



Framingham State University Summer 2017

General Psychology PSYC 101

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Office Hours:

Required Text:

Zimbardo, P., Johnson, R, McCann-Hamilton. (2017). *Psychology: Core concepts 8th edition*. Pearson Publishing, Boston.

Course Description:

General Psychology is an introduction to basic concepts of modern psychology, including the biological basis of behavior, learning, and cognition. Students are exposed to principles, issues, and research findings in these and other areas in psychology such as intelligence, development, personality, and psychopathology.

Course Objectives:

1) Students will become familiar with the method of science as it applies to the different fields of psychology. 2) Students will gain an understanding of the mental processes and behaviors of humans as they develop through the lifespan. 3) Students will practice their critical thinking skills. 4) Students will enhance their computer skills

Course Evaluation: Your grade will be based on five criteria 1) Exams (275 pts), 2) Pre-Quizzes (50 pts), 3) Video Summaries (50pts), 4) In or Outside Class Activities (about 40 pts) and 5) Structured Book Report (60 pts)

TOTAL POINTS= **475*** *Depending on the number of activities, Total Points will vary.

Grading Scale:	A=	100-94.5	C=	76.4-72.5
	A-=	94.4-89.5	C-=	72.4-69.5
	B+=	89.4-86.5	D+=	69.4-66.5
	B=	86.4-82.5	D=	66.4-62.5
	B-=	82.4-79.5	D-=	62.4-59.5
	C+=	79.4-76.5	E<	59.5

Unfortunately, we will not be able to cover all the chapters found in the textbook. While it is normal not to cover all chapters in a traditional term, the limit of time and fast pace of the shorter summer session makes it even more difficult to cover the breath of psychology.

THERE ARE NO LARGE EXAMS IN THIS COURSE:

Due to the fast pace and the large amount of material covered in a summer course, cumulative evaluations such as large exams tend to be less effective. Instead, smaller chapter exams will serve the function of assessing knowledge gained about General Psychology.

Chapter Exams: Students are required to complete online chapter exams for each assigned chapter. The exam will cover material both from the lecture and textbook (*Core Concepts 8th edition*) and will be composed of **25 four-part multiple-choice questions** for each chapter. Note: Blackboard tracks **ALL** exam activity, including just looking at an exam and produces “reports” for the professor as well as locking students out of the exam. **Do not look at the exams before taking them.** I receive a large amount of information from Blackboard...I know when the exam was taken, how long it took to the hundredth of a second, how many were correct, incorrect choices for each question, and so much more.

A total of 11 chapter exams will be completed during the course. As you complete the chapter exams make sure to click the “submit” button. No answers will be sent unless you click the submit button. There is **no time limit for the exams**, but I recommend completing them in a timely manner to avoid any loss of data or problems with the browser. The chapter exams are meant more to teach the material than to test or “catch” students with tricky questions. **Students that do the best on the chapter exams...** will read and review the chapter as well as all class notes BEFORE attempting the chapter exam. In addition, I encourage people to take the chapter exams open book and open notes. After submitting the chapter exam, students will have the opportunity to review how well they did. The exam will note correct and incorrect answers as well as pointing out the correct response for all questions. **Each question is worth 1 point.** The more correct answers the higher the test score. The chapter exams, and the way they are being used (see Pre-Quizzes below), are designed to give all students the opportunity to gain a high total chapter exam score. **(11 Chapter Exams at 25 points apiece for a total of 275 points possible)**

Pre-Quizzes: Students are required to take the Pre-Quizzes for each of the 10 chapters (No pre-quiz for Chapter 1). However, students will gain full points (i.e., 5 points) regardless of final score. Meaning it is an opportunity to play with the topic without worrying about your “score.” The Pre-Quizzes are meant to be taken **before** looking at the chapter. It is a helpful way to test your current knowledge and maybe begin to overcome misconceptions about the psychology topic. Completion of the Pre-Quizzes should help in the learning process. Students learn by doing and the Pre-Quiz may give some insight on a “study or reading plan” for the chapter. Make sure to click the “submit” button after completing all 5-8 (the number may vary from chapter to chapter) multiple choice questions. After completing the Pre-Quizzes, students can review the correct answer for each question. **(50 points possible)**

Structured Book Report: One of the best ways to learn is to engage and experience the original. Even though original research and theory are more challenging to read than a textbook, it allows readers to form their own understanding and belief about a psychological idea unfiltered by another person's opinion. Please read and reread the specific directions in the worksheet for the structured book report found on Blackboard. *The Structured Book Report will be graded for content, accuracy, organization, and grammar.*

A list of classic works in psychology will be posted on Blackboard either before or during the second week of classes. While there are many original works to choose from, the professor has chosen books that conform to several criteria including, ease of gaining a copy, accessible to a lay audience, and shorter in length; all to promote greater understanding of the works. It is hoped that several, if not all, of the books could be gained through a larger library, a local bookstore, or at least through an online book dealer. *None of the books have been ordered through FSU Bookstore.* The list contains about a dozen options...students only have to choose, read, and complete a structured book report on only **ONE** of the works. Students are encouraged to review the booklist early in the term (i.e., first week of class) and required to inform the professor of their chosen work two weeks prior to the due date.

