

Instructor: Elizabeth Hennon
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Office hours: **TuTh 12:15-1:15 and 3:45-4:45; W 9-3**

Office: 122E Hyde Hall
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Required Texts:

Franzoi, S. F. (2007). *Essentials of Psychology (3rd ed.)*. Cincinnati, OH: Atomic Dog/Thompson.

Course Description: Surveys the major areas of psychology including human development, neural underpinnings, learning, memory, and personality. This course emphasizes major influences, historical development, basic principles, understanding research findings, clinical applications and current directions in the field. The course delineates the value of the different areas of psychology to other professions (e.g., medicine, law, business, education). Also, psychological theory and findings are at times placed into a more personal perspective that may relate to the student's own life. Traditional lecture-discussion format mixed with group activities and discussion and with textbook and standardized examinations.

Course Objectives: Upon completion of the course, students should:

- have a general understanding of the various areas of psychology
- understand how knowledge in specific areas of psychology can be of value in the practice of other professions
- have improved personal development in several areas
 - increased understanding of your own (and others) behavior and emotions
 - improved critical thinking skills
 - advanced communication skills in both speaking and writing

Thoughts:

- As your instructor, it is *my* responsibility to present learning opportunities through the course syllabus, lectures, labs, class discussions, assignments, and in-class and out-of-class exercises.
 - It is **your** responsibility to do the learning by completing the readings, by attending class, and by participating in class discussions and exercises.
 - I cannot do the learning for you – all I can do is to try to guide you toward that information.
- As your instructor, it is my responsibility to respect your abilities to learn.
 - All of you are capable of reading, and of taking in information from the textbook. Therefore, merely rehashing the text would be an insult to your abilities.
 - My job, therefore, is to explore the topics that the text mentions in other ways. To extend what you learned from the book to other related ideas.
 - *To do this, you must read the text BEFORE class, so that you can understand the relationships between what we are discussing and what you have read.*

- There is a reason behind exams. The reason is not to give you a grade. It is to give you a means of measuring how well you are achieving the primary goal of any course – *mastery of the course content and skills*.
 - If you find you are not mastering the material and skills, you are encouraged to reflect on how you study and prepare for each class. I welcome a dialogue on what you discover and may be able to assist you in finding resources on campus that will improve your performance.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Lecture Class Attendance: If you miss a class, you should obtain notes from a classmate. A tentative course schedule of when chapters will be covered is provided below. It is fully assumed and expected that you will read the chapters before they will be covered in class. **Above all else, you alone are responsible for any and all materials covered in class, regardless of whether or not you attend.** Due to time constraints, I tend not to respond to emails from students that say, “I will not be in class today. If there is anything I missed or anything I need to do, just let me know.” If you miss class, the best thing for you to do is contact a dependable classmate to find out this information and get copies of handouts.

Semester Exams: Six exams will cover lecture and reading material. You will be allowed to drop your lowest exam grade. As you can drop one test, make-up exams are typically not permitted; they will only be permitted for a valid excused absence. Please speak with me *before* the exam, if possible, to discuss options if you will miss the scheduled time. Exams will primarily include multiple choice questions, but may also include true-false and/or matching questions. All six exams will be taken during class time. The final exam is cumulative. Each of the exams will be worth 20% of the course grade.

Course Grades:

93–100	A	90–92.9	A-	87–89.9	B+	83 – 86	B	80–82.9	B-
77–79.9	C+	73–76.9	C	70–72.9	C-	67–69.9	D+	60–66.9	D

EXTRA CREDIT: While I strongly encourage any student who does not understand the material to meet with me during office hours, you may also opt to complete extra credit activities to raise your final course grade. Note: these are optional activities; you are not required to complete extra credit. You can elect to participate in the Psychology Department’s subject pool or to complete an alternative assignment arranged by the instructor (*e.g.*, writing a one-page review of a journal article found from a PsycINFO search of a topic of interest). If extra credit is granted, you must complete 3 extra-credit points which will raise your final grade by 2.5%. At least 3 extra-credit points must be earned before you receive any extra credit, and the points for this class cannot also count for another class.

WITHDRAWAL POLICIES A course may be dropped without a designated grade during the first two weeks of a term of the regular academic year. From the third to the eleventh weeks, a grade of "W" is assigned. After the eleventh week, a grade of "F" is assigned. Discontinuance of attendance does not automatically constitute a withdrawal. Students failing to file a proper drop/add form by the appropriate deadline must complete classes for which they are registered or received a grade of "F". Withdrawal from a course after the deadline requires petition to and approval of the Admissions and Standards Committee and/or the Vice President of Academic Affairs.

Last day to drop with out a grade for Spring 2009 is Friday, January 16th.

Last day to drop and receive a "W" for Spring 2009 is Friday, March 27th.

INCOMPLETE GRADE POLICY All coursework is to be completed within the semester it is attempted. The grade report of "I" will be given only when justified by personal crisis or legitimate sickness; otherwise, the missing scores will be entered as zeroes. As outlined in the catalog, the following circumstances must exist as well for the receipt of an "I": (1) the student's other work in the course would earn a passing grade, and (2) the outstanding task can be completed without further class attendance. A request for an "I" must be presented in writing by either you or the Dean of Students. If granted, and "Incomplete Grade Contract" will then be drawn up and signed by both the instructor and the student. The catalog continues:

Outstanding course work normally should be completed within six weeks of the class ending, but the instructor may allow up to one year from the end of the term for which the "I" grade is granted. It is the student's responsibility to have this deficiency removed within the contractually agreed upon time or within one year, whichever is less. If no grade change has been submitted by the instructor after the maximum one-year grace period, the registrar is authorized to change all grades of "I" to "F".

ACCOMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES It is the policy of the University of Evansville to make reasonable accommodations for students with properly documented disabilities. Written notification to faculty from the Office of Counseling and Health Education is required for any academic accommodations. If you are eligible to receive and accommodation and would like to request it for this course, please discuss it with me and allow two weeks notice. Otherwise, it is not guaranteed that the accommodation can be received on a timely basis. If you have questions about services for students with disabilities or procedures for requesting services, you may contact the Office of Counseling and Health Education at 488-2663.

ACADEMIC HONOR CODE University of Evansville Academic Honor Code. "I understand that any work which I submit for course credit will imply that I have adhered to the Academic Honor Code: I will neither give nor receive unauthorized aid nor will I tolerate an environment which condones the use of unauthorized aid." Failure to adhere to this code will result in receiving an "F" for the course.

Tentative Course Calendar: Changes in this schedule may be necessary and you will be notified if such a situation should arise.

Date	Topic	Chapter
Week 1		
1/8	Intro to class/Overview of psychology	Ch 1
Week 2		
1/13	The science of psychology	Ch 1
1/15	Prenatal, physical, and social development	Ch 3
Week 3		
1/20	Cognitive, moral, and older development	Ch 3
1/22	Exam #1	
Week 4		
1/27	Memory	Ch 7
1/29	Organization, retrieval, and forgetting	Ch 7
Week 5		
2/3	Language and problem solving	Ch 8
2/5	Intelligence	Ch 8
Week 6		
2/10	Exam #2	
2/12	Consciousness and sleep	Ch 5
Week 7		
2/17	Altered states of consciousness	Ch 5
2/19	Stress and coping	Ch 12
Week 8		
2/24	Stress and health	Ch 12
2/26	Exam #3	
SPRING BREAK!!		
Week 9		
Dr. Lora Becker (Ib47) will be teaching class this week		
3/10	Neurons and the brain	Ch 2
3/12	The brain and genetics	Ch 2

