

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH – DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY
INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY: PSYCHOLOGY 0010 (CRN 11202)
 Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30-10:45 am 7th Fl Auditorium Alumni Hall
 Fall 2017

Instructor: Dr. Jennifer Cousins
Office: 4215 Sennott Square
Email: jch55@pitt.edu
Office Hours: M: 2-4pm, W & F 10:30 – 12:30pm

TA: Joshua Schneider
Office: 3323 Sennott Square
Email: jls438@pitt.edu
Office Hours: Thursdays 11am – 1pm

Undergraduate Lecture UTAs: Richaela Cowan rhc17@pitt.edu; Katie Baden katie.baden@pitt.edu; Amanda Dunbar asd66@pitt.edu; Bailey Waterman bnw19@pitt.edu

Recitation Graduate TAs: Heather Bruett heb52@pitt.edu, Evelyn Milburn eam115@pitt.edu, Karissa Miller kgm18@pitt.edu, Kathryn Hauschild kmh147@pitt.edu

Office Hours: UTAs: Office hours and locations are posted on the **LECTURE** courseweb page.

Office Hours: Recitation TAs: Office hours and locations are posted on the **RECITATION** courseweb page.

Recitations: This course has weekly recitations.

Textbook: Schacter, Gilbert, Wegner & Nock (2015). *Introducing Psychology* 3rd Ed. Worth Publishing

Lecture Course website: <http://courseweb.pitt.edu> Courseweb # **2181-11202**.

Research website: <http://pitt.sona-systems.com>

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Chapters</u>
August 29, 31	Introduction to the Course & What is Psychology?	1
September 5, 7	Methods in Psychology	2
September 12, 14	Neuroscience and Behavior	3
September 19, 21, 26	Neuroscience and Consciousness	5
September 28	EXAM 1	
October 3, 5	Learning	7
October 10	Fall Break no class (Follow Monday Schedule)	
October 12, 17	Cognitive Psychology: Memory	6
October 19, 24	Cognitive Psychology: Language and Thought	9
October 26	EXAM 2	
October 31, November 2	Personality	11
November 7, 9	Social Psychology	12
November 14	Stress and Health	13
November 16	EXAM 3	
November 21, 28	Developmental Psychology	10
November 23	Thanksgiving break (no class – have fun!)	
November 30, December 5	Psychological Disorder	14
December 7	Therapies	15
December 15th (Friday)	Final Exam 10:00am – 11:50am	

GENERAL COURSE REQUIREMENTS & INFORMATION

- You must attend and take exams in the class in which you are enrolled.
- Read the syllabus – and when you have questions see if you can find the answer in the syllabus first.
- By remaining enrolled in this class, you have agreed to the exam schedule and terms as specified in this syllabus. So please be sure to read the syllabus carefully
- Please be courteous and respectful of all in the class. I will treat you with courtesy and respect, and I expect the same from you towards me and, more importantly, towards your fellow students. This means:
 - please **turn off cells phone** when class begins (i.e., do not make or answer calls; do not send texts, etc)
 - laptops are to be used for note taking purposes only
 - do not hold conversations during class because talking is disruptive to students around you
 - when asking or answering questions, speak loudly and clearly so that I and others can hear you
 - the room is very large so please raise your hand high and wave to catch my attention (calling out “Question” or “Excuse me” also works well)
- If you are struggling, need help with the course material, or did not perform well on the first exam, see me immediately for help early in the term. There is nothing that can be done at the end of the term after you have taken most of the exams.
- Your grade in this course will reflect your performance on three (out of four) exams and on your attendance and performance in the recitations. If you earn a “passing” grade, that grade will be posted upon completion of the research participation requirement.

STATEMENT ON CLASSROOM RECORDING

According to University policy, to ensure the free and open discussion of ideas, students may not audio or video record classroom lectures, discussion and/or activities without the advance written permission of the instructor, and any such recording properly approved in advance is to be used solely for the student’s own private use (i.e., it may not be posted publicly, distributed for use by other students, or sold).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students in this course will be expected to comply with the University of Pittsburgh's Policy on Academic Integrity. Any student suspected of violating this obligation for any reason during the semester will be required to participate in the procedural process, initiated at the instructor level, as outlined in the University Guidelines on Academic Integrity. Cheating/plagiarism will not be tolerated. This may include, but is not limited to, the confiscation of the examination and other devices of any individual suspected of violating University Policy. A minimum sanction of a zero score for an exam will be imposed and further disciplinary action may be taken. The incident of cheating will be report to the Dean’s Office. Furthermore, no student may bring any unauthorized materials to an exam, including dictionaries, programmable calculators, and electronic devices. Students suspected of cheating may be asked to move to the front of the room or separated from others. For further information on student obligations, please review the [University of Pittsburgh's Policy on Academic Integrity](#).

