

Psy 100
Fall 2006
Monday @ 7:30 pm – 10:00 pm
Prince William Campus

Instructor: Sarah Caverly
Office: David King Hall 1024 Fairfax Campus
Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 8:45 am – 9:45 am (or by appointment)
Office Phone: (703) 821-6185
Email: Scaverly@gmu.edu or Scaverly@yahoo.com

Course Description and Objectives: This course will provide an overview of the major areas in the field of Psychology. We will cover many diverse areas within the field. The following areas will be emphasized: major models in psychology; research methods used in psychology; social psychology, the organization of the human brain and the biological basis of behavior; principals of learning; intelligence; development in infancy and childhood; and psychological disorders. Upon completion of this course, you should be able to identify major theories, terminology, principles, processes, and methods in the above areas.

Required Text:

Meyers, D. G. (2006). Psychology, 8th Edition. New York, NY: Worth Publishing.

Technology: Students will be expected to have activated their GMU email account by the first week of class. I will use this account to contact you periodically during the course of the semester, so you are encouraged to check this account frequently, or have your mail forwarded to an account that you do use regularly. WEBCT will not be used for this course

Course Requirements and Assignments:

1. **Attendance and class participation:** In this course active discussion and contributions from each member of the class is expected. Regular attendance will be necessary for you to fully understand the material.
2. **Exams:** There will be 5 exams over the course of the semester, with the option to drop the lowest score. The exams will consist of multiple choice and true/false items. The final exam will be a cumulative exam. Make-up exams will not be offered, instead students will be required to use that as their exam score that is dropped. Students will need to bring scantron sheets, #2 pencils, and an eraser to all exams. On nights that exams are scheduled, students will complete the exam first and then return for a lecture after all exams have been turned in.
3. **Projects:** In addition to the exams, there will be homework assignments, and short in-class assignments that may not be announced. All of these assignments will be worth between 5 to 15 points each. If you must miss class, you may submit the homework via e-mail before class; however, late assignments will not be accepted. For the in-class assignments you must be in-class to participate or no points will be received. Some of the projects may require internet access to complete.
4. **Research:** All students are required to complete five hours of participation in experiments. Your participation in experiments is considered 5% of your grade. It is strongly suggested that you sign up for your experiments (or lectures) early in the semester. Experiments are fun, interesting, and an important part of extending your understanding of psychological concepts.

- a. To sign up for an experiment, you must follow the following instructions:
 - i. log on to www.experimetrix.com/gmu and click on new user link
 - ii. enter all the required information
 - iii. don't include dashes in your SSN
 - iv. use your GMU e-mail account (your password will be sent to this account). If you do not know your GMU e-mail account, log on to <http://www.gmu.edu/mlnavbar/finder/index.html> and enter your last name to find your GMU e-mail account
 1. click on register
- b. Your login and password will be sent to your GMU e-mail account. You will need to log on to the site to activate your account within 3 days or else you will need to re-register. Click 'log in' to access your account. You will need to select your course by clicking on the 'Edit your course Selection link' (Psyc 313 004). You can also edit your information (change your password, add an additional e-mail account, ect.).
- c. You may sign up to participate in the psychology research lectures that are offered if you are not interested in participating in research. Follow the same steps as above to sign up for a lecture.

Grading Procedures:

Exams (100 points each):	300 points (100 pts each)		
In-Class Projects:	100 points (5 - 15 points each)		
Experiments	25 points		
Total points possible:	425 points		
A = 391 - 425	B+ = 370 - 382	C+ = 327 - 339	D = 255 - 297
A- = 383 - 390	B = 353 - 369	C = 298 - 326	F = 296 and below
	B- = 340 - 352		

Honor Code:

The Honor Code will be strictly enforced. "Cheating encompasses the following: 1) the willful giving or receiving of an unauthorized, unfair, dishonest, or unscrupulous advantage in academic work over other students; 2) the above may be accomplished by any means whatsoever, including, but not limited to, the following: fraud, duress, deception, theft, trick, talking, signs, gestures, copying from another student, and the unauthorized use of study aids, memoranda, books, data or other information; 3) attempted cheating. Plagiarism encompasses the following: 1) presenting as one's own the works, the work, or the opinions of someone else without proper acknowledgement; 2) borrowing the sequence of ideas, the arrangement of material, or the pattern of thought of someone else without proper acknowledgement. Lying encompasses the following: The willful and knowledgeable telling of an untruth, as well as any form of deceit, attempted deceit, or fraud in an oral or written statement relating to academic work." See the University handbook for further information regarding cheating and plagiarism. (<http://www.gmu.edu/catalog/apolicies/>)

Disabilities: If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 703-993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.

Last Day to Add Classes – Sept. 12
Last Day to Drop Classes – Sept. 29

Tentative Course Outline		
Date	Topic	Reading
Aug. 28	Thinking Critically about Psychology	Chap 1
Sept. 4	No Class – Labor Day!	
Sept. 11	Neuroscience and Behavior	Chap 2
Sept. 18	Nature, Nurture and Human Diversity	Chap 3
Sept. 25	Developing through the Lifespan	Chap 4
Oct. 2	Exam 1	Chap 1 – 4
Oct. 9	No Class – Columbus Day	
Oct. 10	Sensation & Perception	Chap 5 & 6
Oct. 16	Learning & Memory	Chap 8 & 9
Oct. 23	Thinking & Language	Chap 10
Oct. 30	Exam 2	Chap 5-6 & 8-10
Nov. 6	Intelligence	Chap 11
Nov. 13	Personality	Chap 15
Nov. 20	Psychological Disorders	Chap 16
Nov. 27	Social Psychology	Chap 18
Dec. 4	Exam 3	Chap 11, 15, 16, 18
Dec. 11	Reading Day	
Dec. 18	Final Exam 7:30 – 10:15	Comprehensive