

**Introductory Psychology:  
Biological Foundation and Cognitive Processes  
Psychology 101  
Fall 2013  
2:00-3:15p.m. Tuesday and Thursday  
Rm G-09 Bullock Science Center**

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125 E Bullock Science Center

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 10:00-11:00 a.m., or by appointment

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This is one half of a two semester introduction to psychology. The course is about the nervous system as it pertains to behavior and cognition. Students may take 101 or 102 first and each course is independent of the other. This is a 4-credit hour course in which we will meet in the classroom for 3 hours each week. The additional credit hour will allow for course readings to be completed before class. This course will also involve projects, reading assignments and studying to be completed outside of class time.

**Learning Goals:** Students will demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in psychology—*Learning Goal 1 of the American Psychological Association Guidelines for the Undergraduate Psychology Major (2006)*

- ❖ Every student will be assigned short writing assignments outside of exams
- ❖ Every student will take tests during the semester and take a comprehensive final exam
- ❖ Every student will be exposed to recent research findings
- ❖ Every student will participate in research studies or as an alternative assignment write a paper about research

#### **REQUIRED READING MATERIAL**

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- *The Science of Psychology* (2011, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition) by Laura A. King

**Reading Assignments:** In this course the textbook provides a good foundation of introductory psychology. In class we will apply this material using demonstrations, group discussions, videos, surveys, and lecture. Also in class, additional related information not in your textbook will be covered.

Students also should be aware of the fact that not all of the material in the textbook can be covered in class, but they are responsible for knowing all of the material in the textbook even if it is not covered in class. To learn the most from the course students should keep up with the reading assignments and come to class.

#### **CLASS COMPONENTS**

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**Attendance “Quiz” Points:** It is important to attend lectures in this course, as lectures will involve demonstrations, classroom activities, films, and discussion of material not covered in the textbook. Students are expected to attend class regularly, as regular attendance will contribute to a better overall understanding of course material.

Attendance will be taken at every class meeting. This will be done in the form of a “quiz” at the *beginning of each class*. I will present you with a question(s) and give approximately 5 minutes to make your response without referring to your textbook or notes. Your answer(s) will be submitted with your name and this will serve as your attendance. Your responses won’t be graded as correct or incorrect, but I will keep track to monitor how the class is keeping up. This is also a good way for you to help identify areas that you might need to study more. This practice is actually in place to help you! Research suggests that repeated **retrieval** is the most effective way to learn. My goal is that by having you actively retrieve the information throughout the semester, you will better learn and remember the information from the course.

I will give you one free quiz point to start the semester. There are 24 class meetings this semester (excluding test days). As you will see detailed in the “Point Allocation” section, attendance quizzes contribute 20 points to your total score. What this means for you is that if you exceed 20 points (by attending everyday or only missing a few days), these will be bonus points added to your total score. You can miss up to 5 days of attendance quizzes without it impacting your total points. Also, if you are late for class and miss the quiz, you cannot retake it and will forfeit your point for the day. If you have an absence excused by the college (e.g., observed religious holiday, death of an immediate family member, participating in a college sporting event, unplanned hospitalization), see me before the absence to discuss.

Students are expected to actively participate in class discussions and demonstrations. Students are welcomed and encouraged to

share their questions, ideas, and insights during class discussions and lectures as long as they do not dominate the conversations. They are expected to respect the values, beliefs, and rights of others in the classroom. Also, students are expected to pay attention to whomever is speaking in class. Students should NOT text or use computers for reasons other than notes. This means no facebook, twitter, email, itunes, youtube, foursquare, pinterest, or anything unrelated to course material! This behavior not only distracts from your ability to learn in my class, but it disrespects and violates the right of other students to attend class and learn in a focused environment. Any students involved in side-conversations unrelated to class discussion, any of the above activities, or in any other behavior that is potentially disruptive to other students' learning may lose their attendance quiz point for the day at the Professor's discretion.

**Tests and Final Exam:** For this class there will be 3 tests and a final exam. The test dates are firm but the material covered may vary slightly from the syllabus depending on how the course progresses. Any deviations from the syllabus will be made clear prior to the test. Tests will have short-answer and multiple-choice questions from the material covered in class and the textbook. The final exam will be comprehensive.

