

**A Warm Welcome to PSYC UN1001
The Science of Psychology!**

The instructional team is looking forward to working with each of you this semester and supporting you and your understanding of the scientific study of thought and behavior!

Your Spring 2024 Instructional Team

<p><u>PROFESSOR:</u></p> <p><i>Student Drop-in Hours:</i></p> <p><i>Email:</i></p>	<p>Dr. Saskia Giebl</p> <p>Time: tbc Zoom Link: https://columbiauniversity.zoom.us/j/98096168701 Meeting ID: 980 9616 8701</p> <p>sg4380@columbia.edu <i>*Please put PSYC UN1001 in the email subject line</i></p>
<p><u>Course TAs:</u></p> <p><u>Lead TA1:</u></p> <p><i>Student Drop-in Hours:</i></p> <p><i>Email:</i></p> <p><u>Lead TA2:</u></p> <p><i>Student Drop-in Hours:</i></p> <p><i>Email:</i></p>	<p>In addition to the professor, your TAs are another important resource to help you learn the fundamental course concepts and answer any questions on lecture content. They also assist with course logistics and Canvas concerns.</p> <p>TBC</p> <p>Time: tbc Zoom Link Meeting ID: tbc</p> <p>tbc</p> <p>TBC</p> <p>Time: tbc Zoom Link Meeting ID: tbc</p> <p>tbc</p>

COURSE OVERVIEW

Welcome to Psych Intro! Psychology is the scientific study of thought and behavior. This course is designed to give you a brief overview of the field of Psychology and to provide you with insight into why we think and behave the way we do! Over the next few weeks, we will cover many fascinating topics in psychology including: neurophysiology, sensation and perception, memory, thinking, developmental, social, and clinical psychology. We will also discuss some of the innovative methodologies that researchers are using to study these topics.

Our teaching team is committed to helping you succeed in this course and we believe every student can do well. We encourage you to study and learn together with your classmates. There is no limit on how many students can earn a certain grade, so please aim to do your best without feeling compelled to compete with your classmates. We are committed to providing an atmosphere for learning that respects diversity. As a member of this class, we ask that you exemplify the [Columbia University Values](#) in your interactions with students, instructors and TAs. Given that some of the topics we cover (e.g., mental health) may be of a personal nature, you are expected to approach all discussions in this course with respect and compassion for your fellow students and their experiences.

Course Resources

Course Webpage – Courseworks

The website associated with this course is accessible via [PSYCUN1001 - The Science of Psychology](#). We will use Courseworks to post lecture slides, grades, and Zoom links.

Course Discussion Board

We will be using Courseworks for class discussion. Rather than emailing questions to the teaching staff, I encourage you to post your questions on the discussion board on the course website on Coursework.

Textbook:

Spielman, R.M., (2020). *Psychology*, OpenStax. Retrieved from:

<https://openstax.org/details/books/psychology>

The textbook for this course is a FREE online, open-access textbook. You may access all of the readings by visiting the link above. A PDF version of the textbook is also available on Courseworks. If you would prefer a hard copy of the textbook, you can purchase it online through the OpenStax website.

COURSE OUTLINE & ASSIGNMENTS

Week	Date	Topic	Reading	Homework Assignments (tentative) (Due the following Monday @ 4pm EST)
1	Jan 17	Welcome & Introduction to Psychology		
2	Jan 22	Research Methods		Scientist Spotlight - Evaluation Assignment
	Jan 24	Research Methods		
3	Jan 29	Neuroscience *Quiz 1		
	Jan 31	Neuroscience		Critical Analysis of Research Design - Evaluation Assignment
4	Feb 5	Neuroscience & Sensation		
	Feb 7	Sensation & Perception		
5	Feb 12	Sensation & Perception *Quiz 2		Article Analysis 1
	Feb 14	Learning		
6	Feb 19	Learning		
	Feb 21	Memory		Article Analysis 2
7	Feb 26	Memory (last content for Exam 1)		
	Feb 28	Memory & Learning		
8	Mar 4	EXAM 1		
	Mar 6	Memory & Learning		
Spring Break	Mar 11			
	Mar 13			
9	Mar 18	Language & Decision Making		Thinking Like a Researcher – Mini Writing Assignment
	Mar 20	Language & Thought *Quiz 3		
10	Mar 25	Research Methods		
	Mar 27	Research Methods		Experimental Research Proposal (Due tbc)
11	Apr 1	Development Psychology		
	Apr 3	Development Psychology		
12	Apr 8	Social Psychology		
	Apr 10	Social Psychology		Article Analysis 3
13	Apr 15	Clinical Psychology *Quiz 4		
	Apr 17	Clinical Psychology		
14	Apr 22	Decision Making and Problem Solving		

