

PSYCHOLOGY 1040 - Section F2
BASIC PSYCHOLOGICAL PROCESSES
Grande Prairie Regional College
Fall 1999

Instructor: Cheryl Bereziuk
Office number: C205
Phone number: 539 - 2739
Office hours: Monday and Tuesday - 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.
or by appointment

Class time: TBA
Room number: TBA

- Texts:
1. Psychology (2nd edition) by Saul Kassin (Required)
 2. Study Guide for Psychology (2nd edition) by Pamela Regan (Optional but is shrink-wrapped with the text)
 3. Taking Sides, Clashing Views on Controversial Psychological Issues (10th Edition) by Brent Slife (Required)

Course Content: This course, in combination with Psychology 1050, is intended to provide a general introductory survey of the field of Psychology. Specific topics to be covered in this course are: Psychology as field of scientific inquiry; Methods in Psychological research; Statistics; The biological basis of thought and behavior; Sensation and Perception; The nature of mind and consciousness; Principles of learning; Memory; Thought and Language; Motivation and human sexuality; and Emotion.

Course objectives: This course is an introduction to the science of Psychology. Students will gain an appreciation of the range and scope of the field of Psychology and will become familiar with the basic assumptions, terminology and methods used by Psychologists. Students will also gain critical thinking skills.

Requirements: Evaluations will be based on three exams, an article critique and a series of debates as follows:

Exam #1	25%	October 5	Chapters 1, 2, Appendix A
Article Critique	10%	October 21	
Exam #2	25%	November 2	Chapters 3, 4, 5
Exam #3	30%	To Be Announced	Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9
Debate #1	2%	September 16	Issue 3
Debate #2	2%	September 28	Issue 5
Debate #3	2%	November 9	Issue 9
Debate #4	2%	November 25	Issue 4
Debate #5	2%	December 2	Issue 18

Please note that the exam and debate dates listed on this handout are tentative and are subject to change. For the final examination students must be available between December 13 and December 21. The date and location of the final exam will be announced later in the term by the Student Services Office. This information is also subject to change so students should continue checking the posted schedules as they are updated.

Exams will consist of multiple choice, short answer and long answer questions. Exams are not comprehensive. If an exam is missed because of a serious reason, proof must be provided to the instructor (i.e., a note from your physician) before a makeup exam can be arranged. If you realize you cannot attend a scheduled exam please notify the instructor as soon as possible either in person or leave a message on the instructor's office answering machine. If you are unable to write the final exam at the scheduled time you should notify the instructor and submit an application to the Student Services Office for permission to write a deferred exam.

Please bear in mind that exam marks are FINAL. This means you cannot rewrite an exam because of a poor grade and there are NO written assignments you can do to make up for a poor exam grade.

Cheating on an exam or any other form of academic misconduct is taken very seriously and is punishable in a variety of ways. For more information on the penalties that can be imposed please see page 27 of the college calendar.

Debates will occur informally in small groups and the instructor will circulate and grade based on your participation with the group. Good participation with well thought out comments will be given a grade of 2, limited participation will be given a grade of 1, and absence from the debate will be given a grade of 0. Should you miss a debate because of a serious reason you must proof to the instructor before a makeup assignment can be arranged.

Article critiques should be typed, double-spaced and in an essay format. Spelling, grammar and sentence structure will also be graded and there is a penalty of 2% for each day the critique is late. A handout on how to do an article critique will be provided for you.

Please be advised that a lack of planning on your part will not constitute an emergency on the instructor's part. For example, leaving all work on the article critique to the last minute and then having a crisis arise will not get you an extension. Be aware that you may be asked to provide evidence of prior work before being granted an extension.

Because lectures will not always cover the assigned readings your attendance is expected at all lectures. Learning is an active process that will take effort on your part and so you will be expected to read in advance of class lectures, participate in activities and discussions in the classroom and communicate with the instructor when you encounter difficulties with course material. The instructor does NOT lend out lecture notes. Students are responsible for assigned textbook chapters and other assigned readings as well as material covered in lectures.

It is expected that all students will display a professional attitude and behavior in the classroom. This includes reliability, respect for and cooperation with your fellow students, attention to fellow students questions and the instructors response, determination to achieve first-class work while meeting deadlines, and constructive response to criticism. Students unable to meet these expectations will be asked to leave the classroom in the interest of preserving the learning opportunities of other students.

NOTE: Any changes to the course outline will be made in consultation with the students during class time. Should you not be present in class when such a consultation is made it is your responsibility to acquire the changed information.

COURSE SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER 9 – SEPTEMBER 30

Introduction to Psychology as a field of scientific inquiry
History of Psychology
Methods in Psychological research
Statistics
The biological basis of thought and behavior

READINGS:

Kassin Chapters 1, 2, and Appendix A

Taking Sides: Issue 3 and Issue 5

OCTOBER 7 – NOVEMBER 2

Sensation and perception
States of consciousness
Learning and conditioning

READINGS:

Kassin Chapters 3, 4, 5

NOVEMBER 9 – DECEMBER 9

Memory
Cognition and language
Motivation and human sexuality
Emotion

READINGS:

Kassin Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9

Taking Sides: Issues 9, Issue 4 and Issue 18

NOTE: November 11 is a holiday

GRADE SCHEDULE:

9	90 - 100
8	80 - 89
7	72 - 79
6	65 - 71
5	57 - 64
4	50 - 56
3	45 - 49
2	26 - 44
1	0 - 25