture is prohibited. We will use a variety of forms of technology in class, including mobile devices as response systems. Please bring a tablet or cell phone to class, but these must be kept put away at all times when not in use for class content.

Security of Course Content. All material presented in class or discussion, sent via email, or posted on Blackboard is “all rights reserved.” In addition, some of it is copyrighted and distributed for in-class use only by a publishing corporation. You may not store these materials—whether on paper or electronically—for use by students not presently enrolled in this course, nor may you post the materials anywhere on the internet. Out of fairness to all current and future students, please do your part to protect our course content.

Please see the addendum attached to the syllabus for detailed information about Student Support Services and Academic Integrity.

Course Schedule				
Dates	Topics/Daily Activities	Readings*	Lab Topic and Paper Due Dates	Notes about lab meeting days and times
Week 1				
8/20	Course Overview Psychology as Science	Syllabus Ch. 1	NO LABS	
8/22	Psychology as Science	Ch. 1		
Week 2				
8/27	Research Methods	Ch. 2	LAB 1: Introductions and Critical Thinking assignment	Lab 1 in all sections
8/29	Research Methods	Ch. 2		
Week 3				
9/3	<i>Labor Day Holiday—No Class</i>		LAB 2: Discuss critical thinking examples	No Lab Monday; Lab 2 meets in Tues-Fri sections
9/5	Brain Structure and Function	Ch. 3 (pp 81-105)		
Week 4				
9/10	Neural Communication, Neurotransmitters	Ch. 3 (pp. 69-80)	LAB 3: Hemispheric Differences Activity	Lab 2 Monday; Lab 3 in Tues-Fri sections
9/12	Consciousness (drugs and addiction)	Ch. 4 (pp. 147 to end)		
Week 5				
9/17	Consciousness (attention, sleep and dreaming)	Ch. 4 (pp. 121-147)		Lab 3 on Monday; no labs Tue-Fri
9/19	Exam 1			
Week 6				
9/24	Sensation and Perception: Vision and Hearing	Ch. 5 (pp.172 -193)	LAB 4: Mindfulness Bring book and notes to review Exam 1	Lab 4 in all sections
9/26	Learning	Ch. 6		
Week 7				
10/1	Learning	Ch. 6	Lab 5: Conditioning	Lab 5 all sections
10/3	Memory	Ch. 7		
Week 8				
10/8	Memory	Ch. 7	LAB 6: Memory	Lab 6 all sections
10/10	Stress and Health	Ch. 11 (pp.447 to end)		
Week 9				
10/15	Exam 2			

10/17	Development	Ch. 9		
Week 10				
10/22	Development	Ch. 9	Lab 7: Development Bring book and notes to go over Exam 2	Lab 7 in all sections
10/24	Decisions, Language and Intelligence Theories	Ch. 8 (pp. 308-326)		

Week 11				
10/29	Social Psychology: Attitudes and Attributions	Ch. 12	Lab 8: Jury Simulation	Lab 8 all sections
10/31	Social Psychology: Influence	Ch. 12		
Week 12				
11/5	Personality: Developmental Theories	Ch. 13	Lab 9: Personality Traits	Lab 9 all sections
11/7	Personality: Traits and Assessment	Ch. 13		
Week 13				
11/12	Exam 3		Lab 10: Mental illness	Lab 10 Tues-Fri sections
11/14	Personality Disorders; Depression and Anxiety Disorders	Ch. 14		
Week 14				
11/19	OCD, Bipolar, Schizophrenia	Ch. 14		Lab 10 on Monday
11/21	Thanksgiving Break Begins—No class			
Week 15				
11/26	<i>Treatment</i>	Ch. 15	Final lab: Reflection and Application of what you've learned	all sections
11/28	<i>Treatment</i>	Ch. 15		
Final Exam		Friday, Dec 7th, 2:00pm-3:30pm, SGM 124		

*For chapters with page ranges listed on the above schedule, you will not be tested on material from pages not stated above. For chapters listed as a whole (no specific pages indicated), you are responsible for the whole chapter.

Addendum: Student Support Services and Academic Integrity Violations

Here is a quick reference list of support services available to students:

Student Counseling Services (SCS) - (213) 740-7711 – 24/7 on call

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention.

