

Psychology 131-12
Introduction to Psychology
Spring 2008

Class time and location: Room LDB 216; Monday, Wednesday, & Friday 10:00-10:50am

Instructor: Claire Sauvagnat

LDB, Room 332A, Extension 4-3376, cls013@shsu.edu

Office hours: Monday: 9:00-10:00am

Wednesday: 9:00-10:00am and 1:00-2:00pm

And by appointment

Required Textbook:

Nevid, J. S. (2007). *Psychology: Concepts and application* (2 ed.). Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company.

Course Description and Objectives:

The course is designed to expose students to theory, research, and applications in the scientific discipline of psychology. You will learn what psychology is all about in a global sense, and why it is considered to be a science. You will be presented basic concepts and approaches in respect to the biological bases of psychology, sensation and perception, state of consciousness, learning, memory, cognitive psychology, motivation and emotion, development, personality, abnormal psychology, treatment models, and social psychology. When the course is over, you should be able to appreciate how a psychologist might approach the quest to knowledge about behavior.

Grade Policy:

There will be four quizzes in this course consisting of Multiple Choice Questions and a Take Home Assignment. Each quiz is worth 100 points. You will be required to complete two Assignments worth 25 points each and Attendance will be worth 50 points. The total number of points accumulated on your four quizzes, your attendance, and the two Assignments will determine your grade.

Missing an exam:

You need to warn the instructor *prior* to the scheduled examination time, you need to have a valid reason, and you will be allowed to have *one make-up exam* during the semester.

Your grades will be based upon the following schema:

A = 450-500

D = 300-349

B = 400-449

F = 000-299

C = 350-399

Attendance Policy:

Attendance is expected and will influence your final grade. You are responsible for signing the attendance sheet daily *for yourself only*. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of class and

late arrivers will not be allowed to sign the attendance sheet. Moreover, your presence will not count if you leave before the end of class.

In the lecture section of this course, you will be allowed *three* unexplained absences. Any subsequent absence *will cost you 1 point* of your 50 attendance points unless a doctor's note or a death certificate is presented.

Classroom Behavior:

You are expected to arrive on time and stay until the end of class. You are expected to behave appropriately in class and you will show respect to your peers, as well as your instructor. In addition, all cell phones or other technological devices that could potentially be disruptive to your peers should be turned off prior to the commencement of class. If you are disruptive to the class, you will be asked to leave at any time during the semester.

Study Tips:

The best advice on how to study for this course is to read the material beforehand, listen attentively to the lecture, and then review the material very soon after each class has ended. In addition, students with academic difficulty should contact the SAM Center.

Academic Dishonesty:

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials.

Disabilities:

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance are expected to visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to speak with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: No accommodations can be made until you register with the Counseling Center.

Religious Holidays:

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Section 51.911(a)(2) defines religious holy days as “a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under

Section 11.20, Tax Code. . .” A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to be absent him/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holyday(s). The instructor will notify the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

Visitors in the Classroom:

Unannounced visitors to class must present a current, official SHSU identification card to be permitted in the classroom. They must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is at the instructor’s discretion whether or not the visitor will be allowed to remain in the classroom. This policy is not intended to discourage the occasional visiting of classes by responsible persons. Obviously, however, the visiting of a particular class should be occasional and not regular, and it should in no way constitute interference with registered members of the class or the educational process.

Tentative calendar:

Date	Topic	Readings
01/16-01/18	Introduction to Psychology	Chapter 1
01/21	NO CLASS	
01/24	<i>Last day to register and to process schedule changes.</i>	
01/23, 01/25, 01/28, & 01/30	Brain and Behavior	Chapter 2
02/01	<i>Last day to drop without a "Q" and receive 100% refund. Degree Applications to be filed in Registrar's Office by students graduating May 2008.</i>	
01/30, 02/01, & 02/04	Sensation and Perception	Chapter 3
02/06	Health + APA	Chapter 15, 1 + +
02/08	QUIZ 1 + Ethics Case Due	Chap 1- 3 & 15
02/11, 02/13, 02/15, & 02/18	Learning	Chapter 5
02/18, 02/20, & 02/22	Memory	Chapter 6
02/25, 02/27, & 02/29	Cognitive Psychology	Chapter 7
02/29, 03/03, & 03/05	Motivation and Emotions	Chapter 8
03/07	QUIZ 2 + Cast Away Due	Chap 5-8
03/10, 03/12, & 03/14	NO CLASS	
03/17, 03/19, & 03/24	Consciousness	Chapter 4
03/21	NO CLASS	
03/24, 03/26, & 03/28	Child Development	Chapter 9
03/31, 04/02, & 04/04	Adolescent and Adult Development	Chapter 10
04/04	STD Pamphlet Group Assignment Due	
04/04, 04/07, & 04/09	Gender and Sexuality	Chapter 11
04/11	QUIZ 3 + Child Dev Due	Chapter 4 & 9-11
04/14, 04/16, & 04/18	Social Psychology	Chapter 16
04/21, 04/23, & 04/25	Personality Theories	Chapter 12
04/28	"Social Psychology's Influence on You" Assignment due	
04/28, 04/30, & 05/02	Abnormal Psychology	Chapter 13
05/02	Major, Paper, and Movie Review Extra Credit Due	
05/05	Methods of Therapy	Chapter 14
05/07	Study Participation and Mock Therapy Extra Credit Due	
05/07	Review	
05/08	<i>Last day to resign. Last day to drop a course without the grade of F.</i>	
To be assigned	QUIZ 4 + Abnormal and Media Due	Chap 12-14 & 16