

**Psyc 203 Section 01 – Introduction to Psychology**  
 Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9:35a – 10:50a, Nursing Building, Room 109  
 Course Syllabus – Fall, 2008

*Professor:* Dr. Heidi Dobish  
*Office:* Free School (33 South Princess Street)  
*Office Hours:* Mon. & Wed: 1:15 -2:15pm; Tues & Thurs: 1:00 – 2:30p, Fri: 11:00a – 12:00p  
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**Required Materials:** Franzoi, S. L. (2008). *Elements of Psychology*, (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition). Mason, OH: Thomson Learning (Textbook)

**Course Objectives:**

This course is designed to a) increase students' knowledge and understanding of basic research methods and principles of psychology; b) to show students how their new knowledge of psychology can be applied to their daily lives and experiences; c) to help students develop critical thinking skills as well as improve their reading and writing skills.

<u>Week</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
1	Tu 8/19	Introducing Psychology & Methods	Chapt 1
	Th 8/21	Introducing Psychology & Methods	Chapt 1
2	Tu 8/26	Introducing Psychology & Methods	Chapt 1
	Th 8/28	Methods & Biopsychology/Neuroscience	Chapt 1 & 2
3	Tu 9/02	Biopsychology & Neuroscience	Chapt 2
	Th 9/04	Biopsychology & Neuroscience/Development	Chapt 2 & 3
4	Tu 9/09	Exam 1	Chapters 1 & 2
	Th 9/11	Development	Chapt 3
5	Tu 9/16	Development	Chapt 3
	Th 9/18	Development	Chapt 3
6	Tu 9/23	Development	Chapt 3
	Th 9/25	Sensation & Perception	Chapt 4
7	Tu 9/30	Sensation & Perception	Chapt 4
	Th 10/02	Sensation & Perception	Chapt 4
8	Tu 10/07	Exam 2	Chapters 3 & 4
	Th 10/09	Learning	Chapt 6
9	Tu 10/14	Learning	Chapt 6
	Th 10/16	Memory	Chapt 7
10	Tu 10/21	Memory	Chapt 7
	Th 10/23	Memory	Chapt 7
11	Tu 10/28	Memory	Chapt 7
	Th 10/30	Exam 3	Chapters 6 & 7

<u>Week</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
12	Tu 11/04 Th 11/06	Social Psychology Social Psychology	Chapt 13 Chapt 13
13	Tu 11/11 Th 11/13	Social Psychology/Personality Personality	Chapt 13 &10 Chapt 10
14	Tu 11/18 Th 11/20	Personality Personality/Psychological Disorders	Chapt 10 <b><u>Paper Due</u></b> Chapt 10 & 11
15	Tu 11/25 Th 11/27	Thanksgiving Break/No Class Thanksgiving Break/No Class	
16	Tu 12/02 Th 12/04	Psychological Disorders Assessment Test – Bonus points	Chapt 11 <b><u>Research Participation Deadline</u></b>

**FINAL EXAM DATE: Thursday, December 11 →9:00am – 11:00am** in Nursing Building Room 109

**GRADES:** Course grades are based upon four exams, one writing assignment and quizzes. Exams will cover the lectures, textbook and supplemental materials. The final exam is NOT cumulative. It will only cover the remaining three chapters of the semester (10, 11 & 13). Make-up exams will only be given for emergencies or with prior arrangements with the instructor. You are required to notify the instructor before the scheduled exam if you are unable to attend. Determination of an emergency is a discretionary decision of the instructor.

**Grade breakdown:**

Exam grades = 60% of final grade (each exam is worth 75 points)

Paper = 20% of final grade (the paper is worth 75 points)

Quizzes = 10% of final grade (10 five-point quizzes for a total of 50 points)

Research participation = 10% of final grade

The scoring for this course: A=90%, B=80%, C=70%, D=60% and F=below 60%.

If you need special accommodations for exams or assignments, please contact the instructor as soon as possible.

**QUIZZES:** Quizzes will be unannounced and will be based upon your notes and class discussion for that day. You will be allowed to look at your notes and/or textbook when taking each quiz. **There are no make-ups for quizzes.**

**ASSIGNMENTS:** The paper should be typed (12-point font, double-spaced, one-inch margins) and turned in ON TIME. Points equivalent to one letter grade will be deducted for each day the paper is late. The specific requirements for the paper will be discussed in class when the assignment is given.

**ATTENDANCE:** Generally, students who do not attend class do not well in this course. While there is no formal attendance policy, students are expected to attend class, contribute to the class discussion and conduct themselves appropriately. Should a student miss a class for any reason, he or she is responsible for the materials addressed during that class, including announcements and assignments. Remember, **QUIZZES CANNOT BE MADE UP.**

**RESEARCH PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENT:** All students taking PSYC 203 Introduction to Psychology must complete a research participation requirement. This requirement may be completed in one of two ways. The first way is to participate in 2 units of research conducted by faculty, independent study students under the supervision of faculty, or students in the PSYC 485 Senior Thesis class. Psychology relies on empirical methods to test and refine its theories and exposure to the research process is considered an important learning experience for students. We understand, though, that some individuals may object to participation in research studies. The second way to fulfill the requirement is to read two articles and to write a two-page paper about each one. The articles must be chosen from the approved list which is posted on the Department Web site (<http://shepherd.edu/psychweb>) and on the Participant Pool bulletin board outside White Hall room 333. Participation will count for 10% of your final grade in this class and, whichever option you choose to complete, you must complete it by last day of classes. Signup sheets and complete participation policies and procedures may be found on the Participant Pool Bulletin Board.

Research participation should count for a total of 10% of the course grade (or one full letter grade) and this should be reflected on your syllabus. A student who completes the entire requirement will earn the 10% while one who does not complete the requirement or who only partially fulfills the requirement will not (your final grade will drop one letter grade). You will receive periodic reports from the Participant Pool Coordinator regarding the standing of your students.

**INTEGRITY:** Students are expected to do their own work (i.e. no sharing written assignments, cheating on exams, turning in work that is not their own, etc.) and follow University policies and procedures regarding academic integrity as outlined in the Student Handbook.

**FINAL PROVISIO:** Dates and policies are subject to change by the instructor. Changes will be announced in class.