

**Psychology 2 - General Psychology**  
Spring 2000 T-Th 12:00 – 1:15

**Instructor:** Todd Martin, Ph.D.  
**Office:** Humanities Bldg., Room 56 (next to the Tutorial Center)  
**Phone:** 638-3641 ext. 3648 (my number cannot be dialed directly from off-campus)  
**Office Hours:** M & W 9:30 - 11:00  
T & TH 10:00 - 11:00  
(or by appointment)  
(or just drop by)

**Required Text:**

Weiten, W. (2000). *Psychology: Themes and Variations - Briefer Version (4th Edition)*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Publishing Company.

**Required CD:**

Weiten, W. -- *Psyc.Trek: A Multimedia Introduction to Psychology*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Publishing Company.

**Course Objectives:**

This course is designed to provide you with:

- an overview of the field of psychology, including its historical roots, major theories, research findings, and current issues within the field
- an understanding of how psychological research is conducted and how psychological research is applied in everyday life
- an appreciation for the value of applying the scientific method to the study of human behavior

Your grade in the course will be based on your performance on the following:

- |                                                           |                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Exams (five worth 50 points each)                      | 250 pts.       |
| 2. Psyk.Trek Simulation Papers (three worth 10 pts. each) | 30 pts.        |
| 3. Homework (five worth 10 pts. each)                     | 50 pts.        |
| 4. Attendance                                             | <u>50 pts.</u> |

**TOTAL POINTS 380 pts.**

90 - 100 %	=	342 - 380 pts.	=	A
80 - 89.9 %	=	304 - 341 pts.	=	B
70 - 79.9 %	=	266 - 303 pts.	=	C
60 - 69.9 %	=	228 - 265 pts.	=	D
0 - 59.9 %	=	0 - 227 pts.	=	F

## Course Requirements:

### Exams

There will be five (5) exams. The fifth exam will be the final exam, and it will **NOT** be comprehensive. Each exam will count toward your overall course grade. **No exams will be dropped.** Exams may include all types of questions.

You are expected to take the exams on the scheduled exam dates.

It is **YOUR** responsibility to notify me at **least one week in advance** when you have a **valid** conflict with the scheduled exam date.

If you fail to notify me about a potential conflict and you cannot document your absence **in writing**, you **CANNOT** take a make-up exam.

If a make-up exam is allowed, the exam must be taken **after** the scheduled exam date and **before** the next class meeting.

Sometimes unexpected events occur at such a time that you miss an exam. In those instances, you should notify me as soon as is reasonably possible. Also, to take the make-up exam you **must verify** your required school activity, serious illness, or bereavement **in writing**. You should be prepared to take the exam immediately upon your return to school. **NOTE:** If you do not verify the reason for your absence in writing, you **CANNOT** take a make-up exam.

### Psyc.Trek CD-ROM Simulation Papers

You will be required to complete three (3) Psyc.trek Simulation papers. The simulations are designed to illustrate psychological concepts. For each paper you will be asked to explain **in detail** the psychological concept(s) demonstrated, describe **in detail** what the simulation required you to do, and describe **in detail** your performance (the CD will provide this information). Each paper is to be no more than two pages long (typed or computer-generated). Handwritten papers will not be accepted.

### Psyc.Trek CD-ROM Homework

There will be five homework assignments (one assignment for each exam block). Each homework assignment will be worth 10 points. With the exception of the fifth assignment, homework assignments are due on or before the day of the corresponding exam. For example, the first homework assignment will be due on the day of the first exam. Homework assignments can be turned in early, but **absolutely no homework assignments will be accepted after the exam date**. You must turn in a hard-copy of your homework assignment prior to the start of the exam. In other words, having your homework assignment on diskette does not count. When you turn in your homework, make sure you sign the Completed Homework Sheet.

### Attendance and Class Participation

Attending class is essential for your success in this course. Naturally, lecture material will appear on exams. However, this course will include any number of other **in-class exercises** (for example, discussions, debates, small group activities), and the **exams will include questions related to those exercises**.

**Attendance will be taken each class period.** To protect yourself against any discrepancies regarding your attendance, I encourage you to **date your lecture notes** from each class meeting.

Here's how the attendance points work. This class meets 34 times. You will get the 50 maximum attendance points if you attend 30 class meetings. That allows you four absences. You do not need to tell me when you will be absent or why you were absent. You don't need to make up your absences. For each absence beyond four, I will deduct five points from your attendance points. For example, if you miss six class meetings, you will get 40 attendance points.

## **Absences:**

School policy permits you to miss **no more than the equivalent of two weeks of class**. Therefore, you can have no more than six (6) absences for courses that meet three times a week, no more than four (4) absences for courses that meet twice a week, and no more than two absences for courses that meet once a week. **If you miss the equivalent of two weeks of class before the official drop date, you will be dropped from this course.** Excessive absences after the official drop date can also result in your being dropped from the course.

## **Demonstrating Satisfactory Progress:**

Students are expected to complete the assigned reading and other course assignments, attend class, be prepared to participate in class discussions and/or activities, and be able to demonstrate knowledge of the course material on exams. If, **after the first two exams**, a student has **less than 55% of the total possible points**, he or she **may be dropped** from the course for **NOT MAKING** satisfactory progress.

## **Cheating and Plagiarism:**

Reedley College has a written policy regarding cheating and plagiarism which **YOU SHOULD READ**. The policy describes the specific steps that will be taken when an incident of cheating or plagiarism is suspected.

Cheating is defined as the willful and intentional practice of fraudulent and deceptive acts for the purpose of improving a grade or obtaining course credit. Cheating is **NOT** limited to examinations only. It includes **any** act in which you engage for the purpose of obtaining **unearned** academic credit.

Plagiarism involves fraudulently representing someone else's writing or other scholarly material as your own. In other words, plagiarism is when you try to take credit for someone else's work. The simple rule is that you must give credit to whatever reference source you are using, including those found on the Internet.

**Textbook Reading Schedule:**

<b>WEEK</b>	<b>CHAPTER</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>
1 Jan. 10 - 14	1	The Evolution of Psychology
2 Jan. 17 - 21	2	The Research Enterprise in Psychology
3 Jan. 24 - 28		
4 Jan. 31 - Feb. 4	9	Intelligence and Psychological Testing
<b>EXAM 1 - THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3</b>		
5 Feb. 7 - 11	3	The Biological Bases of Behavior
6 Feb. 14 - 18	4	Sensation and Perception
7 Feb. 21 - 25	5	Variations in Consciousness
<b>EXAM 2 - TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 29</b>		
8 Feb. 28 - Mar. 3	6	Learning Through Conditioning
9 Mar. 6 - 10		
10 Mar. 13 - 17	7	Human Memory
11 Mar. 20 - 24	8	Language and Thought
<b>EXAM 3 - THURSDAY, MARCH 23</b>		
12 Mar. 27 - 31	10	Motivation and Emotion
13 Apr. 3 - 7	11	Human Development Across the Life Span
14 Apr. 10 - 14	12	Personality: Theory, Research, and Assessment
<b>EXAM 4 - THURSDAY, APRIL 13</b>		
<i>SPRING BREAK</i>		
15 Apr. 24 - 28	13	Stress, Coping, and Health
16 May 1 - 5	14	Psychological Disorders
17 May 8 - 12	15	Psychotherapy
<b>1:00pm - 3:00pm</b>		