

100 Introduction to Psychology

4 Credit hours

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Important Websites:

Class Website: <https://uic.blackboard.com/>
Subject Pool (PECOLSUS) Website: <https://uic.sona-systems.com/>

Course Description, Goals, and Objectives:

Welcome to PSCH100! My goal is to make this class a wildly positive experience for you. Over the course of this semester, we'll work together to enhance your understanding of Psychology. I'll show you connections about how psychology is highly relevant to your life. Along the way, my hope is that you learn about many different aspects of psychology that are revelatory and eye-opening about how and why people (including you) think what you think, feel what you feel, and do what you do. Overall, this course will give you an overview of the field of psychology and expose you to the many sub-disciplines that make up the science of psychology.

Required Materials:

LAUNCHPAD for Cervone's Psychology: The science of person, mind, and brain (Six month access).

-With access to Launchpad, you'll be able to read the e-book for six months. Using launchpad to read the Cervone textbook, is about the single most important resource in this class (along with my video lectures and attending your weekly Discussion section class). The reason I ask you to get launchpad is because it's a way to get access to the textbook (e.g., it's a way to read the textbook), without having to buy the actual textbook (which is expensive). Overall, you can think of the e-book as one of your most important sources of information in this class!

Course Policies

Lecture Policy:

Lecture is **online asynchronous** which means that our lecture class won't meet together. Instead, each week, I'll be releasing lectures relevant for class. These lectures will cover some of the content from each Chapter of your e-book (Cervone textbook). I work hard to make these lectures interesting and useful to you, and where relevant, I try to show you how the lecture content may be relevant to your life. I don't know about you, but I tend not to like watching instructional videos that have a slow pace or too long (that take a long time to "get to the point"), so I strive to create lecture videos that have a brisk pace, and that highlight highly important and interesting content for you. By watching the lectures, I hope you gain a deeper understanding of some of the most important topics in Psychology. (One other thing, I like to work in video examples of psychology-related content, so if you know of a video that you think demonstrates a psychology principle that we cover in class really well, feel free to e-mail a link of that video to me; that will help me improve our lectures. I always strive to make the lecture content better, and in this way, you can help make the lecture content for our class even better).

Discussion Section:

An important part of this class is attending your Discussion Section. Your Discussion Section meets once a week. In that class you do an even deeper dive into psychology-related content. This is also your chance to get to know your personal TA even better. To get the most out of discussion, engage your TA in Discussion (talk to your TA before and after class to get to know them better!), and stay engaged in Discussion lessons. By staying actively engaged in Discussion (ask questions, participate in activities, share your thoughts and opinions about psychological phenomenon you talk about in Discussion), this will help you learn about psychology more deeply which could also help you in your day-to-day life. Further, you will earn attendance points for coming to Discussion section each week. Importantly, some material on the exam will be related to what you learn in your Discussion section, so this is another important reason to come to Discussion.

Grades:

There will be a total of **560** possible points you can earn in this class. The breakdown of those points is as follows:

3 (out of 4) Exams (80 points each)	240	points
10 (out of 12) Quizzes (10 points each)	100	points
2 Papers (40 points each)	80	points
10 Discussion Section points (5 points each)	50	points
8 Psychology Experience Credits (10 pts each)	80	points
First Assignment	10	points
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	560	points

Exams:

Exams are multiple-choice. There are 40 questions per exam. Each exam is worth 80 points. Exams 1-4 will be conducted online via Blackboard (see course

schedule on last page of this syllabus). When calculating your grade at the end of the semester, I will drop your lowest exam grade therefore there are NO make-up exams. Missed exams will be counted as a zero and subject to the drop policy. To get the highest possible grade in class, it is in your best interest to take all 4 exams.

Exam 1:	covers Ch. 1, 2, 12, 13,
Exam 2:	covers Ch. 14, 15, 16, 6
Exam 3:	covers Ch. 7, 8, 9
Exam 4:	covers Ch. 11, 3, 5

Quizzes:

Over the course of the semester there will be a total of 12 weekly quizzes. I ask that you complete your weekly Quiz each Friday on Blackboard. We won't have quizzes the first two weeks of the semester (or the last week of the semester). You can complete your weekly quiz on Blackboard. Be sure to study before each quiz to help you learn the material as well as you can (this will help you do well on exams). You may use your book, and your notes when taking these quizzes. Quizzes will be graded credit/no credit, so you must answer all the weekly quiz questions to get credit for each quiz (if you don't answer all questions, you will not get credit for that quiz). At the end of the semester I will count 10 quizzes towards your grade; the other 2 quizzes will be dropped. Because of this drop policy, no make-up quizzes will be given, so it's important that you complete your weekly quiz each week. Missed quizzes (and quizzes where you don't answer all the questions) will be counted as a zero and subject to the drop policy. Check the last page of this syllabus to see what content each weekly quiz will cover.

Quiz Grade Challenge:

If you want to dispute an answer on a quiz, you will need to fill out the Request to Review Quiz form. On this form you will have to list what quiz answer you are challenging, and the relevant material in our textbook that supports your answer. Print out the form and hand the paper copy to me (Eric Leshikar). A similar form will be available for exams.

Discussion Section Points:

Each week your personal TA will take attendance in your Discussion class. You will receive 5 points for every class you attend up to a maximum of 10 classes totaling **50 points**. As a reminder, you can help your TA to make your Discussion class go as well as it can by engaging your TA (talk to your TA!), and by staying engaged in Discussion (participate in activities, volunteer your thoughts about the Discussion content each week). Coming to Discussion and participating in Discussion class is an easy way to earn points that will improve your grade in class, and along the way, you will likely learn something interesting and useful about psychology that may be relevant to your life.

