



## Master Course Syllabus

For additional course information, including prerequisites, corequisites, and course fees, please refer to the Catalog: <https://catalog.uvu.edu/>

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**Semester:** Spring

**Course Prefix:** PSY

**Course Title:** General Psychology

**Year:** 2025

**Course and Section #:** 1010 013

**Credits:** 3

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### ***Course Description***

An introductory course in modern scientific psychology. Covers major domains of scientific psychology including biological foundations, sensations, perception, learning, motivation, human development and abnormal psychology. Examines major psychological and professional applications.

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### ***Course Attributes***

This course has the following attributes:

- General Education Requirements
- Global/Intercultural Graduation Requirements
- Writing Enriched Graduation Requirements
- Discipline Core Requirements in Program
- Elective Core Requirements in Program
- Open Elective

Other: *Click here to enter text.*

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### ***Instructor Information***

**Instructor Name:** Dr. Sabrina Badali

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### ***Student Learning Outcomes***

Upon successful completion, students should be able to:

1. Identify key concepts and theories in the field of psychology
  2. Explain the scientific foundations of psychology
  3. Apply important concepts and findings in psychology to your own life and to society
  4. Apply important life and professional skills such as written communication, critical thinking, and informational literacy
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### ***Course Materials and Texts***

Psychology OpenStacks Textbook. Spielman, R. M., Jenkins, W. J. & Lovett, M. (2020) Psychology: 2e. Houston, Texas: OpenStax, Rice University.

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### ***Course Requirements***

## Course Assignments, Assessments, and Grading Policy

**Homework Assignments (36%)** Most weeks you will have one homework assignment (in addition to a quiz or exam, explained below). These assignments are an opportunity to apply your new knowledge of the material covered that week. Homework assignments will take a variety of formats throughout the semester and will include writing paragraph-form answers to a few questions, writing a short paper, or completing a "lab" assignment.

**Practice Quizzes (14%)** Each week, you will complete practice quizzes to test your understanding of the material and improve your memory. As you will learn in this course, an effective way to study and improve long-term memory is to space out your studying (that is, have multiple short study sessions rather than one longer cram session). You can complete the practice quizzes an unlimited number of times before the due date until you get a score you are happy with, but must wait at least 2 hours in between quiz attempts.

**Exams (45%)** There are a total of three exams throughout the semester. These exams are *not* cumulative, which means that each exam only covers material since the previous exam. Exams are open-book and open-note, but will have a time limit of about 1 minute per question. All exam questions are multiple-choice or matching questions.

**Research Participation (5%)** The field of psychology has been established through scientific research examining how people learn, think, and feel, and through standardized assessment of learning, thinking, and feeling. To enhance students' awareness and understanding of this research process, the Department of Psychology provides the opportunity for students enrolled in psychology courses to participate in research/assessment experiences during the semester. To accomplish this, the department has established the Psychology Participant Pool. This pool allows students to be participants in psychology research projects that have been approved by the University's Institutional Review Board. Note that you are participating in *real* studies that are being conducted by *real* researchers (for example, faculty projects, graduate student projects, undergraduate student research projects). Please take your participation seriously – you are helping to promote a better understanding of human thought, emotion, and behavior. If you would prefer not to participate in studies, then you can complete an alternative assignment of reading research articles and writing brief summaries. Full instructions for either option can be found in the Research Participation page on Canvas.

### Grading Scale:

Grade	Percent
A	94-100
A-	90-93.9
B+	87-89.9
B	83-86.9
B-	80-82.9

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Percent</b>
C+	77-79.9
C	73-76.9
C-	70-72.9
D+	67-69.9
D	63-66.9
D-	60-62.9
E	0-59.9

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### **Required or Recommended Reading Assignments**

All required readings are listed with the modules below

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### **General Description of the Subject Matter of Each Lecture or Discussion**

#### Module 1

Required Reading: History of Psychology

Topic: What is Psychology?

#### Module 2

Required Reading: Correlational Research Methods & Analyzing Findings and Experimental Designs

Topic: How do we know things? & Research Methods

#### Module 3

Required Reading: Parts of the Nervous System & The Brain and Spinal Cord

Topic: Nervous System & The Brain

#### Module 4

Required Reading: Classical Conditioning & Operant Conditioning

Topic: Classical & Operant Conditioning

#### Module 5

Required Reading: Emotion

Topic: Emotion & Review for Exam 1

#### Module 6

Required Reading: Sensation versus Perception & Accuracy and Inaccuracy in Perception

Topic: Sensation & Perception

## Module 7

Required Reading: How Memory Functions & Problems with Memory

Topic: Memory

## Module 8

Required Reading: Problem Solving

Topic: Reasoning, Judgment, and Decision Making

## Module 9

Required Reading: Measures of Intelligence

Topic: Intelligence & Review for Exam 2

## Module 10

Topic: Early Development & Childhood

## Module 11

Required Reading: Conformity, Compliance, and Obedience

Topic: Social Psychology

## Module 12

Topic: Stress and Health

## Module 13

Required Reading: Personality

Topic: Personality

## Module 14

Required Reading: Psychological Disorders & Treatment and Therapy

Topic: Intro to Psychological Disorders & Therapy and Treatment

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## ***Required Course Syllabus Statements***