	Apr 24	Health & Wellbeing		
15	Apr 29	Review and Wrap-up		
	May 1	Study Period No lecture		
End of Spring Term	May 6	EXAM 2		

HOW YOUR LEARNING WILL BE ASSESSED

You will receive more details about each assignment as we proceed through the course. If you ever have questions about an assignment, or are struggling with a concept we encourage you to let us know! In taking this course, students agree to be assessed in the following ways and to adhere to the policies outlined in the syllabus. The methods of evaluation may be changed in the case of emergencies or extenuating circumstances.

IN LECTURE: 50%

1. Quizzes (online via Zoom lecture): 10%

- ◇ 4 timed multiple-choice quizzes
- ◇ Lowest quiz score will be dropped

2. Exam 1: 20%

Location & Format: in-person during lecture and multiple-choice questions

3. Exam 2: 20%

Location & Format: in-person during lecture and multiple-choice questions

Note. The two exams cover all lectures content and exercises as well as content from the textbook. Each exam is worth 20% of your total lecture grade. The first exam covers information from the first half of the course, and the second exam covers information from the second part of the course, emphasizing information covered since the first exam.

If you know that you will have a conflict with the final exam date, you should not take this class. Although it is subject to change up until the Registrar confirms final exam dates midway through the semester, the ultimate exam date is almost always the same as the projected one. Please take this date into consideration when making travel plans for the end of the semester, since Columbia University only allows final exams to be taken outside of the scheduled slot in extreme circumstances such as a medical or family emergency. If you are a student athlete and anticipate that you might be traveling during the final exam date, please come talk to me *before the end of the second week of class* to see if there will be a possibility of making alternate testing plans.

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS: 50%

1. Written Assignments: 40%

- ◇ Critical Analysis of Research Design - Evaluation writing assignment 5%
- ◇ “Thinking Like a Researcher”- Mini writing assignment: 5%
- ◇ Scientist Spotlight - Evaluation writing assignment 5%
- ◇ Article Analyses: 10%
3 peer-reviewed published article analysis reports
- ◇ Experimental Research Proposal: 15%
 - Write-up and presentation of your research proposal. Instructions will be posted on Course website

2. Weekly Discussion Board Mini Assignments: 5%

3. Mini Surveys throughout the semester: 5%

Grading Scale

This course is not curved. The scale below presents grades and their letter equivalent. In general, I do not round up.

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

STUDY TIPS

“When we think about learning, we typically focus on getting information into our heads. What if, instead, we focus on getting information out of our heads?”

This means: “Stop cramming, reviewing, and re-reading. Instead, simply ask yourself and others (quizzing) what you/they remember.”

By Pooja Agarwal, Ph.D.

COURSE POLICY

Lecture – in person/ (*On quiz days lecture is held online via Zoom)

Each week, you will attend two 75-mins lectures. Our weekly class meetings will consist of a mixture of lecture, discussion, and group work. We emphasize the importance of attendance and active participation during the lectures and encourage your engagement in discussions. Such involvement not only fosters a deeper understanding of the content matter but also serves as a valuable preparation for the two exams.

Classes will be in person, *except on in-class quiz days*. In-class quiz days will be virtual (on zoom) and are highlighted in the course schedule below. Note that class time is limited, and we cannot cover everything in the text during class. Keep up with the reading! You are responsible for the material we do not cover in class.

Lecture Attendance. Attending lectures and actively participating is a fundamental component of this course. Lectures will go into more depth on topics covered in the readings, and cover some material that is not included in the readings. We will break frequently for discussions, group exercises, and other activities. **We will not be posting video recordings for this course.** If you miss a class, make sure you go over the lecture slides, ask a classmate if you can look over their notes, and then come to office hours to ask questions about any topics you think you may need help catching up on.

