

**Introductory Psychology:
Biological Foundation and Cognitive Processes
Psychology 101
Online Course**

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Virtual Office Hours: Tu/Th 2:00-3:00. All emails will be responded to within 24 hours (excluding exceptional circumstances).

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 online for four weeks. This course will involve projects, reading assignments, studying and assessment.

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

Learning Outcomes

- ❖ Describe and understand how the scientific method is relevant to investigating psychological phenomena. List and describe the basic approaches and schools of thought within psychology.
- ❖ Identify and describe the basic principles of memory, learning, sensation and perception, consciousness, and the neural structures and processes that underlie these various functions.
- ❖ Apply the basic principles of psychology to the real world and everyday experiences. Students should also become skilled at critically thinking about his/her own cognitive experiences and how they may differ or relate to those of other people.

REQUIRED READING MATERIAL

- *The Science of Psychology* (2013, 3rd edition) by Laura A. King

Reading Assignments: In this course the textbook provides a strong foundation of introductory psychology. We will apply this material using demonstrations, group discussions, videos, surveys, and lecture available to you online. There may also be additional related information covered that is not in your textbook.

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. To be successful in this course, it is **CRITICALLY** important for students to keep up with the reading assignments and online assignments.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE CLASS

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

CLASS COMPONENTS

Students are expected to actively participate in interactive, online class discussions, demonstrations and projects. 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.

Online Orientation and Icebreaker Activity: In the first week of class, it is mandatory that you complete the online orientation as well as an icebreaker activity. There are links to these posted in Moodle.

Class participation: Students are expected to actively participate in online discussions, respond to emails and discussion boards promptly, work on group assignments, etc. This grade will be assessed by the professor on a scale of 1 (no active participation in course) to 10 (actively participated and engaged in course).

Quizzes and Final Exam: For this class there will be a weekly quiz and a cumulative final exam. Tests and quizzes will have essay, short-answer and multiple-choice questions from the material covered in class and the textbook. These will be timed. You will have a certain amount of time to complete them once you begin. The final exam will be comprehensive. To do well on the tests, students must review ALL class materials very carefully. Historically, students that have done the best have read the textbook carefully several times, taken notes from the textbook, reviewed online materials multiple times and started studying well in advance of the actual quiz/test. These should be completed WITHOUT notes, book, internet, etc, and should be based on the knowledge that you have acquired through the course. This is based on the honor system (see below), so you will be responsible for behaving in accordance with the honor code.

Students are expected to take all tests/quizzes on or before the scheduled dates. If a quiz or test is missed, no points will be earned. If a student has a known conflict, they can take the test/quiz in advance of the final deadline.

Projects and Writing Assignments: Each student will complete 8 projects. The project guidelines will be posted on Moodle.

Students 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 will need to submit projects online by the deadline. Late projects will NOT be accepted. If a student has a conflict, work can be submitted early.

Research Requirement: Students are required to complete a research assignment in which an article will be read and reviewed. More detail will be posted.

| POINT ALLOCATION | |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Online Orientation | 10 |
| Icebreaker Activity | 10 |
| Class Participation | 10 |
| Projects (8 x 25 points) | 200 |
| Weekly Quizzes (4 x 50 points) | 200 |
| Research Requirement | 20 |
| Cumulative Final Exam | 100 |
| Total Points | 550 |

Your grade = Points earned/Total points possible (x100)

| 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 |

LIVING HONORABLY

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

When submitting work online, students are acknowledging this pledge:

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

| Week/Topics | Readings | Project | Assignment/Quiz | Projects, Assignments and Quiz Due* |
|---|--|---|--|---|
| Week 1: Tuesday, May 26 – Monday, June 1 | | | | |
| Topic 1 | Ch. 1: What is Psychology? | Project 1 | Student Orientation Quiz, Icebreaker Activity, Week 1 Quiz | Monday, June 1 (12:00 p.m. EST) |
| Topic 2 | Ch. 2: Psychology's Scientific Method | Project 2 | | |
| Week 2: Tuesday, June 2 – Monday, June 8 | | | | |
| Topic 3 | Ch. 3: Biological Foundations of Behavior | Project 3 | Week 2 Quiz | Monday, June 8 (12:00 p.m. EST) |
| Topic 4 | Ch. 4: Sensation and Perception | Project 4 | | |
| Week 3: Tuesday, June 9 – Monday, June 15 | | | | |
| Topic 5 | Ch. 5: States of Consciousness | Project 5 | Week 3 Quiz | Monday, June 15 (12:00 p.m. EST) |
| Topic 6 | Ch. 6: Learning | Project 6 | | |
| Week 4: Tuesday, June 16 – Monday, June 22 | | | | |
| Topic 7 | Ch. 7: Memory | Project 7 | Research Requirement, Week 4 Quiz | Monday, June 22 (12:00 p.m. EST) |
| Topic 8 | Ch. 8: Thinking, Intelligence and Language | Project 8 | | |
| Reading Days and Final Exam | | | | |
| Tuesday, June 23 | | Review | | |
| Wednesday, June 24 | | Reading Day | | |
| Thursday, June 25 | | CUMULATIVE FINAL EXAM (to be completed by 5:00 p.m.) | | |

***All work – including all projects, assignments and quizzes - MUST be turned in by this deadline or they will NOT be accepted