### **Generative AI**

**AI Statement:** Easily accessible tools powered by Artificial Intelligence (AI) are growing in popularity. In this class if you want to use AI tools, I want you to be able to use these tools in an effective and ethical way. My goal is for you to learn and develop critical thinking and creative skills and AI doesn't need to work against that goal. For work in this class, if you use AI you **must add a short AI disclosure statement**. Please see the **AI Disclosure** page for more details! I will be using a plagiarism checker that includes screening for AI. These tools are notoriously inaccurate, but if your assignment gets flagged and you do not have an AI disclosure statement, then I will enter a 0 for your grade and get in contact with you. After you have added an appropriate AI disclosure statement (or if we have determined that it was an error) then I will update your assignment grade.

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### **Using Remote Testing Software**

This course does not use remote testing software.

This course uses remote testing software. Remote test-takers may choose their remote testing locations. Please note, however, that the testing software used for this may conduct a brief scan of remote test-takers' immediate surroundings, may require use of a webcam while taking an exam, may require the microphone be on while taking an exam, or may require other practices to confirm academic honesty. Test-takers therefore shall have no expectation of privacy in their test-taking location during, or immediately preceding, remote testing. If a student strongly objects to using test-taking software, the student should contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to determine whether alternative testing arrangements are feasible. Alternatives are not guaranteed.

## **Accommodations/Students with Disabilities**

Students needing accommodations due to a permanent or temporary disability, pregnancy or pregnancy-related conditions may contact UVU [Accessibility Services](#) at [accessibilityservices@uvu.edu](mailto:accessibilityservices@uvu.edu) or 801-863-8747.

Accessibility Services is located on the Orem Campus in BA 110.

Deaf/Hard of Hearing students requesting ASL interpreters or transcribers can contact Accessibility Services to set up accommodations. Deaf/Hard of Hearing services can be contacted at [DHHservices@uvu.edu](mailto:DHHservices@uvu.edu)

DHH is located on the Orem Campus in BA 112.

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## **Academic Integrity**

At Utah Valley University, faculty and students operate in an atmosphere of mutual trust. Maintaining an atmosphere of academic integrity allows for free exchange of ideas and enables all members of the community to achieve their highest potential. Our goal is to foster an intellectual atmosphere that produces scholars of integrity and imaginative thought. In all academic work, the ideas and contributions of others must be appropriately acknowledged and UVU students are expected to produce their own original academic work.

Faculty and students share the responsibility of ensuring the honesty and fairness of the intellectual environment at UVU. Students have a responsibility to promote academic integrity at the university by not participating in or facilitating others' participation in any act of academic dishonesty. As members of the academic community, students must become familiar with their [rights and responsibilities](#). In each course, they are responsible for knowing the requirements and restrictions regarding research and writing, assessments, collaborative work, the use of study aids, the appropriateness of assistance, and other issues. Likewise, instructors are responsible to clearly state expectations and model best practices.

Further information on what constitutes academic dishonesty is detailed in [UVU Policy 541: Student Code of Conduct](#).

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## **Equity and Title IX**

Utah Valley University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age (40 and over), disability, veteran status, pregnancy, childbirth, or pregnancy-related conditions, citizenship, genetic information, or other basis protected by applicable law, including Title IX and 34 C.F.R. Part 106, in employment, treatment, admission, access to educational programs and activities, or other University benefits or services. Inquiries about nondiscrimination at UVU may be directed to the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights or UVU's Title IX Coordinator at 801-863-7999 – [TitleIX@uvu.edu](mailto:TitleIX@uvu.edu) – 800 W University Pkwy, Orem, 84058, Suite BA 203.

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## **Religious Accommodation**

UVU values and acknowledges the array of worldviews, faiths, and religions represented in our student body, and as such provides supportive accommodations for students. Religious belief or conscience broadly includes religious, non-religious, theistic, or non-theistic moral or ethical beliefs as well as participation in religious holidays, observances, or activities. Accommodations may include scheduling or due-date modifications or make-up assignments for missed class work.

To seek a religious accommodation, a student must provide written notice to the instructor and the Director of Accessibility Services at [accessibilityservices@uvu.edu](mailto:accessibilityservices@uvu.edu). If the accommodation relates to a

scheduling conflict, the notice should include the date, time, and brief description of the difficulty posed by the conflict. Such requests should be made as soon as the student is aware of the prospective scheduling conflict.

While religious expression is welcome throughout campus, UVU also has a [specially dedicated space](#) for meditation, prayer, reflection, or other forms of religious expression.