Lecture Notes. We will post slides after each class, so you do not need to copy down everything (or anything!) that's written on each slide. Slides will not be posted before class—for logistical reasons, but also because taking notes on material you don't have a copy of is a useful skill to practice (for college but also for life generally), and the process of merging your notes with the lecture slides after class is a useful first step for effective studying.

Class Conduct. Please turn your cell phone ringer off during class, and keep it stowed in your pocket or bag. Laptops are fine for taking notes, but please respect your classmates and instructor by limiting yourself to class-related activities. Using a laptop for purposes other than taking notes is disruptive to those around you. If you anticipate using your laptop for non-course-related activities, please sit in the back of the classroom to avoid distracting your classmates.

Quizzes.

There will be four timed quizzes administered throughout the semester. Quizzes will be taken remotely in the beginning of the class held via zoom. Quizzes will be open book, open note, open internet. Questions will be multiple choice. Your lowest quiz grade will be dropped.

In Class Quiz Absences.

You must complete 3 of 4 quizzes. If you miss a quiz for any reason, you can drop that grade. If you feel you have a serious reason for needing a make-up quiz, you will need to speak to me and your academic dean to get approval.

The Final Exam.

The final exam will take place during the final exam period as scheduled by the registrar. The exam will be in class. The format will be multiple-choice questions.

Academic Integrity

"The intellectual venture in which we are all engaged requires of faculty and students alike the highest level of personal and academic integrity. As members of an academic community, each one of us bears the responsibility to participate in scholarly discourse and research in a manner characterized by intellectual honesty and scholarly integrity. . . . In practical terms, this means that, as students, you must be responsible for the full citations of others' ideas in all of your research papers and projects; you must be scrupulously honest when taking your examinations; you must always submit your own work and not that of another student, scholar, or internet agent."
From the Faculty Statement on Academic Integrity.

Cheating on assignments or exams and plagiarism are very serious violations within the academic community. Students are expected to do their own work on all tests and assignments for this class. Students are expected to bring their own clickers to class. Having a friend "click in" for you is considered academic dishonesty. Clicking in for a friend is also considered academic dishonesty. Neglecting to cite sources in a paper is considered plagiarism. You are expected to always act in accordance with the Columbia honor code. Any student found cheating or plagiarizing in this class will be reported to Columbia's Office of Judicial Affairs and Community Standards for evaluation and academic discipline. If you have questions about any aspect of academic integrity at Columbia, please refer to the following link: [Academic Integrity](#)

Students with Disabilities.

From the office of Disability Services:

In order to receive disability-related academic accommodations for this course, students must first be registered with their school Disability Services (DS) office. Detailed information is available online for both the [Columbia](#) and [Barnard](#) registration processes. Refer to the appropriate website for information regarding deadlines, disability documentation requirements, and [drop-in hours](#) (Columbia)/ [intake session](#) (Barnard).

Once you are registered with DS:

For this course, students are not required to have testing forms or accommodation letters signed by faculty. However, students must do the following:

- The instructor section of the form has already been completed and does not need to be signed by the professor.
- The student must complete the Student section of the form and submit the form to Disability Services.
- Master forms are available in the Disability Service office or online: [Testing Accommodations](#)

Additional Resources for Students:

Columbia University Writing Center	https://www.college.columbia.edu/core/uwp/writing-center
Tutoring Service	https://www.cc-seas.columbia.edu/csa/tutoring
Health Service	https://health.columbia.edu/
Go Ask Alice (answers to health questions)	https://goaskalice.columbia.edu/
Counseling and Psychological Service (CPS)	https://health.columbia.edu/content/counseling-and-psychological-services For appointments, call 212-854-2878. For after-hours assistance, call 212-854-9797 or contact Public Safety at 212-854- 5555.
Office of Disability Services	Columbia - https://health.columbia.edu/content/disability-services Barnard - https://barnard.edu/disabilityservices
Office of University Chaplain	http://ouc.columbia.edu/