

## **Psychology 1010 - Introduction to Psychology (3 credits)**

Instructor: Colin Metzger

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### Required Text:

Weiten, Psychology: Themes & Variations (6<sup>th</sup> edition). Thomson/Wadsworth (2005).

- no prerequisites or co-requisites are required
- fulfills social science requirement for Dixie State College Associate Degrees.
- Instructional Methods: Lecture, PowerPoint, group discussion, videos and activities.

### Course Description:

For students in all disciplines who are interested in the fundamental scientific principles of behavior. The student will study learning, motivation, emotion, personality, mental disorders, treatment alternatives and other related subjects as part of the course. Critical thinking will be explored in examining these aspects of behavior. Students will have frequent examinations and quizzes as part of the course requirements. 3 lecture hours per week.

### Class Expectations:

Students are expected to attend class regularly. There are no 'excused' absences. Roll will be taken in class each day. Please respect other students and turn off your mobile phones before class. Also, do not leave class while it is in session unless it is an emergency.

### Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

If you are a student with a medical, psychological, or learning disability or think you might have a disability and would like accommodations, contact:

Disability Resource Center (Located in the Advisement & Counseling Center)

Sherrie Dial (DRC Coordinator) Voice: 652.7516 TTY: 656.1081 e-mail: sdial@dixie.edu

#### Department & Course Objectives:

- Demonstrate an ability to examine human behaviors as a way of understanding the human condition.
- Express points of view based on social scientific knowledge.
- Exhibit elements of critical thinking and scientific methodology in examining human behavior.
- Name the major pioneers in psychology, such as Freud, Pavlov, Piaget, Kohlberg, Maslow, and Skinner, and describe the contribution(s) each has made to the development of psychology.
- Name and describe each of psychology's major perspectives: biological, psychoanalytic, behavioral, humanistic, cognitive, and social-cultural.
- Identify psychological research methods - descriptive, correlational, and experimental - and apply that understanding in evaluating the validity of popular psychological claims.
- Apply psychological principles to their own lives by suggesting methods they might use to understand themselves and others more fully, to increase personal growth and development, to improve interpersonal relationships, and to maximize professional competence.

#### Dixie State College Support Services:

Val A. Browning Library ([library.dixie.edu](http://library.dixie.edu)), Writing Center (Browning Building),  
Online Writing Center ([dsc.dixie.edu/owl](http://dsc.dixie.edu/owl)), Advisement ([dsc.dixie.edu/counseling](http://dsc.dixie.edu/counseling)).

#### Dixie State College Policies:

Maintain institutional, departmental and course standards. Maintain academic ethics and honesty including no cheating or plagiarism ([www.dixie.edu/reg/04-05/catalog/stu\\_activities.htm#Rights](http://www.dixie.edu/reg/04-05/catalog/stu_activities.htm#Rights)). Failure to maintain academic standards could result in failing the course and/or expulsion from the college. The last day to drop this class is September 28 and the last day for a complete withdrawal is November 18<sup>th</sup>.

#### Textbook Study Aids:

Companion website includes the following: Weblinks, Crossword puzzles, Tutorials, Flashcards  
End of chapter post-tests, Critical thinking exercises, Concept charts

**Grading:** Based on scores from quizzes, short answer packets, chapter exams, mid-term project, analysis paper and a comprehensive final exam.

**Short Answer Packets:** Three packets will be handed in and will each be worth 15 points. All responses must be typed unless specified. Students will hand in the packets on the class period of the scheduled exam. **No late packets will be accepted.** Each packet will include questions from the following (*same as the unit exams*):

**Packet 1:** Chapters 1, 2, 3

**Packet 2:** Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8

**Packet 3:** Chapters 9, 10, 11

**Chapter Exams:** Three 40-question exams covering the following chapters. You will need a green scantron to complete each exam.

**Exam 1:** Chapters 1, 2, 3

**Exam 2:** Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8

**Exam 3:** Chapters 9, 10, 11

**Final Exam:** (70 points) Chapters 13, 14, 15, class presentations & 3 comprehensive short-answer questions.

The tests will be a combination of multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, True False, and short answer questions and will be taken at the testing center. Students will hand in the corresponding packet as marked on the class schedule. For the most part, exams will cover information from the text; however, they may also include questions on video, handouts, or class discussions. Schedule an appointment to take an early exam or a late exam.

