

Introduction to Psychological Science

Course: INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE (3 sem. hrs.)

An introductory study of human behavior including historical perspectives, methodology of psychological research, neuroscience, perception, learning, memory, personality and social interactions.

Texts: Kowalski, Robin, & Westen, Drew. (2009). *Psychology* (5th ed.). New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

Course URLs: <http://elvers.us/psysci/> Primary class website
<https://isidore.udayton.edu> Only for quizzes, exams and grades

User Name / Password: To protect the intellectual property of the publisher of the textbook, the class web site <<http://elvers.us/psysci/>> is password protected. Your user name and password will be sent to your official UD email account and are different from your LDAP / Novell user name and password. If you lose, forget or otherwise have problems with your user name and password, please contact me. The Help Desk at 229-3888 will not be able to help you. <<https://isidore.udayton.edu>> uses your LDAP / Novell user name and password. If you lose, forget or otherwise have problems with your Isidore account, please contact the Help Desk at 229-3888.

Objectives:

1. Students will be able to define the major psychological terms and concepts.
2. Students will be able to explain the physiological, behavioral, cognitive, and social processes that underlie psychological behavior.
3. Students will be able to differentiate the major theories of psychological behavior.

Instructor: Greg C Elvers, Ph.D.
Office: SJ-312, 229-2171
Home: 937 433-0390 (do not call between 8 PM and 8 AM.)
email: greg.elvers@notes.udayton.edu

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday from 10:00 to 10:50 AM to noon in St. Joseph, 312. If those times are not convenient for you, you can also make an appointment.

Expectations: You are expected to:

- Keep your email address up to date at <http://address.udayton.edu>
- Check the email you specified at address.udayton.edu at least every other day
- Read the emails that I send to you in a timely manner
- Keep your amount of email below your quota so my emails can be

- delivered to you in a timely fashion
- Keep up to date with the study schedule (see below)

Class: This is an online class. We do not meet. Lectures, demonstrations and activities are found at <<http://elvers.us/psysci/>>. Exams and quizzes will be given on Isidore at <<https://isidore.udayton.edu>>.

Grading Policy: Your grade in this course will be based on four objective multiple-choice exams, each covering different portions of the course (see schedule), 10 quizzes, two discussions and one assignment. The exams are designed to assess your learning on five dimensions: (1) recalling, (2) defining, (3) predicting, (4) evaluating, and (5) problem solving.

It is your responsibility to take the exams and quizzes at the appropriate time. I allow make up exams and quizzes only under extreme circumstances that are appropriately documented and only if I have been informed in a timely manner. Weddings, vacations, work, visiting friends or relatives, sick grandparents, etc. are very rarely acceptable excuses. If you stay up to date in the class and study regularly, then an unexpected occurrence will not unduly impact your performance on the exam or quiz.

Exams will be administered via Isidore at <<https://isidore.udayton.edu>> *on the scheduled dates*. Each exam is scored on a 100-point scale and each quiz is worth 10 points. Each discussion is worth 10 points. The assignment is worth 50 points. The final grading scale is:

A:	530 – 570 points (93 to 100%)
A-:	513 – 529 points (90 to 92%)
B+:	496 – 512 points (87 to 89%)
B:	473 – 495 points (83 to 86%)
B-:	456 – 472 points (80 to 82%)
C+:	439 – 455 points (77 to 79%)
C:	416 – 438 points (73 to 76%)
F:	0 – 415 points (0 to 72%)

Discussion: Twice during the semester you will use an online tool to discuss a human factors problem from a psychological perspective. You will read a brief description of the problem and then post a response to it given your knowledge of psychology. After posting your response, you should read the responses from the other class members and make comments to at least two responses from other class members. Your comments are to be professional both in term of content and in terms of tone / style. Rude, impolite, or otherwise inappropriate comments will minimally lead to a grade of 0 on the assignment and maximally a failing grade in the course. Your grade on the discussion is based on the quality of your responses.

Assignment: During the last week of class you will use an online tool to discuss a human factors problem from a psychological perspective. After contributing to the discussion of the problem, everyone is to *individually* type a description of the problems, the psychological implications of the problems and suggested solutions to the problems. Your response should be no more than two type-written, double spaced pages in length. Your grade will be based on your contributions to the discussion and your typed responses.

Academic Dishonesty Policy: Academic dishonesty is defined as any attempt by a student to obtain, or to assist another student to obtain a grade higher than honestly earned. An occurrence of academic dishonesty (e.g., cheating, plagiarism, grade alteration, and deception) will result in your failing the course. As professionals, this type of behavior cannot be tolerated to any extent.

Nothing resulting from this course (notes, slides, activities, etc.) is to be posted on any site without my explicit written permission. Violation of this policy will result in a failing grade in the course.

Students with Special Needs: Test-taking and note-taking accommodations will be arranged for students who need them. If you have special needs, please inform me during the first week of class. Students with disabilities should immediately contact the Office for Students with Disabilities (Albert Emanuel Hall room 002, 229-3684).