COURSE INFORMATION, LECTURE OUTLINES & HANDOUTS

The course website contains detailed course information, including announcements, syllabus, research participation, lecture outlines and exam grades. Materials for each class will be posted prior to the class meetings. Read all the information posted in Courseweb and regularly check the website for new announcements and postings. If you don't already have one, the staff in any of the CIS computing labs can help you set up your Pitt computer account, which you must have to gain full access to the website. If you have trouble using our website, please contact the CIS helpdesk or me.

COMMUNICATION

Please feel free to call or email me. I try to reply to students within 24 hours. If you do not receive a reply in 2 weekdays, send the message again as messages do get lost in cyberspace or are re-routed to the spam-message mailbox. Email is great for brief communications. If you have a *specific* question, send it along. For example, "My understanding of X is ___ and it seems to relate to Y in the following way ___. Is my understanding of this correct?" If you have a more involved/complicated question or one that requires lengthy explanations, such as "What is theory X about?", please see me (or call) as it is more efficient for us to speak in person for me to provide an explanation. When emailing to make an appointment to meet during day/times other than office hours, please send along *all* the days/times when *you* are available to meet. This will require a bit of advance planning on your part. My schedule is continuously changing and this cuts down on the back-and-forth emailing to set a meeting time. Once you send me your availability schedule, I will see what fits my schedule and set the meeting. I am happy to meet with students.

OFFICE HOURS and APPOINTMENTS

I have 6 hours per week set aside specifically to meet with students. I do not make appointments during office hours; students are seen on a first come, first served basis. You do not need permission to come to office hours; simply show up. Feel free to stop by if you have questions about the course material, psychology in general, research/internship opportunities, need help with or want to review the course materials, want general advice, etc.

I do make appointments to meet with students during other day/times. If you would rather not have to wait during office hours, want to meet with me uninterrupted, if my office hours conflict with your class or work schedule - talk to me before or after class or email to make an appointment. This will require that you plan ahead so that we have time to set an appointment. When emailing to make an appointment to meet during day/times other than office hours, please send along all the days/times when you are available to meet during the next several days.

POP QUIZZES: There will be pop quizzes given throughout the course during lecture that will total 15 points.

EXAMS: There are *Four exams* (including the Final). Each exam will include 40 multiple-choice questions. Exams will include material from the textbook, recitation and lecture. Some of the information presented in class will overlap with the textbook, and some will not. Therefore, you should review and understand all information that was presented in class (including videos, demonstrations, etc.) and in the textbook. This includes the what, where, how, and why, and is not just definitions. Also be prepared to apply information to situational questions. The distribution of questions from the different sources will vary. The exams will **not** be cumulative and will cover the topics as listed on the class schedule. The lowest score of the four exams will be dropped from the final grade. ***Students must earn four exam scores in order to have the lowest one dropped.*** *If you are having difficulty and are missing exams, you need to meet with me in person to discuss your situation because serious matters cannot be handled via email.*

Be sure to be on time for each exam. Once the first student finishes the exam (typically within 20 minutes) and leaves the room, no one else will be permitted to begin the exam. Therefore, set an alarm clock if you nap, have a friend or your parent call as a reminder, set a reminder alarm on your phone, etc so that you do not miss an exam and receive a zero. In fairness to all students in the class, there will be no exceptions.

GRADES

There are a total of 200 points for the course, this includes lecture and recitation. Your course grade will be determined by adding the points from the pop quizzes, the highest 3 out of 4 exam scores and your total recitation points and dividing by 200 to obtain the grade average percent. The grade average will be rounded-up and rounded-down at 0.500 to the nearest integer. No term papers will be required and no extra credit papers will be accepted. Your grade average percent will translate into your final letter grade as follows:

A+ = 97 – 100%	B+ = 87 – 89%	C+ = 77 – 79%	D+ = 67 – 69%	F = below 60%
A = 93 – 96%	B = 83 – 86%	C = 73 – 76%	D = 63 – 66%	
A– = 90 – 92%	B– = 80 – 82%	C– = 70 – 72%	D– = 60 – 62%	

Lecture Points Breakdown: A: 200-180; B: 179 - 160; C: 159 – 140; D: 139 - 120; F: 119 or below.

Lecture

Exam 1*	40
Exam 2*	40
Exam 3*	40
Exam 4*	40
Total Exam Points	120
Pop Quizzes	15
Total Lecture Points	135

Recitation

Attendance	12
Assignments	
Correlation & Causation Homework	2
Research Worksheet 1	2
Learning In Class Exercise	2
Research Report Assignment	10
Research Worksheet 2	2
Memory Homework	3
Social Homework	3
Gender & Sexuality Homework	3
Journal Article Assignment	20
Developmental Homework	3
Clinical Homework	3
Total	53
Total Recitation Points	65

Total Possible class points 200

*the lowest exam score will be dropped as long as 4 exams are taken

**Adjustments in the assignments may be made to meet the needs of the class*

****You must pass recitation in order to pass the course. If you do not pass recitation, you will not pass this course regardless of how well you scored on your exams and pop quizzes.**

STUDENT ATHLETES

Ask your coach or the Athletics Department for the “instructor’s letter” and your sports schedule. Please give me your schedule during the first two weeks of class for my class file. Check for conflicts with exams and discuss the situation with me ASAP and before the conflict date. Please remember that it is your responsibility to speak with me well in advance of the schedule conflict to determine what arrangements can be made to complete the work.

