

PSYC 401: Introduction to Psychology

CRN: 13603 | SEC: 8

Download Syllabus (PDF)

Credit hours: 4 (<https://fsapartners.ed.gov/sites/default/files/attachments/dpcletters/GEN1106.pdf>)

Credit hour workload estimate: 45 hours (3hrs per week) at minimum

Term: Fall 2024, 8/27/24-12/17/24

Meets: In person | TR 2:10-3:30 | Horton BO4

Instructor: Michael A. Mangan, MFA, PhD, Principal Lecturer, Dept. of Psychology

Electronic communication: Use *Inbox* (in Canvas)

Telephone: 862-3404 | **Email:** michael.mangan@unh.edu

Office: McConnell 430

Office hours (remote): T: 5:00-6:00; R: 12:30-1:30 (or by appointment)

Objectives: Welcome to Introduction to Psychology! Much of what makes psychology interesting is that it is relevant to our personal lives. In this class you will learn to view and to understand your own behavior, emotional life, thinking, etc., as well as that of others, from a psychological perspective. Over the next 15 weeks we will explore the complex worlds of mind and behavior. The primary focus of this course will be on your learning about, and thinking critically about what psychologists know about people. In the science of psychology the unknown greatly exceeds the known. Thus, you will also learn that there remains much work to do in trying to understand and explain how and why we do what we do.

Materials

- **Required text:** Psychology, Openstax (College) | Digital ISBN-13: 978-1-951693-23-7
- Our book is free and available online. There's no need to buy anything else unless you choose to.
- Text link: <https://openstax.org/details/books/psychology-2e>

Technology: You will need a reliable laptop, table, or mobile device that supports access to the Internet; up-to-date applications compatible with the UNH learning management system (Canvas). For the best experience, use **Chrome or Firefox** as your web browser.

Class meetings: In class we will critically examine psychological knowledge and I will ask that you explore the relevance of this knowledge to your own life. Class meetings will include lecture and discussion, video clips, demonstrations and interactive activities. Learning best takes place when students are active participants (i.e., engaged cognitively, emotionally, and behaviorally) in the process. This means your presence in the classroom is needed and expected.

We will do something every day that requires your presence. Work designated as in-class "participation" must be completed and submitted while in class and must be your own. Submitting in-class work remotely or assisting another to do so is considered cheating/collaboration and is in violation of UNH academic honesty

policy. Completing any assigned in-class work remotely will result in a "0" for that assignment. Likewise, as a matter of academic honesty, assisting another student to complete work remotely (e.g., sharing the questions and/or your answers) will also result in a "0" for that assignment for all involved. More than one instance of the above-mentioned behavior will result in a "0" for that portion of the course (30% of your final grade).

You are expected to have completed reading (or *at least* skimmed the chapter) for each section prior to coming to the first class of that section.

Attendance: This is an in-person/face-to-face class and all students are expected to attend class. Virtual attendance will not be available. Since we will be covering new material each day, if you miss class you are responsible for getting notes and any other information you may have missed from a classmate. UNH policy statement on attendance: <https://catalog.unh.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/attendance/>

Excused absence: You can miss up to six classes, for any reason, (including illness, emergency, bereavement, you overslept, forgot, athletics, field trip for another class, and so on). Further accommodations (e.g., make ups) for missed work due to absence will be unlikely.

Unexcused absence: Any more than six absences (for any reason) is excessive and will not be excused. If you're dealing with extenuating circumstances that will keep you out of class more than six days you will need to notify me immediately. You will also need to email the [Dean of Students](#) to request that a Dean's Letter be sent to me. Any accommodations are at the discretion of the faculty.

Notification: If you will miss class and you expect it to be unexcused (per the above description), you are expected to notify me in advance (via "Inbox" in Canvas). If advance notice is not possible (e.g., severe illness/emergency), notification is expected within 24 hours. Failure to provide such notification will result in forfeiture of any possible accommodations.

Course disruption: In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines and grading percentages are subject to change when necessitated by revised course delivery, semester calendar or other circumstances. Information about changes in this course can be obtained at the Canvas site or by contacting me via Inbox in Canvas. If the course is not able to meet face-to-face, students should continue to check Canvas for announcements and updates to this syllabus as needed.

