

**THIS IS YOUR COURSE SYLLABUS –  
KEEP IT HANDY and REFER TO IT OFTEN.**

**Welcome to PSY 301!**

**Introduction to Psychology**

Fall 2010 Unique # 42985

MWF 9:00-9:50 a.m., NOA 1.126

Instructor: Kirsten Bradbury, Ph.D.  
Office (Hours): SEAY 4.316 (Hours TBA)  
Email: bradbury@psy.utexas.edu

TA: Tracy Kwang  
Office (Hours): SEAY 3.414 (Hours TBA)  
Email: tkwang@mail.utexas.edu

***We are here to help you – please take advantage of our office hours. Come see us!!***

**Required Text:** Myers, D. M. (2007). Exploring Psychology (7th ed). ISBN:9780716771418

**Exams:**

There will be four multiple-choice exams, each with 50 items (worth 2 points per item). All exams will be given during regular class times. There is no exam during finals week.

M 9/27	Exam 1: Chapters 1, 2, 5
W 10/20	Exam 2: Chapters 4, 7, 10
F 11/12	Exam 3: Chapters 6, 11
F 12/3	Exam 4: Chapters 13, 14, 15

Each exam will cover the chapters indicated as well as all class material since the previous exam. You are responsible for text material whether or not it is covered in class and for lecture material whether or not it is covered in the text. **Make-up exams are given only in cases of documented urgent need (contact Tracy).** Information about any curve, dropped items, etc., will be provided following each exam. Each 100-point exam is worth **25%** of your grade in the course. We do not drop your lowest test grade. There is NO EXTRA CREDIT.

**Make-Up Exams:**

If you hope to reschedule an exam ahead of time, or you hope to take a make-up exam, you **MUST** show Tracy documentation supporting your request. In most cases of legitimate need to reschedule an exam, documentation is very simple to obtain.

**Attendance:**

I expect you to attend class unless you are ill or engaged in activities the university would consider more important than attending class. Class attendance is *crucial* for doing well in this course (a lot of the exam material comes from my lectures!!). However, attending class is up to your judgment; we do not routinely take attendance. We may occasionally provide unannounced opportunities to earn extra credit points in class; these points cannot be made up under any circumstances.

**Research Requirement:**

All students enrolled in PSY 301 must fulfill a departmental research requirement consisting of either participation in 5 hours of psychological research or writing a paper on psychological research, in addition to class work. If you fail to complete the research requirement, you will receive an (X) Incomplete in the course (and will need to complete the requirement later).

<http://www.psy.utexas.edu/psy/undergrad/courses/info/301experiment.html>

If you have questions, contact Abby Black, at [301research@psy.utexas.edu](mailto:301research@psy.utexas.edu) or stop in and see her in Seay 2.216.

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**Grades:**

Your course grade is based on your total points score for the four exams. We add together all the points you earned on the exams (up to 400 points). Then we divide by 4 to yield a percentage score. This percentage score is represented as a letter grade for the course using the following grade distribution:

**A = 92 and up**

**A- = 90-91**

**B+ = 88-89**

**B = 82-87**

**B- = 80-81**

**C+ = 78-79**

**C = 72-77**

**C- = 70-71**

**D = 60-69**

**F = 59 and down**

Percentage course grades are calculated to two decimal places and rounded to the nearest whole number, such that, for example, the lowest A- is 89.50 (rounds to 90).

**Borderline Grades Stay Borderline:** Every semester, some students score just below the borderline of the next highest grade. I have great sympathy for people who find themselves in that position, but I have also found that raising those grades simply uncovers a new group of people whose grades are near the new borderline. This situation makes everybody edgy. Therefore, my policy must be that borderline grades stay as they are. Thus, for example, an 89.49 is a B+. **ABSOLUTELY NO EXCEPTIONS.**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:**

**The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact the Office of the Dean of Students at 471-6259, 471-4641 TTY.**

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**Order of Lecture Topics and Readings:**

Critical Thinking & the Scientific Method in Psychology (Ch. 1; approximately 2 classes)

Neuroscience & Behavior (Ch. 2; approximately 3 classes)

Sensation & Perception (Ch. 5; approximately 3 classes)

**M September 27 - EXAM 1**

Development (Ch. 4; approximately 4 classes)

Learning (Ch. 7; approximately 2 classes)

Motivation (Ch. 10; approximately 2 classes)

**W October 20- EXAM 2**

Consciousness (Ch. 6; approximately 4 classes)

Emotions, Stress, & Health (Ch. 11; approximately 4 classes)

**F November 12 - EXAM 3**

Social Psychology (Ch. 15; approximately 2 classes)

Psychological Disorders & Therapy (Ch. 13 & 14; approximately 3 classes)

**F December 3 - EXAM 4**

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