

PSY 202: Mind & Society
Summer 2004 • MUWHF • 10:00 - 11:50 AM • 116 Esslinger

Instructor: Ted Gardner, M.A., M.S.

Office: Straub 342 • Office phone: 346-3999 ☎

Office hours: Tuesday & Wednesday 12:00 - 1:00, or by appt.

e-mail address: tgardner@darkwing.uoregon.edu (best way to reach me) 💻

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is part of a two-course sequence: PSY 201 and PSY 202. Each course gives you an introductory overview of different aspects of the field of psychology, which is the scientific study of mental processes and behavior. After an overview of the main issues and theoretical perspectives in psychology, in PSY 202 we will cover the following topic areas: developmental psychology; personality; emotion, stress & coping; psychological disorders and treatments; and social behavior.

GENERAL COURSE OBJECTIVES:


- To gain an understanding of the broad range of phenomena investigated by psychologists.
- To become knowledgeable about the different perspectives that psychologists use as frameworks for conducting and interpreting psychological research.
- To understand the research methods used by psychologists to study mental processes and behavior.
- To become knowledgeable of basic psychological concepts and research findings, and to become comfortable with the language used to describe and explain those concepts and results.
- To understand the interactive roles of biology and culture in shaping psychological processes.
- To gain an appreciation for the relevance and applications of psychological research findings in today's society.
- To develop critical thinking skills and to be able to apply those skills to psychology-related information presented by the media.

REQUIRED TEXT: 📖

Westen, D. (2003). Psychology: Brain, Behavior, and Culture (Active Learning Edition). New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

CLASS FORMAT:

Classes will be a mixture of lecture, discussion, and/or group exercises. In order to be fully engaged and to participate in each class session, it is essential that you read and think about the material to be covered in lecture **before** you come to class. This will enhance your learning experience.

Please note: Lecture material is **selective**. We will not cover everything in the text in class, and new material (not in the text) will be introduced in class. So, if you miss a class, it will be very important to get the class notes from another student. 

RESEARCH REQUIREMENT:

Empirical research is an important aspect of the field of psychology. As a psychology student it is helpful to have an idea how research is conducted. Therefore, there is a **research requirement** for this class. Failure to complete this requirement will result in an Incomplete in this course. You may fulfill this requirement in 1 of 2 ways.

1. Participate in the Human Subject Pool in four experiments (one hour each) **and** complete a questionnaire for each experiment. The research questionnaires can be accessed via blackboard. Further information about the human subjects pool can be obtained at: <http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~hscoord/> The online system that is used to sign up for experiments can be found at: <http://uopsych.sona-systems.com>
2. Write a 5 page paper that reviews four research articles selected by the department. You must notify me by **Friday 23 July 2004** if this is the option you select.

GRADING:

The course is divided into four units, each about one week in length. There will be an in-class exam at the end of each unit, for a total of four exams. The exams will be non-cumulative. That is, the material covered on each exam will include only the material contained in a single unit. Each exam will be worth 60 points and will contain 60 multiple choice questions (1 point each). Exam questions will cover material from **both** class lecture-discussions **and** assigned readings. Again, if you miss a class, it will be important to get class notes from another student.

Each non-exam day, there will be an in-class quiz consisting of 6 to 8 questions. The quiz will cover material either discussed in class or on the reading list for that day. There will be 15 total possible quiz points per week, for four weeks, resulting in a total possible of 60 quiz points.

Your final grade will be calculated using your four highest scores from the four exams and the cumulative total of your quiz grades. Failure to take an exam or quiz will result in a zero grade on that assessment. Because we are dropping either one exam score or your cumulative quiz scores, whichever is lower, **there will be no makeup exams or quizzes**.

There will also be two out-of-class activities worth 10 points each - **see "Assignments" page on blackboard site for descriptions**. Your four highest scores on the exams and quizzes will be added to your scores on the out-of-class activities to calculate your final grade in this course.

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| Total number of exam and quiz points possible | = 240 (60 points each exam/cumulative quiz x 4) |
| Total number of out-of-class activity points possible | = 20 (10 points each activity x 2) |
| | 260 total points possible |

Your final grade will be based on the following scale:

| Percentage | Letter grade | Percentage | Letter grade |
|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| 98 - 100% | A+ | 78 - 79 | C+ |
| 93- 97 | A | 73 - 77 | C |
| 90 - 92 | A- | 70 - 72 | C- |
| 88 - 89 | B+ | 63 - 67 | D |
| 83 - 87 | B | 60 - 62 | D- |
| 80 - 82 | B- | Below 60 | F |


ADDITIONAL NOTES:

Students with disabilities: If you are having difficulty and are in need of academic support because of a documented disability, whether it is psychiatric, learning, physical, hearing, or vision, you may be eligible for academic accommodations. Please talk to me at the end of the first class.

Experiencing a problem?: If you are having any difficulties with the class -- such as dealing with the material, making it to class on time, attending class, doing poorly on the exams, or dealing with other students -- please let me know as soon as possible so that we can work together toward resolving the issue.

Academic Dishonesty. It is the philosophy of the University of Oregon that academic dishonesty is unacceptable and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, submission for credit of any work or materials attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

CLASS SCHEDULE: LECTURE TOPICS AND READING ASSIGNMENTS

| | <u><i>Date</i></u> | <u><i>Lecture topic</i></u> | <u><i>Readings</i></u>  |
|------------------|---|---|--|
| Unit I: | Lifespan Development | | Modules 31-35 |
| | Mo 7/19 | Basic issues in development | Modules 31-32 |
| | Tu 7/20 | Brain & cognitive development | Module 33 |
| | We 7/21 | Social development: Attachment | Modules 34-35 |
| | Th 7/22 | Out-of-class activity #1 due in class Adult development & aging | |
| | Fr 7/23 | EXAM #1 | |
| Unit II: | Personality, Emotion, & Stress | | Modules 25-30 |
| | Mo 7/26 | Personality | Modules 27-30 |
| | Tu 7/27 | continued | |
| | We 7/28 | Emotion, stress, & coping | Modules 25-26 |
| | Th 7/29 | continued | |
| | Fr 7/30 | EXAM #2 | |
| Unit III: | Psychological Disorders & Treatments | | Modules 36-42 |
| | Mo 8/2 | What is abnormal? mental illness? Approaches to psychopathology | Modules 36-37 |
| | Tu 8/3 | Childhood/adolescent onset disorders | |
| | We 8/4 | Adult disorders & treatment | Modules 38-42 |
| | Th 8/5 | continued | |
| | Fr 8/6 | Out-of-class activity #2 due in class EXAM #3 | |
| Unit IV: | Social Behavior | | Modules 43-48 |
| | Mo 8/9 | Attitudes & social cognition | Modules 43-45 |
| | Tu 8/10 | Group Processes | Modules 46-48 |
| | We 8/11 | continued | |
| | Fr 8/13 | EXAM #4 (10:30-12:20) | |