Only Acceptable option: A Microsoft Word document **double-spaced typed in a readable 12-pt font**. The document will be attached through the Assignment function in our Blackboard site. It is important to use Word so I can open and review the document for content and formatting. **Unacceptable submissions:** Anything other than stated above, but some examples include typing the assignment in the body of an email, sending attachments other than Microsoft Word, this includes Microsoft Works, WordPerfect, and all other word processor programs. All students have access to Word on the FSU campus. Any student failing to complete the assignment on time will **receive a grade of zero (0). (60 points possible)**

The Structured Book Report worksheet, along with the list of suitable book titles, will be posted in the "assignment" section of the course Blackboard site towards the end of the first week of classes. Students are allowed to complete and turn the report in early, but it is recommended to complete it during the scheduled week. (See topic outline)

Video Summaries: Each week there will be a 30 minute video that can be downloaded and viewed through the *Discovering Psychology* website. The videos are usually a combination of explanations by the host- Philip Zimbardo, interviews with other experts, psychological techniques, or clips from classic studies in psychology. The videos should help to reveal psychology as a science. After watching the videos, write a brief **six to eight sentence** summary of the video clip. The summary simply needs to be descriptive of the clip. The videos to be watched will appear under the Video Summary link on the course Blackboard site. Type the brief summary in the response section of the assignment as instructed and press submit. I will read, score, and usually type a brief comment for the summaries to give each student a little guidance and feedback. The video assignments are meant as easy process points; in most cases doing the summary will equal full credit for the assignment. (5 Summaries at 10 points apiece for **50 points possible**)

Class Policies

Late Assignments:

No late assignments will be accepted. Any student failing to complete an assignment on time will **receive a grade of zero (0)** for that assignment.

Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism

From the FSU Undergraduate Student Catalog...

UNIVERSITY POLICY REGARDING ACADEMIC HONESTY

Integrity is essential to academic life. Consequently, students who enroll at Framingham State University agree to maintain high standards of academic honesty and scholarly practice. They shall be responsible for familiarizing themselves with the published policies and procedures regarding academic honesty. In addition to the required statement, faculty members shall, at their discretion, include in the course syllabus additional statements relating the definition of academic honesty to their courses. Infractions of the Policy on Academic Honesty include, but are not limited to:

1. Plagiarism: claiming as one's own work the published or unpublished literal or paraphrased work of another. It should be recognized that plagiarism is not only academically dishonest but also illegal;
2. Cheating on exams, tests, quizzes, assignments, and papers, including the giving or acceptance of these materials and other sources of information without the permission of the instructor(s);
3. Unauthorized collaboration with other individuals in the preparation of course assignments;
4. Submitting without authorization the same assignment for credit in more than one course;
5. Use of dishonest procedures in computer, laboratory, studio, or field work;
6. Misuse of the University's technical facilities (computer machinery, laboratories, media equipment, etc.), either maliciously or for personal gain;
7. Falsification of forms used to document the academic record and to conduct the academic business of the University.

Top-Ten helpful suggestions for your success in this class

1. Have consistent use of a computer with a recent browser (Microsoft Explorer preferred) *and a backup computer or two*
2. Read the Syllabus- it is the contract between the professor and student
3. Read and Understand the Topic Outline
4. Find and start to read the book for the Structured Book Report
5. Check your email Blackboard often for any announcements or reminders
6. Complete the Pre-Quizzes for each chapter
7. Make sure to participate in classroom discussions
8. Take notes in class and while reading the chapters in the *Core Concepts*
9. Review the chapters and notes before attempting to take the chapter exams
10. Complete work before the deadline to avoid problems with technical difficulties

**Contact the professor as soon as possible to address any questions or concerns
pgalvin1@framingham.edu**

General Psychology PSYC 101
Topic Outline
Summer 2017

Week	Topics	Chapters	Quiz/Exam	Assignments to be Completed
1	Communicate with Dr G Meet and Greet Each Other Mind, Behavior, and Science What is Psychology? Perspectives of psychologists What do psychologists do?	Preface Chap 1	1 Exam Due Midnight Sunday	Meet the Professor Community Building Interests and Goals
2	Biopsychology Internal communication Brain on behavior and thinking Psychological Development Newborn and Childhood Adolescence and Adulthood	Chap 2 Chap 7	2 & 7 Pre-Quiz Due Midnight Monday 2 & 7 Exam Due Midnight Sunday	Video Summaries Due Midnight Friday
3	Classical Conditioning Operant Learning Observational Learning Nature of Memory Forming and Storing Memories Retrieving and Errors in Memories	Chap 4 Chap 5	4 & 5 Pre-Quiz Due Midnight Monday 4 & 5 Exam Due Midnight Sunday	Video Summaries Due Midnight Friday
4	Sensation Perceptions Efficiency and Errors Components of Thought Measuring Intelligence Components of Intelligence	Chap 3 Chap 6	3 & 6 Pre-Quiz Due Midnight Monday 3 & 6 Exam Due Midnight Sunday	Book Choice Due Monday <i>See Syllabus</i> Video Summaries Due Midnight Friday
5	What is Stress? Psychological respond to stress Promotion of health Shaping personalities Patterns in personalities Theories of personality	Chap 14 Chap 10	10 & 14 Pre Quiz Due Midnight Monday 10 & 14 Exam Due Midnight Sunday	Video Summaries Due Midnight Friday
6	What is a mental disorder? Classifying mental disorders Consequence of labels What is therapy? How to treat mental disorders Biomedical approach to treatment	Chap 12 Chap 13	12 & 13 Pre Quiz Due Midnight Monday 12 & 13 Exam Due Midnight Sunday	Book Report Due Monday Video Summaries Due Midnight Friday