

Elementary Psychology

Course Format: Lecture MWF 1:30 pm - 2:20 pm in Class of 1950 Lecture Hall 224

Contact Information? For personal issues, concerns, or scholastic accommodations, contact ghollich@purdue.edu and make sure to include the course number (PSY120) in the subject line. I respond to emails within 24 hours: If you don't get a response within a day, *please re-send* (I won't be offended, since I can sometimes miss emails in the avalanche of spam emails I get every day). In addition, I am available via [Zoom](#) (just about anytime M-F 9-1, but ideally email me first so I can make sure to be there) or phone (call 765-494-2224 and leave a voice message).

Course questions? Ask in the course FAQ after reading the syllabus carefully and checking the FAQ, as your question may have already been answered. New, original questions will be answered ASAP.

Goals and Learning Objectives: In this course, you will discover the science of the mind and:

1. Demonstrate a basic knowledge of *research methods and careers in psychology*, including types of psychologists, the scientific method, correlational and experimental studies, and related factors in research design.
2. Exhibit a fundamental understanding of the *biological basis of behavior*, including gene-environment relations, epigenetic development, effects of hormones, nutrition, sleep, and the basic functions and parts of the nervous system.
3. Demonstrate a fundamental understanding of *cognitive basis of behavior*, including sensation and perception, motor learning, language, categorization, and memory.
4. Identify *characteristics of individual differences* including intelligence testing, types of cognitive biases, educational psychology and the development of academic skills, emotions, personality, and types of attachment.
5. Describe how to apply *classical and operant conditioning* to change behavior, and explore other factors related to *habit formation* and *motivation*.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of how *social and cultural context impacts individual behavior*, including the effects peers and groups as well as how media and culture shape attitudes, identity, morality, and behavior.
7. Recognize the *symptoms, classifications, and treatments for psychological disorders*.

Important Websites and Technology Requirements: You will need an internet connection on a daily (or weekly, if you work ahead) basis to meet the requirements for this class. While not recommended, you *could* complete this course using only a mobile phone. This course uses video, which will require more data if using a mobile device. TopHat (Course ID: 716265) @ <https://app.tophat.com/e/716265> is used as BOTH a Classroom Grading System & eTextbook and covers the readings, lectures, discussion, and quizzes. TopHat is the MAIN Course Site and can be accessed through the app or browser on virtually any connected device (smartphone, tablet, computer). *TopHat is the only resource you will need to succeed in this course.* **Note:** The textbook, *Psychology Primer* by George Hollich is INCLUDED, when you purchase access to the course in TopHat. Brightspace @ <https://purdue.brightspace.com/d2l/home/609083> is simply for class announcements and final grades. Email me immediately if you have any difficulty accessing these sites.

Grades and Weighting (100% Total)

Final Letter Grades are on a 10% scale: A > 90%, B > 80%, etc.

The course (and each chapter) has the following grades and weighting.

- 20% - *Readings*: Completing the textbook questions and discussions.
- 30% - *Lecture Participation**: Answering lecture questions, activities, and discussion.
- 50% - *Quizzes*: Questions are multiple choice and serve to insure you have learned key concepts. Studies show that such quizzing will help you remember the material better than simply re-reading.

***Lecture Participation Note:** In order to earn full participation points for lecture, you must post both on-time and make a significant contribution to class discussion. Typically, these discussion posts are at least 5-6 sentences and include outside references.

Attendance Policy: While this class is face-to-face, it can be completed remotely (if necessary), since Readings, Lectures, and the Quiz for each of 15 chapters will be available online, and the class will have a [Zoom](#) for any students unable to physically attend class. We will be using the TopHat platform/course page for this course, and it is available on phones, tablets, laptops, and most any internet-connected device and will allow you to participate wherever and whenever you choose, synchronous remotely or asynchronous (if necessary). If you must miss class, you are responsible for watching the lecture and completing the homework.