Course / Instructor Evaluation: Near the end of the semester, you will be asked to complete the University's "Course Evaluation Form." The results are confidential; only the Department Chairperson and the instructor are permitted to see the results--and only after the final grades have been submitted. Please treat the evaluation seriously. Your opinions are extremely important to me.

Caveats: Although you should consider the information provided on this syllabus as accurate, changes in dates, assignments, and policies are sometimes necessary.

All activity on the class website is monitored and recorded. It is very easy to find out who has accessed what and when it was accessed.

I cannot guarantee that the web server will be available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Do not wait until the last day before an exam to access the material.

Schedule

- Week 1
Aug. 25
- Read Newsletter #1 (check your email)
Complete the course orientation
- Read pages 1 to 29 of Kowalski and Westen (Psychology: The Study of Mental Processes and Behavior)
Explore "Chapter 1: The Study of Mental Processes" presentation on website
Psychology -- Listen to lecture and answer Multiple Choice Questions
Psychodynamic and Behaviorist Perspectives -- Listen to lecture and answer Multiple Choice Questions
Cognitive and Evolutionary Perspectives -- Listen to lecture and answer Multiple Choice Questions
Take Quiz 1 (available until 8/31.)
- Week 2
Sep. 1
- Read Newsletter #2 (check your email)
Read pages 31 to 58 of Kowalski and Westen (Research Methods in Psychology)
Explore "Chapter 2: Research Methods" presentation on website
Concepts of Psychological Research -- Listen to lecture and answer Test Your Knowledge Questions
Descriptive Research -- Listen to lecture and answer Test Your Knowledge Questions
Experimental Research -- Listen to lecture and answer Test Your Knowledge Questions
Correlational Research -- Listen to lecture, explore correlation activity and answer Test Your Knowledge Questions
Take Quiz 2 (available until 9/7.)
- Week 3
Sep. 8
- Read Newsletter #3
Read pages 60 to 74 of Kowalski and Westen (Biological Basis of Mental Life)
Explore "Chapter 3: Biological Basis of Mental Life" presentation on website
The Neuron -- Listen to lecture, watch movie clip "Action Potential" and answer Parts of Neuron and Multiple Choice Questions
Synapse, Neurotransmitters and the Endocrine System -- Listen to lecture, watch movie clip "Neurotransmitters", answer Parts of Synapse and Multiple Choice Questions

Read pages 75 to 98 of Kowalski and Westen (Biological Basis of Mental Life)
Explore "Chapter 3: Biological Basis of Mental Life" presentation on website
Nervous System -- Listen to lecture and answer Multiple Choice Questions
Central Core and Limbic System -- Listen to lecture and answer Test Your
Knowledge Questions
Cerebral Cortex -- Listen to lecture, watch movie clips "Brain Lobes", "Corpus
Callosum", and a "Split Brain Subject", answer Parts of the Brain, Lobes of the
Brain, and Multiple Choice Questions

Week 4
Sep. 15

**Exam 1 -- The exam will be available at <https://isidore.udayton.edu/> until the
end of 9/16 (11:59 PM EDT.)**

Read Newsletter #4
Read pages 100 to 120 of Kowalski and Westen (Sensation and Perception)
Explore "Chapter 4: Sensation and Perception" presentation on website
Sensation and Perception; Thresholds -- Listen to lecture and answer Multiple
Choice Questions
Vision and the Eye -- Listen to lecture, explore "Receptive Fields" activity, and
answer Parts of the Eye, Parts of the Retina, and Multiple Choice Questions

Week 5
Sep. 22

Read Newsletter #5
Read pages 134 to 154 of Kowalski and Westen (Sensation and Perception)
Explore "Chapter 4: Sensation and Perception" presentation on website
Perception of Color and Form -- Listen to lecture, watch movie clip "Hubel and
Weisel", explore "Three Dimensions of Color" activity, and answer Multiple
Choice Questions
Perception of Depth and Motion -- Listen to lecture, watch movie clip "Depth
Perception Cues", and answer Multiple Choice Questions

Read pages 121 to 129 of Kowalski and Westen (Sensation and Perception)
Explore "Chapter 4: Sensation and Perception" presentation on website
Hearing and the Ear -- Listen to lecture and answer Multiple Choice Questions
Auditory Phenomena -- Listen to lecture, answer Multiple Choice Questions
and complete the Localization / Lateralization demonstration

Take Quiz 3 (available until 9/28.)

Week 6
Sep. 29
Read Newsletter #6
Read pages 129 to 134 of Kowalski and Westen (Sensation and Perception)
Explore "Chapter 4: Sensation and Perception" presentation on website
Somatosenses-- Listen to lecture and answer Multiple Choice Questions
Chemical Senses -- Listen to lecture, answer Multiple Choice Questions, review related web sites

Explore "Psychomotor Skills" presentation on website
Motor System – Listen to lecture and answer Multiple Choice Questions
Motor Phenomena – Listen to lecture, answer Multiple Choice Questions and complete Fitts' Law demonstration
Take Quiz 4 (available until 10/4.)

