



Master Course Syllabus

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

Semester: Spring

Year: 2025

Course Prefix: PSYCHOLOGY

Course and Section #: 1010-X16

Course Title: Introduction to Psychology

Credits: 3

Course Description

Psychological science helps us understand ourselves and others. Knowing more about how we learn, remember, the impact of social situations on our behavior, the intricate relationship between our brain and our environment, and the factors that guide our developmental journey, can give us insight into our own lives. We can also discover how psychology has impacted society and the potential it has to not only improve our personal well-being, but the world. During this course, we will tackle this big question: How does scientific Psychology help us understand our experiences? This overarching theme will be woven throughout the content of our course. We will examine many topics during the semester, including social psychology, research, the biology of mind, consciousness, lifespan development, learning, memory, cognition, stress, psychological disorders, and treatment. As you learn more about psychology, you will discover that PSYCHOLOGY IS EVERYWHERE!

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.](#)

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Aubree Bushman Judkins

Student Learning Outcomes

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

- **Textbook:** Openstax Open Access Textbook-Psychology 2nd Edition
 - The textbook for this class is **entirely ONLINE**. It is an open access text, meaning that you will not have to pay anything to read it.
 - Please note that the UVU Bookstore may recommend additional “Optional Study Tools & Resources” for this class on their website. These resources are advertisements and were not selected by me and are not endorsed by me. Purchasing these resources is not recommended.
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Course Requirements

Course Assignments, Assessments, and Grading Policy

This course is run on a weekly schedule. That means that all of your work for the week will be posted on Sunday morning and due the next Sunday at 11:59 PM. Regardless of whether it is a reading quiz, a homework assignment, a peer review...it will be due on a Sunday night.

Homework Assignments.....40%

Each week you will have a minimum of two homework assignments. These assignments are your opportunity to demonstrate mastery of the material that we have covered in that module. Homework assignments will take a variety of formats throughout the semester and may include writing a short paper, completing a lab assignment, watching and analyzing a movie, creating a presentation, drawing a celebrity brain, etc.

Weekly Video Checks.....15 %

In this online course, 15% of your grade will be based on weekly quizzes designed to ensure that you have watched the assigned videos. These quizzes will cover key concepts and information from the videos, helping to reinforce your understanding and keep you engaged with the course material. This approach replaces traditional lectures, allowing you to learn at your own pace while still holding you accountable for staying current with the content.

Research Participation.....15%

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. Only by verifying our intuitions with empirical data can science advance. Your grasp of the nature of psychology’s methods and claims is greatly enhanced by participating in the actual process of research and/or assessment. To enhance students’ awareness and understanding of this empirical process, the Department of Psychology provides the opportunity for students enrolled in psychology courses to participate in psychology research/assessment experiences during the semester. To accomplish this, the Department has established the Psychology Participant Pool. This Pool allows students to participate as participants in psychology research projects that have been approved by the University’s Institutional Review Board, or to participate in practice assessments being administered by graduate students in clinical psychology. You should immediately register as a participant at the Psychology Department’s Subject Pool website.

Midterm Exam..... 15%

After module eight you will take a comprehensive exam worth 15% of your final grade. The exam will be open note and open book. It will not be open friend. Please complete your own work.

Final Exam.....15%

After module 15 you will take a comprehensive exam worth 20% of your final grade. The exam will be open note and open book. It will not be open friend. Please complete your own work.

Total..... 100%

GRADING:

Below is listed the guidelines for the letter grades and the corresponding percentage point range equivalents for this course. Please note that your scores depend on your performance and are not curved based on the overall class performance. That means that everyone can get an A! Final grades are rounded to the nearest tenth and assigned the corresponding letter grade:

A	93 or above	C-	70 to 72.9
A-	90 to 92.9	D+	67 to 69.9
B+	87 to 89.9	D	64 to 66.9
B	84 to 86.9	D-	60 to 63.9
B-	80 to 83.9	E	Below 60
C+	77 to 79.9		
C	73 to 76.9		

Required or Recommended Reading Assignments

All required readings use chapters from the course text that align with the lectures below.

General Description of the Subject Matter of Each Lecture or Discussion

Module/Chapter	Course Orientation/Welcome
1	Introduction to Psychology
2	Research Methods in Psychology
3	The Nervous and Endocrine Systems
4	States of Consciousness
5	Sensation and Perception
6	Learning Theories
7	Cognitive Psychology
8	Memory
9	Lifespan Development
10	Motivation and Emotion
11	Social Psychology
12	Personality
13	Psychological Disorders
14	Therapy and Treatment
15	Cumulative Final-

Required Course Syllabus Statements

Generative AI

As we embrace the evolving landscape of technology in education, it is important to define clear guidelines for the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools in this course. AI can be a powerful aid in your learning process, but it is crucial to use it responsibly and ethically. Below are the guidelines for AI usage in this course:

Permitted Uses of AI:

- **Brainstorming and Refining Ideas:** You may use AI for brainstorming sessions and refining your conceptual understanding of course topics.
- **Fine-Tuning Research Questions:** AI can assist in sharpening your research questions to ensure they are well-defined and focused.
- **Finding Information:** You can employ AI to gather preliminary information on your topic. However, ensure that you critically evaluate and verify this information.
- **Drafting Outlines:** AI can be used to help create initial outlines for your assignments to organize thoughts and structure your work.
- **Grammar and Style Checks:** Use AI for checking grammar and improving the stylistic aspects of your writing.

Prohibited Uses of AI:

- **Impersonation in Classroom Contexts:** Do not use AI to compose or respond to discussion board prompts, Teams/Canvas chats, or any communication that is meant to reflect your personal understanding and engagement.
- **Completing Assigned Group Work:** AI should not be used for completing tasks assigned specifically to you in group projects unless there is a mutual agreement within the group.
- **Drafting Writing Assignments:** You must not use AI to write drafts of your assignments. This includes generating entire sentences, paragraphs, or papers.

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.

Required University Syllabus Statements

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 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

DHH is located on the Orem Campus in BA 112.

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](#).

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 – 800 W University Pkwy, Orem, 84058, Suite BA 203.

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. 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.