Students are expected to take all tests on the scheduled dates. If an extreme circumstance (illness and workload do not apply) arises then the student should contact the professor prior to the test and the professor will decide what will be done.

To do well on the tests, students must come to class and read the class materials very carefully. Historically, students that have done the best have read the textbook carefully several times, taken notes from the textbook, and studied several days prior to the tests.

**Projects and Writing Assignments:** Each student will complete 8 projects. The projects and what the students learned from doing them will be discussed in class. The project guidelines will be posted on Moodle one week before they are due.

For each project, students need to type their responses using a 10-point Times New Roman font and they need to keep the assignments to the 1 page they are given. They also need to make sure their assignments are free of errors and well-written. Students need to paraphrase from their textbook or articles instead of using direct quotes and citations are not needed. Finally, students need to turn in a hard copy to the professor and **not** submit projects via e-mail (unless they are late – see next paragraph).

Late projects will be penalized one letter grade for being late, and then another letter grade for every additional 24 hours that they are late. Students should e-mail the professor their late projects.

**Research Requirement:** Students are required to participate in research projects as participants. Project information will be announced in class. If a student does not want to participate in research projects, the student should let the professor know and the student can write reviews of research articles.

## **LIVING HONORABLY**

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Everyone has pledged to follow [Agnes Scott College's Honor System](#) as outlined in the student handbook. The following statement on academic honesty comes from the faculty Committee on Academic Standards and Admission of Agnes Scott College (ASC Faculty Meeting Minutes, Attachment 5. May 11, 2012.)

**Academic Honesty:** The Agnes Scott College honor code embodies an ideal of character, conduct, and citizenship, and is an important part of the College's mission and core identity. This applies especially to academic honesty and integrity. Passing off someone else's work as your own represents intellectual fraud and theft, and violates the core values of our academic community. To be honorable, you should understand not only what counts as academic dishonesty, but also how to avoid engaging in these practices. You should:

- ❖ review each course syllabus for the professor's expectations regarding course work and class attendance.
- ❖ attribute all ideas taken from other sources; this shows respect for other scholars. Plagiarism can include portraying another's work or ideas as your own, buying a paper online and turning it in as if it were your own work, or not citing or improperly citing references on a reference page or within the text of a paper.
- ❖ not falsify or create data and resources or alter a graded work without the prior consent of your professor. This includes making up a reference for a works cited page or making up statistics or facts for academic work.
- ❖ not allow another party to do your work/exam, or submit the same or similar work in more than one course without permission from the course instructors. Cheating also includes taking an exam for another person, looking on another person's exam for answers, using exams from previous classes without permission, or bringing and using unauthorized notes or resources (i.e., electronic, written, or otherwise) during an exam.
- ❖ not facilitate cheating, which can happen when you help another student complete a take home exam, give answers to an exam, talk about an exam with a student who has not taken it, or collaborate with others on work that is supposed to be completed independently.
- ❖ be truthful about the submission of work, which includes the time of submission and the place of submission (e.g., e-mail, online, in a mailbox, to an office, etc.) You should understand that penalties result from dishonest conduct, ranging from failure of the assignment to expulsion from the college. You should speak with your professors if you need clarification

about any of these policies.

### Modified Pledge

Students pledge that they have completed assignments honestly by attaching the following statement to each test, quiz, paper, overnight assignment, in-class essay, or other work:

*I pledge that I have neither given nor received any unauthorized aid on this assignment.*

*(Signed)* \_\_\_\_\_

### OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE CLASS

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**Departmental Tutor:** The Psychology Department has three free tutors which students can meet with. They will be in the Data Analysis I room -- 1st floor BSC or 112W BSC (reviews will take place in this room) in the psychology department BSC. Tutors will always be in one of those two rooms. Their hours are:

Ravea Rodriguez  
M 3:30-5p.m.  
W 4:00-5:30pm  
Sunday 7-9p.m. – can be used for review sessions for tests

Sparkle Hodge  
M/W 11:30-12:30p.m.  
T/Th 3:30-5p.m.