Week 7
Oct. 5
Mid-term Break

Read Newsletter #7
Read pages 156 to 171 of Kowalski and Westen (Learning)
Explore "Chapter 5: Learning" presentation on website
Classical Conditioning -- Listen to lecture, watch movie clip "Classical Conditioning of an Eye Blink", explore "Get Sniffy the Virtual Rat" and "Classically Condition Sniffy" activities, and answer Multiple Choice Questions

Week 8
Oct. 13
Read Newsletter #8
Read pages 172 to 186 of Kowalski and Westen (Learning)
Explore "Chapter 5: Learning" presentation on website
Operant Conditioning -- Listen to lecture, watch movie clip "Skinner and Shaping", explore "Operantly Condition Sniffy" activity, and answer Multiple Choice Questions
Cognitive-Social Theory -- Listen to lecture and answer Multiple Choice Questions
Take Quiz 5 (available until 10/19.)

Discussion Assignment #1

Week 9
Oct. 20
Exam 2 -- The exam will be available at <https://isidore.udayton.edu/> until the end of 10/21 (11:59 PM EDT.)

Read Newsletter #9
Read pages 188 to 199 of Kowalski and Westen (Memory)
Explore "Chapter 6: Memory" presentation on website
Short-Term Memory -- Listen to lecture and answer Multiple Choice Questions
Long-Term Memory and Working Memory -- Listen to lecture, explore "Serial Position Effect" activity, and answer Multiple Choice Questions

Week 10
Oct. 27 Read Newsletter #10
Read pages 199 to 223 of Kowalski and Westen (Memory)
Explore "Chapter 6: Memory" presentation on website
Aspects of Long-Term Memory -- Listen to lecture, explore "Levels of Processing" activity, and answer Multiple Choice Questions
Organization of Long-Term Memory; Forgetting -- Listen to lecture, watch movie clip "Flashbulb Memories", and answer Multiple Choice Questions
Never Fear! -- PI Man Is Here
Take Quiz 6 (available until 11/2.)

Read pages 225 to 238 of Kowalski and Westen (Thought and Language)
Explore "Chapter 7: Thought and Language" presentation on website
Units of Thought -- Listen to lecture and answer Multiple Choice Questions
Reasoning, Problem Solving and Decision Making -- Listen to lecture and answer Multiple Choice Questions

Week 11
Nov. 3 Read Newsletter #11
Read pages 239 to 260 of Kowalski and Westen (Thought and Language)
Explore "Chapter 7: Thought and Language" presentation on website
Implicit and Everyday Thinking -- Listen to lecture and answer Multiple Choice Questions
Language -- Listen to lecture and answer Multiple Choice Questions
Take Quiz 7 (available until 11/9.)

Discussion Assignment 3

Week 12
Nov. 10 **Exam 3 -- The exam will be available at <https://isidore.udayton.edu/> until the end of 11/11 (11:59 PM EST.)**

Read Newsletter #12
Read pages 588 to 605 of Kowalski and Westen (Attitudes and Social Cognition)
Explore "Chapter 16: Attitudes and Social Cognition" presentation on website
Issues in Social Cognition -- Listen to lecture
Racism and Prejudice -- Listen to lecture and explore related web page
"Measure Your Own Implicit Attitudes"
Attribution and Biases in Social Cognition -- Listen to lecture

- Week 13
Nov. 17
- Read Newsletter #13
Read pages 627 to 628 and 642 to 664 of Kowalski and Westen (Interpersonal Processes)
Explore "Chapter 17: Interpersonal Processes" presentation on website
 Aggression -- Listen to lecture
 Social Influences -- Listen to lecture, watch movie clips "Milgram's Study" and "An Example of Conformity" and explore related web pages "The Stanford Prison Study" and "Joe Chemo: Smoking and Social Influence"
Take Quiz 8 (available until 11/23.)
- Read pages 418 to 435 of Kowalski and Westen (Personality)
Explore "Chapter 12: Personality" presentation on website
 Psychodynamics -- Listen to lecture, watch movie clip "Freud's Couch" and answer Multiple Choice Questions
 Structural Model of Personality -- Listen to lecture and answer Multiple Choice Questions
 Cognitive-Social Personality Theory -- Listen to lecture and answer Multiple Choice Questions
- Week 14
Nov 24
- Break
- Read Newsletter #14
Read pages 436 to 454 of Kowalski and Westen (Personality)
Explore "Chapter 12: Personality" presentation on website
 Trait Theories of Personality -- Listen to lecture and answer Multiple Choice Questions
 Humanistic Approaches to Personality -- Listen to lecture and answer Multiple Choice Questions
Take Quiz 9 (available until 11/30.)
- Week 15
Dec. 1
- Read Newsletter #15
Explore "Human Factors " presentation on website
 Human Factors -- Listen to lecture and answer Multiple Choice Questions
 An Example -- Listen to lecture
Take Quiz 10 (available until 12/7.)
- Assignment #1 Discussion
- Week 16
Dec. 8
- Read Newsletter #16
Assignment #1 Discussion
- Finals Week **Final Exam -- The final exam will be available at <https://isidore.udayton.edu/> until the end of 12/16 (11:59 PM EST.)**