Class recording: Your classroom is equipped with technology that will provide remote access to class instruction. Because of the need to accommodate potential isolation and quarantine due to the COVID pandemic, lectures or other class meetings for this course may be recorded by the university using UNH media platforms. Such recordings may be available for educational use by students enrolled in the class (including both for instruction and as a review tool), the course instructor(s), and other university officials who support course instruction. Your voice or image may be captured on the recordings, and by enrolling in this course you are consenting to such recording for these purposes. The university and Zoom have FERPA-compliant agreements in place to protect the security and privacy of UNH Zoom accounts. You may not share recordings outside of this course. Doing so may result in disciplinary action.

Classroom-behavior expectations: To ensure a climate of learning for all, disruptive or inappropriate behavior may result in exclusion (removal) from this class. As a reminder, unless approved by your instructor, cell phone use, including text messaging, and videotaping and recording, is not permitted in this class by Faculty Senate rule.

Academic honesty: Plagiarism, cheating, collaborating on work, or other forms of academic dishonesty (e.g., completing in-class assignments remotely) are not acceptable. Faculty and students have a joint responsibility to ensure the integrity of learning. All work that you submit must be your own except in those instances when I

give specific permission to collaborate. For the UNH complete academic honesty policy, see the current college catalog. Please view the following links - <https://catalog.unh.edu/srrr/university-policies-regulations/academic-integrity/> and <https://cola.unh.edu/academics/plagiarism-tutorial>

Student support resources: UNH provides a number of ways to get academic and technical support with learning. Students can use [myUSNH](#) to access the full range of campus resources.

Accessibility services: According to the Americans with Disabilities Act (as amended, 2008), each student with a disability has the right to request services from UNH to accommodate his/her disability. If you are a student with a documented disability or believe you may have a disability that requires accommodations, please contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) at 201 Smith Hall. Accommodation letters are created by SAS with the student. Please follow-up with your instructor as soon as possible to ensure timely implementation of the identified accommodations in the letter. Faculty have an obligation to respond once they receive official notice of accommodations from SAS but are under no obligation to provide retroactive accommodations. For more information refer to www.unh.edu/studentaccessibility or contact SAS at 603.862.2607, 711 (Relay NH), or sas.office@unh.edu.

Note: Accommodation letters must be sent to me electronically via Clockwork (ask at SAS). Students with accommodations for tests or other coursework are responsible for giving me advance notice from the start of the term so that we may make appropriate arrangements. Without appropriate notification, I will probably not be able to provide accommodations.

Confidentiality and mandatory reporting: The University of New Hampshire and its faculty are committed to assuring a safe and productive educational environment for all students and for the university as a whole. To this end, the university requires faculty members to report to the university's Title IX Coordinator any incidents of sexual violence and harassment shared by students. If you wish to speak to a confidential support service provider who does not have this reporting responsibility because their discussions with clients are subject to legal privilege, you can find a list of resources by visiting <https://www.unh.edu/diversity-inclusion/sexual-misconduct>. For more information about what happens when you report, how the university considers your requests for confidentiality once a report is made to the Title IX Coordinator, your rights, and report options at UNH (including anonymous report options), please visit <https://www.unh.edu/affirmativeaction/reporting-students>.

Sexual Harassment and Rape Prevention Program (SHARPP): SHARPP provides free and confidential advocacy and direct services to survivors." <https://www.unh.edu/sharpp>

Emotional or mental health distress: Your academic success and overall mental health is very important. If, during the semester, you find you are experiencing emotional or mental health issues, please contact the University's Psychological and Counseling Services (PACS; 3rd floor, Smith Hall; 603-862-2090/TTY: 7-1-1), which provides counseling appointments and other mental health services. If urgent, students may call PACS M-F, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., and schedule an Urgent Same-Day Appointment.

Communicating with me: If you have questions or just want to talk, I encourage you to contact me before or after class, during office hours, by phone or by using **Inbox** in Canvas. I will get back to you within 24 hours. Please check Canvas regularly (daily) for messages/announcements. Getting the **Canvas app** (search for it on your phone) will be very useful for communications and other class information.

Note taking in class: I will use PowerPoint slides to guide lecture. At times I will move quickly through the slides. Because I cannot pace the progression through the material on how fast any one student can write (far too many students for this to work) links to PPT PDFs (not slides) can be found in our Canvas space.

Special issues: If you have questions about a grade(s) you received, are having any problems in the course, or have special needs, please come talk with me. All of us have views, opinions, feelings, etc., which may not be shared by others in the class. It is important to be at all times considerate of others' views, feelings and experience when communicating in class. If something is said or done, either by me or someone else in class that troubles you, then please don't hesitate to speak with me about it.