Staying on top of things: I am here to facilitate your learning, but fully grasping all the material will require consistent effort on your part. Quite frankly, the class doesn't work without your participation and involvement. Everyone's experience is better if you put effort into reading material beforehand and thinking about how it might be applied in the real world. I should also mention that in the unlikely event of a campus-wide emergency, *grading and schedules may change*, possibly even stopping the semester early on whatever grade you happen to have at that moment—even more reason to stay on top of things. In short, if you are having difficulties, contact me sooner rather than later. Any changes will be announced via TopHat and Brightspace.

Course Policies

- Any students who need special accommodations for learning or who have special needs are encouraged to share these concerns with the professor as soon as possible. They are also encouraged to register with the appropriate offices at the University level to receive the support available there.
- Purdue University does not tolerate discrimination on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, handicap, disabled status, or special needs. If you believe that you have been discriminated against or if you observe discrimination against other students, talk with the instructor. If this procedure does not bring satisfactory results, you may speak with a counselor in HHS Student Services or in your own school's counseling office.
- Purdue University is committed to advancing the mental health and well-being of its students. If you or someone you know is feeling overwhelmed, depressed, and/or in need of support, services are available. For help, such individuals should contact Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at (765)494-6995 and <http://www.purdue.edu/caps/> during and after hours, on weekends and holidays, or through its counselors physically located in the Purdue University Student Health Center (PUSH) during business hours.
- Emergency preparedness is your personal responsibility. Purdue University is continuously preparing for natural disasters with the ultimate goal of maintaining a safe and secure campus. Check the Emergency Preparedness Plan Posted on Blackboard and at http://www.purdue.edu/ehps/emergency_preparedness/
- Any cheating will result in a zero for that item as well as stricter penalties, including a report being filed with the dean of students (see Purdue student handbook). This includes sharing of cheat sheets or other quiz misconduct, plagiarism on discussion posts, etc. Don't do it! In particular, plagiarism can sometimes be a problem. Given the online format, it is very easy to copy someone else's ideas and not

give them credit. Avoiding plagiarism is all about distinguishing (for you and the class) where the ideas originate. *When in doubt, cite!* Any student who does not give credit for ideas or materials taken from another source (books, periodicals, speeches, or the writings of other students) is guilty of plagiarism.

- “As a boilermaker pursuing academic excellence, I pledge to be honest and true in all that I do. Accountable together - we are Purdue.” - Purdue Honor Pledge (<https://www.purdue.edu/provost/teachinglearning/honor-pledge.html>)

Approximate Course Schedule

Lecture Topics and weeks are approximate, depending on class interest and discussion. Regardless, weekly homework is due Sunday Midnight (and always listed in TopHat). If you miss a date, you can still get some partial credit, so please make sure to complete things even if late, since some points are better than no points.

Week 1 - Introduction to the course

Week 1/2 - Ch1 Psychology as a Science: Research Methods and Careers in Psychology

Week 2/3 - Ch 2 Genes and Environment.

Week 3 - Ch 3 Prenatal Development, Birth, and the Newborn

Week 4 - Ch 4 The Endocrine System: Hormones, Sleep, and Nutrition

Week 5 - Ch 5 The Nervous System: Brain and Behavior

Week 6 - Ch 6 Sensation and Perception

Week 7 - Ch 7 Language and Categorization

Week 8 - Ch 8 Memory

Week 9 - Ch 9 Intelligence and Problem Solving

Week 9/10 - Ch 10 Educational Psychology and Academic Skills

Week 10/11 - Ch 11 Emotions, Temperament, Personality, and Attachment

Week 11 - Ch 12 Learning and Motivation

Week 12 - Ch 13 Self Control, Identity, and Morality

Week 13 - Ch 14 Social Psychology: Peers, Groups, Stereotypes, Culture, and Media

Week 14 - Ch 15 Abnormal Psychology: Mental Illness