

# ELEMENTARY PSYCHOLOGY

## PSY 12000

*Spring 2012*

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**PROFESSOR:**

Jody Ross, Ph.D.  
Email: [rossj@ipfw.edu](mailto:rossj@ipfw.edu)  
(We will not use blackboard email.)  
Office: NF 388C (481-6396)

► **Note:** When you email, please include “**PSY120 – class time**” in the subject line ◀

Office Hours: Tuesday 10:30-11:30am  
Thursday 10:30-11:30am  
(or by appointment)

**CLASS:**

Tuesday & Thursday  
Kettler Hall – Room 246

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**TEXT:**

Gerow, J., Bordens, K., Blanch-Payne, E. (2010). General Psychology: With Spotlights on Diversity. Boston, MA: Pearson.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is designed to provide students with an overview of the field of psychology and an appreciation for the scientific nature of the discipline. We will examine ways in which psychologists apply scientific principles to the study of a variety of specialty topics in the field, including cognition, behavior, emotion, personality, physiology, health and psychopathology. We will also examine the ways that psychological principles impact our daily lives.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** Students who successfully complete this course will

1. Acquire an understanding and appreciation for the science of psychology and the methodology used to conduct psychological research
2. Have a strong foundation in content knowledge of the subject
3. Be able to think critically about the material and apply psychological principles to real-world problems and experiences
4. Gain an appreciation for the diversity within the field of psychology

**CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR**

Each person in this course has unique prior experiences and a unique viewpoint to share. This offers a great opportunity for us to learn from each other. Though

disagreement and even conflict may occur, I expect your cooperation in maintaining an atmosphere of mutual respect.

Please keep in mind that you are sharing a learning environment with others. Any behavior that could potentially disrupt the learning of another student (e.g., holding personal conversations during lecture) is completely unacceptable and students engaging in such behavior will be asked to leave class.

It is expected that you will arrive on time and stay for the duration of class.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

**Exams:** There will be eight chapter exams, each covering one chapter from your text (note: exam six will cover portions of two chapters). There will be 25 multiple choice questions on each exam. Exams will cover both the assigned chapters in your text and material discussed in lecture. You are responsible for the material in our text even if it is not discussed in class. Also, information presented in class that is not in the textbook may be included on the tests. You are responsible for getting the notes for missed classes from other students in the class (not from me). Outlines for all lectures will be available on our Blackboard page. You should print and bring these to class.

You will have 40 minutes to complete each 25-item multiple choice test. The remaining 25 minutes of class will be used to review the correct answers. Your exam grades will be posted on Blackboard. Test forms must be turned in along with scantrons. You may not take the exams home. The lowest of your first seven exam grades will be dropped, however, you should plan to take all eight exams. An absence on an exam day will result in a zero for that exam. There are no make-up exams in this course. **NOTE: The final exam grade cannot be dropped; you must take the final exam.**

**Critical Thinking & Application (CTA) Assignments:** One of the more important skills within any science is the ability to synthesize and critically evaluate information. It is also important to apply principles learned in class to your experiences outside of class. CTA assignments will be in the form of homework and must be typed and turned in at the beginning of class on the date due. Each CTA will be discussed in class and guidelines for each CTA will be posted on Blackboard approximately one week before the due date. If you are absent, be sure to check Blackboard for details on the assignment. Late assignments will receive a deduction of 10 percentage points (3 points) per day that they are late and must be turned in either to me in class or to the Psychology Department secretary. Electronic copies will NOT be accepted.

**Assignments cannot be emailed.** You must request a date/time stamp on the assignment if you turn it in to the Psychology Department secretary rather than to me. Assignments will not be accepted if they are over one week (i.e. 7 days) late. There will be three CTA assignments throughout the semester and all three will count toward your final grade. CTAs are individual assignments and should be completed entirely on your own. You may not work on the CTA assignments with other students. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT A CTA PLEASE ASK ME, NOT EACHOTHER.

**Quizzes:** There will be at least one quiz given in class each week. Quizzes will be used to assign attendance points and to assess whether you are keeping up with the chapter readings. Quizzes are generally given at the beginning of class and you must be

present for the entire class in order to earn any attendance or quiz points. Quizzes are worth four points (one attendance point and three quiz points). At the end of the semester, if your final grade is within 0.9 points of a higher letter grade AND YOU HAVE AT LEAST 90% ATTENDANCE, based on quizzes (i.e., you have completed at least 90% of the quizzes), I will round your final, course grade up to the higher letter grade.

