

Introduction to Psychology (Psy 120)

University of Indianapolis
School for Adult Learning

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Tuesdays on May 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th, and June 4th
6:00pm – 9:45pm
Spring 2008

WELCOME: Welcome to the University of Indianapolis and the School for Adult Learning. For the next five weeks we will interact together to bring a positive and fun learning atmosphere to the subject of psychology. Many of you may already have been exposed to some of the principles of psychology. As we will build upon that knowledge please know that you need not have taken a prerequisite psychology course in order to enroll in this class. Approximately 70% of the course will be lecture-based instruction and the remaining 30% will be experiential learning and class discussion.

You most likely will succeed in this course if you do the following: attend class, read the covered chapters prior to the date they are being discussed, take notes on the lecture material during class discussion, participate by asking and answering questions posed in class, and complete the course review materials located throughout the chapters in the text. You may anticipate spending anywhere between two and four hours per week of study time outside of class.

OVERVIEW: This is a 3 credit hour introductory psychology course presenting information about the biological, psychological, and sociological aspects of human behavior, thought, and emotion. Application of psychology to everyday life will be discussed. The following categories will be covered: history, research, biological processes, human development, substance use and abuse, learning from experience, social psychology, and psychopathology.

TEXT: The only required reading for this course is:

Nairne, J. (2008). Psychology: The Adaptive Mind, 5th edition.
Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.

OBJECTIVES:

- Name and describe at least three concepts in psychology that are emphasized in each chapter.
- Describe the different research strategies in psychological science; naturalistic, case study, survey, correlational, experimental.
- Define the specialties of psychology.
- Name at least one example of how each psychological construct we study can be applied to ones daily existence.

Critical Thinking Objective (in accordance with university AQIP accreditation):

- Begin to view psychological phenomena from the scientist-practitioner model as evidenced by locating, citing and describing at least one research article for each specific behavioral health concept.

ATTENDANCE: Attendance and class participation are important. It is conceivable that because of an emergency one class may be missed. However, if two or more classes are missed you will be asked to withdraw from the course. Students are responsible for withdrawing themselves from a course in the School for Adult Learning. In order to receive a 100% refund a course withdrawal must be made by the Friday of the first week of class. Simply informing me that you wish to withdraw from the course is not sufficient and will result in receiving an “F” on your transcript. It is possible that withdrawing from a course could affect current and/or future financial aid or loans.

GRADING PROCEDURE: Your grade for this course will be determined by totaling the scores of four multiple choice exams plus attendance. Each exam will consist of 40 questions worth one point each. Test questions will cover both reading assignments and lecture materials. Exams will be taken via Blackboard and thus you must have access to the internet. In order not to be “kicked out” of Blackboard you should sign in under courses.uindy.edu. The exams will be available at 10pm after the class and will be available until midnight the next week (the day of the next class). Each exam will cover only the chapters we discussed on that day and will not, in other words, be cumulative. The exams will be timed for 40 minutes and there should be a timer on your Blackboard display or at least a one minute warning. If you go beyond 40 minutes you will be penalized in the following manner:

Between 01 and 59 seconds over you will be penalized one (1) point
Between 60 and 119 seconds over you will be penalized five (5) points
Anything over 120 seconds and you will receive your score divided in half

Class attendance will be awarded by receiving 6 points for each class attended for a possible total of 30 points. There will be a voluntary opportunity to receive 10 **extra credit** points by answering questions about a professional article of my choosing.

<i>Grading Scale</i>	<i>Individual Exams</i>
190 – 180 A	40 – 36 A
179 – 170 A-	35 – 32 B
169 – 160 B+	31 – 28 C
159 – 150 B	27 – 24 D
149 - 140 C+	23 - 0 F
139 - 130 C	
129 - 120 D+	
119 - 110 D	
109 - 0 F	

MAKE-UP EXAMS: You may make up a missed exam **O N L Y** if you have a verifiable emergency. An excuse may be in writing on official letterhead from an emergency physician, a funeral director, armed forces commander, or academic dean. You will not be allowed to retake any of the exams. You will make-up the missed exam at the earliest opportunity following the original exam date. If you have a technical or computer problem you must contact me immediately or at least first thing the following morning. Depending on the situation, I may be able to reset your exam. Otherwise, you will not be allowed to make up the exam.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated at the University of Indianapolis. Any student caught participating in either or both of the above activities will be disciplined and potentially expelled from the university. Please refer to information about academic integrity found in the Academic Catalog.

OFFICE HOURS: Feel free to call me at work during the day or at home in the evenings before 10pm. I do not have office space at U of I but a meeting can be arranged here at the university if requested. If you wish to use email communication please copy it to work, U of I and home.

Voice Mail 338-4647
Email klrichar@stvincent.org (work)
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Cell 418-0988

Course Outline and Reading List

<u><i>DATE</i></u>	<u><i>TOPIC</i></u>	<u><i>CHAPTER</i></u>
May 7 th	Overview, Introductions	
	An Introduction to Psychology	1
	The Tactics of Psychological Research	2
May 14 th	E X A M # 1	
	Biological Processes	3
	Learning from Experience	7
May 21 st	E X A M #2	
	Human Development	4
	Substance Use and Abuse	6
May 28 th	E X A M #3	
	Social Psychology	13
	Psychopathology	14
	(with a special focus on Women and Depression)	
June 4 th	E X A M # 4	
	Psychopathology	14