**Early Exams:** You are expected to take tests on scheduled days. However, if you cannot take the test on the scheduled day(s) for reasons that are beyond your personal control, you may take a test early without penalty. The test will be an alternate multiple choice/fill-in-the-blank version.

**Late Exams:** If you do miss a test, you may make up the test; however, the test will be an alternate format from the one taken in class and the test score will be lowered by 10% (3 points). This may not seem like much, but it is the equivalent of a full letter grade. There is no make-up test option for the final exam. Points will be deducted from a late test score regardless of the reason for missing the test.

**Class Participation:** There will be points awarded for class participation throughout the semester based on attendance, quizzes, activities, handouts, etc. You will receive 0 points for each missed participation and I will drop your lowest participation score. *There is no make-up for participation.*

**Mid-Term Project:** Students will complete an APA style paper covering a psychological disorder. A list of possible topics will be given in class; only one person per psychological disorder. The paper must be 6-7 pages in length (including reference and title pages), use a normal font size (10-12) with 1" margins and include a title page. Students must use at least 4 references with 2 references from different types of sources (i.e. 1 journal, 1 website, 1 interview). All references must be cited within the body of the paper. Cover such topics as causes, treatment, prevalence, and future outlook. . Please contact me if you have questions concerning this project or APA style. **No late projects will be accepted**

Students will also prepare a hands-on educational activity (i.e. game, group activity, experiment) to be handed in with the paper. The activity portion will account for 20 points of the project grade and students will present their projects in class.

**APA Style Guide:** Go to <http://dsc.dixie.edu/reber/APAstyle/APAstyle.htm> or access this site from the DSC home page. Go to [www.dixie.edu](http://www.dixie.edu) than click the link <online writing lab>.

**Mid-Term Projects:** Points will be assigned based on the following criteria:

Length of paper	Organization	Spelling and Grammar
APA style	Synthesis of Material	Educational Activity

**Grading Scale:** Grades will be computed based on the following:

Class Participation 15 @ 3 points each	42 points	12 % of the final grade
3 Short Answer Packets @ 15 points each	45 points	13 % of the final grade
3 Chapter Tests @ 40 points each	120 points	35% of the final grade
Mid-Term Project	70 points	20 % of the final grade
Final Exam	70 points	20 % of the final grade

Total Possible Points	<b>347 points</b>
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**Class Schedule:**

- The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the class schedule and/or topics
- Students should complete reading assignments **before** each class period as this will aid your understanding of the material and preparation for quizzes.
- Students are responsible for exam material even if not covered in class lectures.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Readings &amp; Topics</b>	<b>Assignments Due</b>
8/28	M	Chapter 1: The Evolution of Psychology Chapter 2: Research Enterprise in Psychology	Participation 1
9/4	M	<b>Labor Day No Class</b>	
9/11	M	Chapter 3: The Biological Bases of Behavior	Participation 2
9/18	M	Chapter 5: Variations in Consciousness	Participation 3 Exam 1, Packet1
9/25	M	Chapter 6: Learning	Participation 4
10/2	M	Chapter 6: Learning	Participation 5
10/9	M	Chapter 7: Human Memory	Participation 6
10/16	M	Chapter 8: Cognition and Intelligence	Participation 7
10/23	M	Chapter 9: Motivation and Emotion	Participation 8 Exam 2, Packet 2
10/30	M	Chapter 10: Human Lifespan Development	Participation 9
11/6	M	Chapter 11: Personality Theory & Assessment	Participation 10
11/13	M	Class Presentations	<b>APA Paper</b> Exam 3, Packet 3 Participation 11
11/20	M	Chapter 13: Psychological Disorders Chapter 14: Treatment of Disorders	Participation 12
11/27	M	Chapter 15: Social Behavior	Participation 13
12/4	M	Chapter 15: Social Behavior	Participation 14
12/11	M	Final Exam (taken in class)	