**Research Participation:** Students in PSY 120 are expected to participate in research conducted by members of the Psychology Department, or to complete an alternative assignment. Alternative assignments must be typed (double space, 12-point font) and must be at least 1 full page and no more than 2 pages long. These assignments are due at our last regular class (Thursday Apr. 26<sup>th</sup>). Details about this requirement are provided on a separate sheet titled “research participation handout” on our Blackboard page.

**Academic Integrity:** Violating academic integrity is considered a serious offense by the university and will be treated accordingly. Violation of academic integrity includes, but is not limited to: cheating or having unauthorized possession of exams, working with another student on individual assignments (e.g., CTAs), and submitting the work of another person as your own (plagiarism). You cannot copy and paste from any source, even one you cite, without using quotation marks to indicate that you are quoting directly. Academic dishonesty may result in, at least, a failing grade for that particular exam/assignment or failing the entire course.

## **GRADING CRITERIA**

### **Points Breakdown**

<u>Category</u>	<u>Points</u>
Exams (7 at 50 points each)	350
Critical thinking assignments (3 at 30 points each)	90
Research participation (6 at 10 points each)	60
* Quizzes (15 at 3 points each)	45
* Attendance (15 at 1 point each)	15
Student Survey (1 at 5 points)	5

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Total = 565 points

\* Number of quizzes is approximate.

### **Letter Grades Will Be Assigned As Follows:**

- A = 90-100%
- B = 80-89%
- C = 70-79%
- D = 60-69%
- F = less than 60%

**CAMPUS RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS:** See handout on our blackboard homepage

**COURSE SCHEDULE:** The instructor reserves the right to change the syllabus as necessary. Students are responsible for any changes announced in class.

WEEK	TOPIC	CHAPTER
1: Jan. 10 <sup>th</sup>	- Syllabus & Introduction - The Science of Psychology & Research Methods	1
2: Jan. 17 <sup>th</sup>	- The Science of Psychology & Research Methods	1
3: Jan. 24 <sup>th</sup>	▶ EXAM 1 – TUESDAY JAN. 24 <sup>th</sup> ◀ - CTA #1 Due, Tuesday Jan. 24 <sup>th</sup> - Biological Bases of Psychology	1 2
4: Jan. 31 <sup>st</sup>	- Biological Bases of Psychology	2
5: Feb. 7 <sup>th</sup>	▶ EXAM 2 – TUESDAY FEB. 7 <sup>th</sup> ◀ - Sensation & Perception	2 3
6: Feb. 14 <sup>th</sup>	- Sensation & Perception	3
7: Feb. 21 <sup>st</sup>	▶ EXAM 3 – TUESDAY FEB. 21 <sup>st</sup> ◀ - Learning	3 5
8: Feb. 28 <sup>th</sup>	- Learning	5
9: Mar. 6 <sup>th</sup>	SPRING BREAK – NO CLASSES	
10: Mar. 13 <sup>th</sup>	▶ EXAM 4 – TUESDAY MAR. 13 <sup>th</sup> ◀ - CTA # 2 Due, Tuesday Mar. 13 <sup>th</sup> - Memory	5 6
11: Mar. 20 <sup>th</sup>	- Memory ▶ EXAM 5 – THURSDAY MAR. 22 <sup>nd</sup> ◀	6 6
12: Mar. 27 <sup>th</sup>	- Higher Cognitive Processes (Pages: 273-288) - Stress & Physical Health (Pages: 449-460)	7 11
13: Apr. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	- Stress & Physical Health (Pages: 449-460) ▶ EXAM 6 – THURSDAY APRIL 5 <sup>th</sup> ◀	11 7 & 11
14: Apr. 10 <sup>th</sup>	- Personality	9
15: Apr. 17 <sup>th</sup>	▶ EXAM 7 – TUESDAY APR. 17 <sup>th</sup> ◀ - The Psychological Disorders	9 12
16: Apr. 24 <sup>th</sup>	- The Psychological Disorders - CTA #3 Due, Thursday Apr. 26 <sup>th</sup>	12
17: May 1 <sup>st</sup>	▶ Final Exam: TUESDAY MAY 1 <sup>ST</sup> ◀ 9AM CLASS: @ 8AM NOON CLASS: @ 1PM	12