Evaluation

- **Quests (25%):** There will be 13, 20-item multiple-choice "Quests." A Quest is a hybrid of a quiz and a test. As such, they are useful as assessments of learning and as teaching/learning tools (links are located in each topic module). Quests will open at 12AM, and are to be taken remotely via Canvas, by the end of the day (11:59 PM) on the due dates listed in the course schedule (see below).
 - Quest links are located in each topic module on Canvas (and elsewhere).
 - You will have 20 minutes to complete each Quest (one minute per item).
 - All Quests are open book/open notes.
 - Do not begin any Quest until you are prepared to complete it. If you begin by mistake (for any reason), it will count as an attempt.
 - Quests cannot be taken once they close so be sure to complete them on the due date listed in course schedule.
 - You are expected to work independently. To post/share any assessment items is a violation of UNH academic honesty policy.
 - You will need a reliable laptop, tablet, or mobile device that supports access to the Internet and up-to-date applications compatible with the UNH learning management system (Canvas). For the best experience, use the latest version of **Chrome or Firefox**. If you do not, you will probably run into trouble.
 - Quest items will include a mix of items. Some items will assess your understanding of concepts; others will require you to apply what you're learning. All items align with topic learning objectives (available in Canvas) and will pertain to the concepts and facts covered in readings and lecture. Cognitive science shows that quizzing supports learning, so this is a relatively "low-stakes" means of promoting preparation and to give you an idea of the kind of items you can expect to see on the cumulative final exam. Before taking Quests, review the learning objectives provided, study the text, study your lecture notes and PPT slides.
 - Quests are intended to support your learning. Thus, in class meetings subsequent to each Quest due date, your score, questions/answers will be viewable. At that time, you can look at your work and make note of any items that you'd like to discuss with me during my office hours (or, time-permitting, after class). Thereafter your questions/answers will no longer be accessible on Canvas.
 - **Evaluation:** One point per Quest item. There are no makeups. However, I will drop one lowest score (for any reason).
- **Cumulative final (35%):** The final for this course will be delivered online via Canvas at the day/time of our scheduled final (see course schedule for final date and time). It will be composed of 120 multiple-choice items from each of the 13 topic areas covered in the course. The final is designed to test your knowledge and understanding of course content as well as your ability to apply what you've learned. Items will pertain directly to the learning objectives for each chapter. To prepare, it may be helpful to organize and study your notes, PPT slides, the text, and to take chapter review quizzes. You will have 120 minutes (1 minute per item) to complete the exam. **Evaluation:** One point per item.
- **Participation (30%)**
 - **Watch & Respond:** Starting the third week of class and on four additional dates (see course schedule) we will watch a video in class. Thereafter, you'll write a short response (one minute), submit it via Canvas, and then discuss your thoughts with a peer. Then we'll briefly discuss the video as group. For these meetings, course content will be covered via videotaped lectures (on Canvas); you will be expected to view this material outside of class. **Evaluation:** credit/no

credit. For credit, written responses must be submitted in class via Canvas. Watch & Respond activities cannot be made up. Any failure to properly submit responses in class (for any reason, including technology issues) will be treated as an excused or unexcused absence.

- **Exercises:** During each class meeting I will ask you to complete very brief exercises (e.g., write a response to a question) pertaining to the topic being covered that day. I will ask you to submit your response(s) via Canvas and to discuss your responses with each other. Exercises are a quick way to get you thinking and sharing your ideas with each other, both of which will support your comprehension and retention of course material. **Evaluation:** credit/no credit. For credit, complete responses to all exercise prompts must be submitted on time, in class, via Canvas. The first five exercises are for practice and will not count towards your grade. Thereafter, all exercises will count. Any failure to properly submit responses to exercise prompts in class (for any reason, including forgetting, technology issues, absence, etc.) will be treated as an excused or unexcused absence.
- **Special notes on participation: A)** You will need to bring a reliable laptop, tablet, or mobile device that supports access to the Internet to every meeting. Your device must be compatible with the UNH learning management system (Canvas); **B)** Completing in-class work remotely or assisting another student to complete in-class work remotely will result in a "0" for that assignment. *More than one instance of the above-mentioned behavior will result in a "0" for the "Participation" portion of the course (30% of your final grade).*
- **Research experience (10%):** Students are expected to complete four credits of research experience. The Web-based sign-up procedure requires you to register for **Sona Systems**. It is very important that you sign up, register for the correct section, and understand all the "rules of the game," so please read all of the materials that are located under the "Research Experience" link in our Canvas space. As you complete labs, don't expect to see credit in the "Research Experience" space in your **Grades** until the end of the class. I will enter your score (0-4) sometime during finals week. If there is a discrepancy between your records and the score I enter, then you will need to let me know and we can sort it out before I enter your final grade. To resolve any registration (or other issues) with Sona Systems contact the study experimenter(s) and/or Sona administrator (contact information is on Canvas).

