

**Foundations of Psychology
Summer 2025
PSYC 111 Section 001 (Online)**

Instructor: Mitsuru Shimizu (mshimiz@siue.edu)

Office Hour: By appointment during regular business hours via Zoom or Teams (TBA)

Textbook (required): Pomerantz, A. M. (2023). *My Psychology* (3rd ed.). New York: Worth Publishers.

Technical Requirements: Access to a computer with reliable internet access and an updated internet browser. MS Word and PowerPoint should be available from: <https://www.siue.edu/its/microsoft365>

Getting Technical Help: ITS helpdesk (ftc_help@siue.edu or 618-650-5500)

Course Description:

Welcome to Psychology 111. Course will provide the student with a basic understanding of psychology. Theories and research relating to emotions, abnormal behavior, motivation, learning, personality, methods of therapy, biology and behaviors, developmental psychology, and social psychology will be discussed. Psychology is ultimately the study of people, so it's important for everyone to see how the topics covered in this course apply to the real world of everyday life. We will see that there are some basic psychological processes (e.g., biological, emotional, social) that apply to everyone and other aspects of psychology that vary across different people. In addition, this course is conducted entirely online, which will require you to carefully organize your time and you work to avoid getting behind. I will do all I can to assist you with this, but the responsibility is ultimately yours – be sure to contact me immediately with any concerns about the course or your progress through it.

Goals:

1. Characterize the nature of psychology as a discipline.
 - a) the appreciation of the scientific and philosophic roots of psychology.
 - b) the appreciation of the primary objectives of psychology.
2. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of selected content areas of psychology.
 - a) theories and research representing each of the four general domains (e.g., biological, cognitive, social, and clinical).
 - b) the history of psychology
 - c) overarching themes, persistent questions, or enduring conflicts in psychology (e.g., nature versus nurture, mind versus brain).
3. Use the concepts, language, and major theories of the discipline to account for psychological phenomena.
4. Explain major perspectives of psychology (e.g., behavioral, biological, cognitive, evolutionary, humanistic, psychodynamic, and sociocultural).

Class Format and Requirements:

The course format will consist of readings, online lectures, online quizzes, online midterm and final exams, and an assignment. The online lecture materials will compliment the readings. However, some things will be covered in the lecture that will not be covered in the book. You are responsible for learning everything that is covered in lecture. See below – Tentative Class Schedule).

The notes posted are only an approximation of what will be covered in online lectures. The material on the notes will always be incomplete. **The best strategy is to print out the notes and write additional notes on top of them while watching online lectures.**

Requirements for Satisfactory Completion of Course:

There will be 14 online quizzes. Those quizzes consist of 4 questions, usually given at the end of each section (e.g., the Biology of Mind). Also, there will be 6 online activities/discussions. The mid-term exam will consist of 60 questions. The final exam will consist of 60 questions. All questions will be multiple-choice format. For the assignment, you will be required to write approximately 7-8 pages paper (including the Title and the References). The assignment will involve searching the literature (references) and providing a critical assessment. More information on the assignment will be provided before June 9th.

Methods for Evaluating Student Performance:

The weighting will be given as follows:

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Quizzes and Activities | 40pt (20%) |
| Mid-term Exam (June 18th) | 60pt (30%) |
| Assignment (July 1st) | 40pt (20%) |
| Final Exam (July 5th) | 60pt (30%) |

I will use the following scale to assign letter grades:

| | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| 180pt and above = A | 160-179pt = B | 140-159pt = C |
| 120-139pt = D | 119pt and below = F | |

Academic Integrity:

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. This includes cheating during exams and plagiarism in written work. Please review (<http://www.siue.edu/POLICIES/1i6.html>) for a description of the college policies and procedures for cases of academic dishonesty.

Testing Procedures:

You **must** take the quiz and exam at the scheduled day. Apparently, the quiz and exam are open book/note. However, to complete them in time (20 minutes for quizzes and 90 minutes for midterm/final exams) you must study beforehand. Quiz/Exam grades will be posted immediately after taking them.