Psychology Experience Credits (PEC):

As part of this course, you are required to earn 8 Psychology Experience Credits (PECs) by any of three methods: (1) participating as a subject in Institutional Review Board (IRB)-approved research studies conducted under the supervision of Psychology Department faculty, (2) participating as a simulated client in one or more professional training sessions conducted by advanced undergraduate and graduate students in psychology, and/or (3) writing summaries of published empirical research using the

resources of UIC's Daley Library. You can earn all 8 PECs by any one of these methods, or you may earn some PECs by each method. More information about how to earn PECs will be presented to you the first week of Discussion (i.e., the first time your Discussion section meets).

Important! If you earn 3 credits through participating in experiments by **midterm** you will then be eligible to complete 1 extra PEC (a 9th PEC), which will count towards your grade. It is in your best interest to earn credits through participating in research as early as possible in the semester.

Papers: Applying Psychological Science Paper (APSP)

There will be two papers you will need to complete in this course; more information will be given to you by your personal TA in your Discussion section. Your TA will be the one grading your papers, so you should ask your personal TA any questions you have about the APSPs. The deadline for your first paper is **Monday, February 21st at 11:59pm**, and the deadline for your second paper is **Monday, April 11st at 11:59pm**. These are hard deadlines, so please be sure to get your papers in by these dates deadlines. When grading your paper, your TA will count your paper a day late if it comes in at midnight or after. Each day your paper is late you will lose 4 points (10%) of the grade.

How you will be graded:

At the end of the semester, I will calculate your grade using the following procedure. I will take all the points you've earned all semester (e.g., top 3 exam scores, top 10 quiz scores, etc.), and compare that against the following cut-offs.

A = 90% of 560 points (504 total points)

B = 80% of 560 points (448 total points)

C = 70% of 560 points (392 total points)

D = 60% of 560 points (336 total points)

F = Anything below 60% of 560 points (Anything below 336 points)

Academic Integrity:

As an academic community, UIC is committed to providing an environment in which research, learning, and scholarship can flourish and in which all endeavors are guided by academic and professional integrity. All members of the campus community—students, staff, faculty, and administrators—share the responsibility of ensuring that these standards are upheld so that such an environment exists. Instances of academic misconduct by students will be handled pursuant to the Student Disciplinary Policy: <https://dos.uic.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/262/2021/09/Student-Disciplinary-Policy-2021.pdf>

Please don't cheat in any way in this class.

Religious Holidays:

If you wish to observe a religious holiday sometime in the semester, you should notify me (Eric Leshikar) by **Friday, January 21st** of the date you will be absent. I will make every reasonable effort to honor your request.

<http://oae.uic.edu/religious-calendar/>

Academic Deadlines:

Please see the following for a list of important academic deadlines this semester:
<http://catalog.uic.edu/ucat/academic-calendar/>

Disability Accommodation:

The University of Illinois at Chicago is committed to maintaining a barrier-free environment so that students with disabilities can fully access programs, courses, services, and activities at UIC. Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access to and/or participation in this course are welcome, but must be registered with the Disability Resource Center (DRC). You may contact DRC at 312-413-2183 (v) or 312-413-0123 (TTY) or see the following website:
<http://drc.uic.edu/guide-to-accommodations/>

The Writing Center:

The Writing Center is a great resource that you can use to improve your writing. The Writing Center might be particularly useful as you write your Applying Psychological Science Papers (APSPs). To schedule an appointment, visit the Writing Center website at <http://writingcenter.uic.edu/>.

UIC Computer Labs:

Computer labs are available throughout campus where you may write and/or print out your work. For a list of labs and the hours they're open, go to: <https://it.uic.edu/services-support/student-resources/on-campus/computer-labs/>

The Academic Center for Excellence:

The center can help if you feel you need more individualized instruction in reading and/or writing, study skills, time management, etc.
<https://ace.uic.edu/>

Course Evaluations:

Because student ratings of instructors and courses provide very important feedback to instructors and are also used by administrators in evaluating instructors, it is extremely important for students to complete confidential course evaluations online known as the Campus Program for Student Evaluation of Teaching evaluation. You will receive an email from the Office of Faculty Affairs inviting you to complete your course evaluations and will receive an email confirmation when you have completed each one. For more information, please refer to the UIC Course Evaluation Handbook:
<https://faculty.uic.edu/course-evaluations/>

Tentative Course Schedule

Week #	Week Date	Lecture Topic	Chapter #	Friday Quiz covers:
1	10-Jan	Introducing Psychology	1	No quiz
2	17-Jan	Research Methods	2	No quiz
3	24-Jan	Social	12	Syllabus; Chapter 2
4	31-Jan	Personality	13	Chapter 12, 13
Exam 1 online on Tuesday, February 8th covering Chapters 1, 2, 12, 13				
5	7-Feb	Development	14	Chapter 14
6	14-Feb	Disorders	15/16	Chapter 15
7	21-Feb	Disorders	15/16	Chapter 16
8	28-Feb	Memory	6	Chapter 6
Exam 2 online on Tuesday, March 8th covering Chapters 14, 15, 16, 6				
9	7-Mar	Learning	7	Chapter 7
10	14-Mar	Thinking, Language, Intelligence	8	Chapter 8
	21-Mar	<i>Spring Break No class</i>		No quiz
11	28-Mar	Consciousness	9	Chapter 9
Exam 3 online on Tuesday, April 5th covering Chapter 7, 8, 9				
12	4-Apr	Motivation	11	Chapter 11
13	11-Apr	Brain and Nervous system	3	Chapter 3
14	18-Apr	Sensation and Perception	5	Chapter 5
15	25-Apr			No quiz
Exam 4 online on Tuesday, April 26th covering Chapters 11, 3, 5				