

Psychology 2: General Psychology Spring 2000

Instructor: Krista Hall

When: Sat. 9:00 - 11:50 (No class Feb. 12 and Apr. 15)

Required Text: Weiten, Wayne (2000) Psychology: Themes and Variations, 4th ed.,
briefer version. Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole Publishing.

Weiten, Wayne (2000) PsyKTrek: A Multimedia Introduction to
Psychology, Version 1.2. Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole Publishing.

Course Objectives:

- To gain a better understanding of Psychology as a science in terms of its research and theories.
- To learn to think critically and discuss intelligently the various topics to be presented.
- To apply behavioral science concepts to personal experience.

ATTENDANCE: Regular class attendance is mandatory. Lectures and class activities extend your understanding of psychology and its application to your personal experience. In addition, information presented during lecture may not be in the text, however, it will be fair game for exams. In the event of an absence, it is your responsibility to contact the instructor to find out if you have missed any assignments.

You are allowed to miss a total of three classes without penalty. However, if you have more than three absences prior to the March 10 drop date, you will be dropped automatically. After March 10, any absences over the three allowed will result in a loss of participation points.

GRADING: Final grades will be determined by performance on different component parts of the course according to the following scale:

90 - 100% = A
80 - 89% = B
70 - 79% = C
60 - 69% = D
Below 60% = F

The component parts and their respective point values are as follows:

Exams	400 points
Research Paper	100 points
Outside Assignments	40 points
Attendance	<u>60 points</u>
Total	600 points

EXAMS: There will be four exams, each worth 100 points, covering the chapters most recently discussed in class. Tests will consist of multiple choice, true-false, fill-in, matching, short answer and/or essay questions.

Exams are not optional. You are expected to take the exams at their regularly scheduled times. If you know you will not be available to take an exam on its scheduled date, I must be notified **two weeks** in advance in order for you to make it up. Make-ups will be given prior to the scheduled exam date.

If you fail to notify me prior to the missed exam, you will not be allowed to make-up the exam. In the event of illness or other emergency, a make-up exam will be given if proper documentation is provided. This exam will be given to you upon your return to class, so be prepared.

RESEARCH PAPER: You will be required to write a 6-8 page, APA style research paper. Select an area of interest to you, related to this course and approved by me, that you would like to further explore. I would suggest choosing a fairly specific topic within this area of interest, such as a psychological concept, hypothesis, or theory.

Your paper should include:

- a) a clear statement of the focus of your paper;
- b) development of your information in some progressive form: chronological, cause-effect, opposite points of view/pro-con, compare and contrast, etc.;
- c) a concluding statement in which you offer a personal statement based on your own experience with the topic of your research. Include how the research you cited either reflects or contradicts your own personal experience.

Papers need to be at least six pages without the reference page. You will need to utilize a minimum of four sources, not including your text. Please use APA format when writing this paper. I will provide you with some examples of how to do this. Finally, please check for spelling and grammar errors and/or have someone proofread your paper.

Grading is as follows: 60% content, 25% research, 15% form and spelling/grammar.

Late papers will only be accepted if they are turned in within one week of the original due date and will be penalized 15%.

OUTSIDE ASSIGNMENTS: Students will be responsible for four 10-point assignments during the course of the semester (approximately one every three weeks). You are to select two self-tests from the PSYK.TREK CD to complete and turn in.

In addition, you are to choose two topics from a list of nine (that I will pass out) and write a 1-2 page paper on each.

Late assignments will only be accepted if they are turned in within one week of the original due date and will be penalized 30%.

ATTENDANCE: Students will receive 4 points per class attended contingent upon class participation in discussions and activities.

CHEATING/PLAGIARISM: Students must work independently on all exams and assignments. Any student suspected of academic dishonesty will receive a grade of zero for that exam or assignment. In addition, students will be reported to the Dean of Students for proper disciplinary action.

COURSE TIMELINE

Date	Chapters Discussed	Exams/Assignments Due
January 15	1 and 2	
January 22	3	
January 29	4	Outside Assignment #1
February 5	5	Exam #1
February 12	President's Day	
February 19	6	
February 26	7	Outside Assignment #2
March 4	8	
March 11	9	Exam #2
March 18	10	
March 25	11	Outside Assignment #3
April 1	12	
April 8	13	Exam #3
April 15	Spring Break	
April 22	14	Research Paper
April 29	15	
May 6	16	Outside Assignment #4
May 13		Exam #4