<https://engemannshc.usc.edu/counseling/>

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline - 1-800-273-8255

Provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. <http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org>

Relationship & Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP) - (213) 740-4900 - 24/7 on call

Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm. <https://engemannshc.usc.edu/rsvp/>

Sexual Assault Resource Center

For more information about how to get help or help a survivor, rights, reporting options, and additional resources, visit the website: <http://sarc.usc.edu/>

Office of Equity and Diversity (OED)/Title IX compliance – (213) 740-5086

Works with faculty, staff, visitors, applicants, and students around issues of protected class.

<https://equity.usc.edu/>

Bias Assessment Response and Support

Incidents of bias, hate crimes and microaggressions need to be reported allowing for appropriate investigation and response. <https://studentaffairs.usc.edu/bias-assessment-response-support/>

Student Support & Advocacy – (213) 821-4710

Assists students and families in resolving complex issues adversely affecting their success as a student Ex: personal, financial, and academic. <https://studentaffairs.usc.edu/ssa/>

Diversity at USC – <https://diversity.usc.edu/>

Tab for Events, Programs and Training, Task Force (including representatives for each school), Chronology, Participate, Resources for Students

All USC students are held to the standards set forth in the SCampus. Sometimes students do not realize that a certain behavior is an academic integrity violation, and misinformation floats about on campus. It's a good idea to review academic integrity standards periodically. Here is a snapshot of things you want to avoid doing. (From Section 11 – Behavior Violating University Standards and Appropriate Sanctions <https://policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b/>).

11.11

A. The submission of material authored by another person but represented as the student's own work, whether that material is paraphrased or copied in verbatim or near-verbatim form.

B. The submission of material subjected to editorial revision by another person that results in substantive changes in content or major alteration of writing style.

C. Improper acknowledgment of sources in essays or papers.

Note: Culpability is not diminished when plagiarism occurs in drafts that are not the final version. Also, if any material is prepared or submitted by another person on the student's behalf, the student is expected to proofread the results and is responsible for all particulars of the final draft.

11.12

A. Acquisition of term papers or other assignments from any source and the subsequent presentation of those materials as the student's own work, or providing term papers or assignments that another student submits as their own work.

B. Distribution or use of notes or recordings based on university classes or lectures without the express permission of the instructor for purposes other than individual or group study. This includes, but is not limited to, providing materials for distribution by services publishing class notes. This restriction on unauthorized use also applies to all information, which had been distributed to students or in any way had been displayed for use in relationship to the class, whether obtained in class, via email, on the Internet or via any other media. (See Section C.1 Class Notes Policy).

C. Recording a university class without the express permission of the instructor and announcement to the class. Recording can inhibit future free discussion and thus infringe on the academic freedom of other students as well as the instructor.

11.13

A. Any use or attempted use of external assistance in the completion of an academic assignment and/or during an examination, or any behavior that defeats the intent of an examination or other classwork or assignment, shall be considered academically dishonest unless expressly permitted by the instructor. The following are examples of unacceptable behaviors: communicating with fellow students during an exam, copying or attempting to copy material from another student's exam; allowing another student to copy from an exam or assignment; possession or use of unauthorized notes, calculator, or other materials during exams and/or unauthorized removal of exam materials.

B. Submission of work altered after grading shall be considered academically dishonest, including but not limited to changing answers after an exam or assignment has been returned or submitting another's exam as one's own to gain credit.

11.14

A. Obtaining for oneself or providing for another person a solution to homework, a project or other assignment, or a copy of an exam or exam key without the knowledge and expressed consent of the instructor.

B. Unauthorized collaboration on a project, homework or other assignment. Collaboration will be considered unauthorized unless expressly part of the assignment in question or expressly permitted by the instructor.

11.15

A. Attempting to benefit from the work of another.

B. Any attempt to hinder the work of another student or any act which may jeopardize another student's academic standing.

11.16

Using any portion of an essay, term paper, project or other assignment more than once, without permission of the instructor(s).

11.17

Falsification, alteration or misrepresentation of official or unofficial records or documents including but not limited to academic transcripts, academic documentation, letters of recommendation, and admissions applications or related documents.

11.18

Taking a course, any course work or exam for another student or allowing another individual to take a course, course work, a portion of a course or exam in one's stead.

11.19

A. Accessing, altering and/or using unauthorized information.

B. Misuse of university computer systems or access to those systems as articulated by the university's Computing Policies (including improper downloading of material, see Section F.1. Computing)

11.20

Fabrication: Submitting material for lab assignments, class projects or other assignments which is wholly or partially falsified, invented or otherwise does not represent work accomplished or undertaken by the student.