Late/Missed Work Policy

For the next 15 weeks, my assumption is that you have made a commitment to this course and that you understand your responsibilities. To avoid conflicts, please let family members, employers, coaches, etc. (and anyone else) know of your responsibilities for this course. If you anticipate conflicts, please see me immediately.

- Students have six excused absences (for any reason).
- Missed "Research Experience" cannot be made up.
- I will drop one lowest online Quest score (for any reason).
- Any failure to properly submit in-class participation work (for any reason, including technology issues) will be treated as an excused or unexcused absence.
- In-class participation (Watch & Respond/Exercises) cannot be made up.
- The final must be taken as scheduled.

Final Grades

Your final grade will be based upon a weighted percentage of the total possible points you earn. The **Weighted Total** you see in **Grades** (see menu item on left side of your screen) throughout the term will fluctuate quite a bit as various scores are entered. The tables below show the letter grade associated with ranges of weighted total percentages and the category weights for each activity upon which your final grade will be based. In assigning final grades, I will use grades as computed by Canvas, which assigns letter grades to weighted total percentages taken out to the second decimal place (e.g., 89.45%, 89.54%, 89.89%, 89.98% are all assigned a letter grade)

of B+). This means that small amounts count! As a matter of fairness, I generally do not give grade "bumps" to move to the next highest letter grade. However, if a student is within 0.25% of the next highest grade, I may consider it, but only upon request. Any bump will be based on merit.

A: 100%-94%	B+: 87%-89%	B-: 80%-83%	C: 74%-76%	D+: 67%-69%	D-: 60%-63%
A-: 90%-93%	B: 84%-86%	C+: 77%-79%	C-: 70%-73%	D: 64%-66%	F: <60%

Evaluation Activities	Category Weights
Final	35%
Quests	25%
Participation	30%
Research Experience	10%

Course Schedule*

Mtg.	Date	Topic	Read	Participation	Quest Due
1	8/27	Syllabus day			
2	8/29	What Is Psychology?	1	Exercise 1	
3	9/3	What Is Psychology?		Exercise 2	Quest 1
4	9/5	Psychological Research	2	Exercise 3	
5	9/10	Psychological Research		Exercise 4	Quest 2
6	9/12	Biopsychology	3	Exercise 5	
7	9/17	Biopsychology		WR_1: All in the Mind	Quest 3
8	9/19	Sensation & Perception	5	Exercise 6	
9	9/24	Sensation & Perception		Exercise 7	Quest 4
10	9/26	Consciousness	4	Exercise 8	
11	10/1	Consciousness		WR_2: The Secret You	Quest 5
12	10/3	Learning	6	Exercise 9	
13	10/8	Learning		Exercise 10	Quest 6
14	10/10	Memory	8	Exercise 11	
15	10/17	Memory		WR_3: How Does Your Memory Work?	Quest 7
16	10/22	Thinking & Intelligence	7	Exercise 12	
17	10/24	Thinking & Intelligence		Exercise 13	Quest 8
18	10/29	Development	9	Exercise 14	
19	10/31	Development		WR_4: Born to Rage	Quest 9
20	11/5	Personality	11	Exercise 15	
21	11/7	Personality		Exercise 16	Quest 10

22	11/12	Social Behavior	12	Exercise 17	
23	11/14	Social Behavior		<i>WR_5: Why Do I Need You?</i>	Quest 11
24	11/19	Psychological Disorders	15	Exercise 18	
25	11/21	Psychological Disorders		Exercise 19	Quest 12
26	11/26	Therapy & Treatment	16	Exercise 20	
		Thanksgiving			
27	12/3	Therapy & Treatment		Exercise 21	Quest 13 (opens 12/2)
28	12/5	Wrap up		Exercise 22	
Final	12/17	10:30AM-12:30			

***Instructor reserves the right to change course schedule as needed to meet course objectives.**