Daquanna Alexander  
M/T/W 5:30-7:30p.m.  
Th 5-6p.m.  
F 11-12 noon  
Sunday 7-9p.m. – can be used for review sessions for tests

**Course Evaluations:** Students' feedback about this course is valuable to the professor, the psychology department, and the college administration. Students' comments are taken seriously and the comments are used to improve the course in the future. Students will be asked to complete evaluations of the course at the end of the semester.

**Disability Accommodations:** Agnes Scott College seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. All accommodations for disabilities are authorized through the Office of Academic Advising (please see the contact information listed below to complete the registration process). Once registered, please contact me so we can discuss any specific accommodations needed for this course. Both Academic Advising and the faculty respect students' confidentiality when accommodations are made.

Kelly Deasy, Coordinator of Student Disability Services  
Office of Academic Advising and Student Disability Services  
Buttrick 104b  
[404-471-6174](tel:404-471-6174)  
[kdeasy@agnesscott.edu](mailto:kdeasy@agnesscott.edu)

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### POINT ALLOCATION

Projects (8 x 20 points)	160
Attendance "Quiz" Points (can earn up to 25***)	20
Research Requirement	20
Test 1	100
Test 2	100
Test 3	100
<u>Cumulative Final Exam</u>	<u>100</u>
Total Points	600

### GRADING SCALE

A = 93 - 100	A - = 90 - 92
B+ = 87 - 89	B = 83 - 86
B - = 80 - 82	C+ = 77 - 79
C = 73 - 76	C - = 70 - 72
D+ = 67 - 69	D = 63 - 66
D - = 60 - 62	F = 59 or less

\*\*\*Reminder – I will give you 1 extra quiz point to start off the semester. Therefore you can earn up to 25 attendance quiz points out of 20 points in the total. By attending class every day, you can earn up to 5 extra points added to your total points score.

### Introductory Psychology Schedule

(Although every effort will be made to follow the syllabus, I reserve the right to make changes.)

<b>Class Date</b>	<b>To Read Before Class</b>	<b>General Topic</b>	<b>Project Due Date</b>
Thurs. Aug. 29		Introduction	
Tues. Sept 3	Chapter 1	What is Psychology	
Thurs. Sept 5		What is Psychology	
Tues. Sept. 10	Chapter 2	Psychology's Scientific Method	Project 1
Thurs. Sept. 12		Psychology's Scientific Method	
Tues. Sept. 17		Psychology's Scientific Method	
Thurs. Sept. 19	Chapter 3	Biological Foundations of Behavior	Project 2
Tues. Sept. 24		Biological Foundations of Behavior	
Thurs. Sept. 26		Biological Foundations of Behavior	Project 3
<b>Tues. Oct. 1</b>		<b>Test One</b>	
Thurs. Oct. 3	Chapter 4	Sensation and Perception	
Tues. Oct. 8		Sensation and Perception	
<b>Thurs. Oct. 10</b>		<b>Fall Break!</b>	
Tues. Oct. 15		Sensation and Perception	Project 4
Thurs. Oct. 17	Chapter 5	States of Consciousness	
Tues. Oct. 22		States of Consciousness	Project 5
Thurs. Oct. 24		States of Consciousness	
Tues. Oct. 29	Chapter 6	Learning	
Thurs. Oct. 31		Learning	
Tues. Nov. 5		Learning	Project 6
Thurs. Nov. 7		Learning	
<b>Tues. Nov. 12</b>		<b>Test Two</b>	
Thurs. Nov. 14	Chapter 7	Memory	
Tues. Nov. 19		Memory	Project 7
Thurs. Nov. 21		Memory	
Tues. Nov. 26	Chapter 8	Thinking, Intelligence and Language	
<b>Thurs. Nov. 28</b>		<b>Happy Thanksgiving!</b>	
Tues. Dec. 3		Thinking, Intelligence and Language	Project 8
<b>Thurs. Dec. 5</b>		<b>Test Three</b>	
Dec. 12-17		<b>Final Exam Week</b>	