DISABILITY RESOURCES AND SERVICES

If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and Disability Resources and Services, 140 William Pitt Union, 412-648-7890 [412-383-7355 (TTY)] as early as possible in the term. DRS will verify your disability and determine reasonable accommodations for this course. A comprehensive description of the services of that office can be obtained at <http://www.drs.pitt.edu/>

PARTICIPATION IN RESEARCH

The Psychology Department believes that participating in psychological research is a very important part of learning about psychology and provides an important educational benefit to students. For that reason, it is required that all students enrolled in our Introduction to Psychology courses to participate in 4 hours of psychological research conducted by the faculty and graduate students in the Department of Psychology. Participation in the studies can be *educational* and *fun*. There is nothing to worry about as all experiments and studies have been reviewed to ensure that they meet ethical guidelines. Research studies are available throughout the term and fill quickly; it is best not to postpone research participation until the end of the term.

Research requirement:

Like most universities, all students in this course are required by the Department of Psychology to complete a **4-hour research requirement**. You may complete this requirement in **two ways**. The first option is to participate in experiments. One hour of participation counts as one hour of your requirement. The second option is to write brief reviews of psychology research papers. Each paper counts as one hour of your requirement. **You can combine experiments and papers to reach your 4-hour requirement.**

ONE YEAR Note that incomplete grades can affect your standing at the university and your ability to receive financial

aid

To sign up for experiments: **PREFERRED because it helps students and shows you first hand what research is like**

- Sign up for experiments at <http://pitt.sona-systems.com>. This web site will open in the first week of classes and will close on the last day of classes.
- You should receive an email at your Pitt email address with your signup information during the first week of classes. If you add the class late, you will be added at the end of the add/drop period. If you do not receive an email indicating your signup but wish to sign up for experiments, you may join yourself or contact me at subjpool@pitt.edu. Please do not attempt to join Sona until after the first two days of classes.
- **If you change class sections**, please email me at subjpool@pitt.edu so that your enrollment can be changed. If you do not do this, you will not get credit for having done the experiments.
- **If you have already taken this class** and have completed some or all of the research requirement, email me at subjpool@pitt.edu no later than the 2nd week of classes so that I can transfer your credits.
- **Please make certain that you meet the requirements of the experiment before signing up.** The requirements for each experiment are listed on the web site. OTHERWISE THEY CAN TURN YOU AWAY
- **Don't be a no-show!** Many experiments require extensive preparation. If you need to cancel, please do so with as much lead time as possible as a courtesy to the experimenter.
- **NOSHOW 2x:** Please note that if you do not show up for two scheduled appointments and do not cancel ahead of time, you will no longer be allowed to sign up for experiments and will instead have to complete your hours using the paper option.
- **DON'T DO THEM DURING CLASS!** If you cannot find another time that works for you, please contact the experimenter to see if you can find a mutually agreeable time that would not require you to miss class.
- **PLEASE BE PATIENT!** You should check the web site often for research opportunities. However, *please note that some experiments will not become available until later in the semester.* If you are worried about finding enough experiments in time, you may consider writing a paper instead (see below).

To write research papers:

- Go to this web site for list of readings: <http://www.pitt.edu/~subjpool/papers.html>.
- Write a paper that **follows the guidelines** listed on the website.
- Go to <http://turnitin.com> and enroll for the appropriate class. **The class number for the fall term is 15802842 and the password is Freud.**
- Submit your papers to Turnitin. Note that this software checks for **plagiarism**, so be certain that all of the information is written in your own words. If you are not sure what this entails, please see <http://plagiarism.org>.
- **Note that to have your paper(s) graded in time to count for your final grade, your paper must be turned in by midnight one week before the last day of undergraduate classes (see the university's academic calendar for this date).** Given the volume of papers, exceptions to this deadline cannot be made. Incompletes may affect your eligibility for financial aid, sports, etc., so be sure to plan ahead.

If you do not complete 4 research hours by the end of the term, you will receive an incomplete grade and have to complete the requirement **within one year** (see http://www.bulletins.pitt.edu/undergrad/4gen_academic.htm). Note that incomplete grades can affect your standing at the university and your ability to receive financial aid. If you receive an incomplete, I will have a grade change form on file for you, which will be turned in after you have notified her that you have completed your requirement. If you earn an incomplete, see: <http://www.pitt.edu/~subjpool/incomplete.html>.

IF YOU HAVE DONE THE RESEARCH BEFORE...

If you have questions, please link to the student info page and FAQ at <http://www.pitt.edu/~subjpool/>. If you have any questions or concerns about this requirement that are not addressed on these websites, please contact me at subjpool@pitt.edu.

Dr. Anna Halechko
Psychology Subject Pool Coordinator