Missed Exams:

There will be NO opportunity to make up the midterm or final exam after the online due date.

Notice for Students with Disabilities:

SIUE offers a range of resources to support students with disabilities. At SIUE every effort has been made to eliminate barriers to learning and help you reach your educational goals. If you are a student with a disability and wish to request accommodations, please contact Disability Support Services located in the Student Success Center, Room 1270 (phone: 650-3726). Furthermore, according to SIUE safety and procedures policies, students with disabilities have the option of developing a written plan for evacuation in the unlikely event of an emergency that requires evacuation. If any student with a disability would like to develop a written evacuation plan for this class, please contact the instructor.

Departmental Policy on Incomplete Grades and Withdrawal Options:

All withdrawals must be completed by the end of the 13th week of classes during fall and spring, and by a similarly late date (i.e., before 82% of class meetings have occurred) in any summer term. When students discontinue attending class and do not withdraw from a course they may receive the grade of UW (Unauthorized Withdrawal). The grade of UW will only be given when a student's grade based on the course requirements is an F. The grade of UW is calculated as an F in a student's grade average. The granting of a grade of I (Incomplete) is not automatic and is available only in cases when a student has completed most of the work required for a class but is prevented by a medical or similar emergency from completing a small portion of the work not later than the end of the following semester. An I must be approved by the instructor with appropriate documentation provided by the student. If an instructor agrees to give a student an I, the instructor will fill out a Memorandum of Incomplete Grade to be kept with the student's records. If the work is not completed by the time specified on the Memorandum, the student's grade will be changed from I to F.

Tentative Class Schedule

| Date | Topic | Corresponding Reading |
|-------------|--|--------------------------------|
| 6/2 | Introduction of Psychology Research Methods in Psychology | Ch.1 (Quiz#1 and #2) |
| 6/4 | The Biology of Mind | Ch.2 (Quiz#3) |
| 6/6 | Learning | Ch.6 (Quiz#4) |
| 6/9 | Cognitive Processes | Ch.7 (Quiz#5) |
| 6/11 | Memory | Ch.5 (Quiz#6) |
| 6/13 | Motivation and Emotion | Ch.8 (Quiz#7) |
| 6/16 | Stress and Health | Cn.11 (Quiz#8) |
| 6/18 | Mid-Term Exam | Ch.1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11 |
| 6/20 | Personality | Ch.12 (Quiz#9) |
| 6/23 | Psychological Disorders | Ch.14 (Quiz#10) |
| 6/25 | Therapy | Ch.15 (Quiz#11) |
| 6/27 | Social Psychology Part 1 | Ch.13 (Quiz#12) |
| 6/30 | Social Psychology Part 2 | Ch.13 (Quiz#13) |
| 7/2 | Development Across the Life Span | Ch.9 (Quiz#14) |
| 7/4 | Final Exam | Cp.9, 12, 13, 14, 15 |

Note: Assignment is due on July 1st

PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT POLICY ON RESEARCH PARTICIPATION

Research is the basis of knowledge in psychology and provides the content in all areas of the discipline. The Department of Psychology typically requires a minimum of six hours of research experience of each student enrolled in PSYC111. **However, because this is an online summer class, students need to participate in only one hour online research activities in total.** This requirement may be completed by participation in a department-approved study. Failure to complete the minimum research requirement results in a one-letter grade drop, so if a student, for example, had a 'B' in PSYC111 at the end of the semester but failed to complete two hours of approved research experience, the student would receive a 'C'.

Students who make an appointment for research participation, as do the investigators conducting the study, make a commitment to be at the designated place at the designated time for their appointment. If an emergency arises to prevent the participants from being able to be at the appointed time and place, they must notify the investigator no later than one hour prior to the study time. If students fail to come to the study on time or fail to cancel with sufficient notice, they will not receive credit for that study. Moreover, it is up to the investigator to decide whether and when such a participant will be allowed to make an additional appointment for that particular study.