

PSYCHOLOGY 1040 (G2)–Basic Psychological Processes
Mondays & Wednesdays 0830-09:50 A212
Fall 2001

SEP. 07 2001

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Textbook: Kassin, Saul (2001) Psychology (3rd Edition). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice-Hall, Inc.

There is a study guide to accompany the text. This guide is not required but may be helpful.

Prerequisites: None

Course Objectives

This course will introduce you to the scientific field of psychology, focusing primarily on the biological aspects of human behavior and thought. In the first three chapters, you will learn the methods used in psychological research, how the brain functions, and how our five senses work. In the remainder of this course, you will learn about the physiological basis of behavior and thought (Chapters 4 through 9). This course is designed to expose you to established psychological research findings and to help prepare you to be evaluate new, cutting-edge research that they may encounter in the media.

Student Evaluation

4 Quizzes–5% each
Midterm Exam–25%
Final Exam–35%
Class Participation–10%
Media Assignment–10%

There will be four quizzes, worth a total of 20%, a midterm exam worth 25%, and a cumulative final exam worth 35%. For all quizzes and exams, you will be responsible for both classroom and textbook material.

The quizzes will consist 10 multiple choice questions per chapter. They will be held during the first 20-30 minutes of class on the dates outlined on the lecture schedule.

The midterm exam will consist of 50 multiple choice questions (10 multiple choice questions for each of chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5) and five short answer questions (1 short answer question each for chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5).

The final exam will consist of 65 multiple choice questions (5 multiple choice questions each for chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5 plus 10 multiple choice questions each for chapters 6, 7, 8, & 9) and four short answer questions (1 short answer question each for chapters 6, 7, 8, & 9)

Class participation credit will be given for participation in class discussion, either by raising relevant questions or addressing questions raised in class (i.e., offering one's opinion or experiences related to the topics brought up in class). Students can also post their views on the course web site.

The media assignment will involve locating two reports of psychological research reported in the media (TV, news papers, magazines, internet) and providing an evaluation of the research in terms of the methods used and conclusions drawn. The nature of this assignment will be explained further after completion of Chapter 1.

Grading

Grade	Percentage	Comment
9	90 - 100%	
8	80 - 89%	Excellent
7	72 - 79%	
6	65 - 71%	Good
5	57 - 64%	
4	50 - 56%	Pass
3	45 - 49%	Fail
2	26 - 44%	Fail
1	0 - 25%	Fail

Tentative Lecture Schedule

Dates	Topic	Material
Sept 5	Introducing Psychology & Its Methods	Chapter 1
Sept 12	Behavioral Neuroscience	Chapter 2
Sept 24	Quiz (Chapters 1 & 2)	
Sept 24	Sensation and Perception	Chapter 3
Oct 1	Consciousness	Chapter 4
Oct 10	Learning	Chapter 5
Oct 17	Quiz (Chapters 3, 4, & 5)	
Oct 22	Midterm (Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)	
Oct 24	Memory	Chapter 6
Nov 7	Thought and Language	Chapter 7
Nov 14	Quiz (Chapters 6 & 7)	
Nov 14	Motivation	Chapter 8
Nov 26	Emotion	Chapter 9
Dec 3	Quiz (Chapters 8 & 9)	
Dec 5	Review	

Student Responsibilities

Independent learning is a valuable skill that instructors at Grande Prairie Regional College wish to foster in their students. For this reason, you are held accountable for all lecture materials and readings. It is your responsibility to keep up with class work. For example, you are expected to attend all lectures. When absent from class, missed material is to be obtained by approaching a fellow student (not the instructor). Also, you are expected to prepare for each lecture by reading the assigned chapters and handouts. Students who prepare for lectures learn and perform much better than students who do not prepare.

Although the instructor feels that all the material in the text book is important and interesting, limited class time prevents discussion of all the material. You are responsible for learning the material not discussed in class. Please feel free to approach me outside of class if you wish to get clarification on this material.

If you miss any of the exams due to illness, a physician's note must be provided. If a physician's note is provided, the weight of that exam will be transferred to the final exam. If a note is not provided, a grade of 0% will be assigned to that exam. You are expected to inform me that you will miss the exam before the exam (if possible). Voice mail is available 24 hours a day. If the final exam is missed due to illness, you will also be required to submit an application to the Registrar's office for permission to write a deferred exam (Please see the College Calendar, p 33). You may defer the final exam for up to 20 days of the end of the examination period.

If you wish to withdraw from this course, you must do so by Nov 2, 2001. Withdraw from the course after Nov 2, 2001 may result in a failing grade because a mark of 0% will be assigned to the incomplete portion of the course work.