

PSYC 1013 N5: Introductory Psychology 1

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Syllabus

Instructor

I am a retired professor of psychology now residing in Lunenburg NS. I worked in the Department of Psychology at Acadia University from 1989-2017. I grew up in Corner Brook, Newfoundland and attended Sir Wilfred Grenfell College there for one year before going to Dalhousie University to complete an honours degree in Psychology. I then did M.A. and Ph.D. degrees at the University of Western Ontario, where I studied educational psychology. I conducted research on reading and learning, focussing on workplace literacy and the design of multimedia learning materials.

I hope that you will find psychology fascinating as you start to delve into the complexities of studying human behaviour and thinking.

Sonya Major

Contact Information:

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Course Overview

This course is intended to introduce you to the scientific examination of behaviour and mental processes. In addition to an introduction to the history and research methods of psychology, specific content areas include biological bases of behaviour, sensation and perception, consciousness, learning, thinking, language, and memory. There are no pre-requisites for this course.

The course is structured to provide assignments that encourage you to apply and/or interpret the concepts that you are learning from the textbook and online study guides to your own context. The textbook is a very popular introductory psychology book in North America, has significant Canadian content, and is written in an engaging readable manner. Chapter readings, assignments, and tests form the basis of the course structure.

Course Materials

Textbook:

Weiten, W. & McCann, D. (2019) Psychology: Themes and Variations (5th Canadian edition). Although MindTap is not required it is recommended - MindTap includes practice tests, assignments, and links to various multimedia resources.

Psychology: Themes & Variations (LLF w/ 12 month MindTap) - ISBN: 9780176869380

Psychology: Themes & Variations (LLF) - ISBN: 9780176805050

Psychology: Themes & Variations (bound copy w/ 12 month MindTap) - ISBN: 9780176863326

Psychology: Themes & Variations (bound copy) - ISBN: 9780176721275

Psychology Themes & Variations (Standalone Acc Card) - ISBN: 9780176797805

See the [student handbook](#) for ordering information.

Evaluation

8 Assignments (5% each)	40%
4 On-line tests (5% each)	20%
Final Exam	40%

Assignments

Assignments encourage you to apply the concepts you are reading about. It is best to complete each assignment after you have read the corresponding chapter.

You will see that self-reflection is a component of some assignments – you will not be graded on your openness to self reflection, but rather, the way you think through the assignment. The assignments should be able to be answered in one or two pages (approximately 500 words).

Assignment Submission

The assignments should be submitted on Acorn. Do not send them as e-mail attachments.

Tests

There are 4 timed online tests. Each of these tests consists of 25 multiple-choice questions. Test 1 covers chapters 1 & 2, Test 2 covers chapters 3 & 4, Test 3 covers chapters 5 & 6 and Test 4 covers chapters 7 & 8. You will have 30 minutes only to complete these tests, so ensure that you are ready to do the tests and that you will not be interrupted so that you can make the most of your 30 minutes of test-taking.

Final Exam

The final exam consists of 100 multiple-choice questions designed to assess your comprehension of the material covered in all 8 chapters of the textbook, with approximately 12 questions per chapter. **The exam is closed book** and the textbook is not allowed. You will have 3 hours to complete the exam.

Administration of the exam is done through Open Acadia. If you have questions about scheduling the final exam please see - <https://www2.acadiau.ca/online/current-students/exams.html> for details.

Exam

How to apply: Complete the [Application for Examination](#)

Proctored at Acadia

- The final exam in an online course must be passed to successfully pass the course unless otherwise stated in the assessment section of the course syllabus. There are no rewrites or supplemental examinations at Acadia University.
- Examination requests must be received one month prior to the date you wish to write your examination.
- Course requirements must be completed to the satisfaction of your instructor.
- **Graduating Students Note:** If you are graduating in Spring Convocation you must write by April 15th. If you are graduating in the Fall you must write by September 15th.

Proctored at Another Location

If it isn't practical to take your exam at Acadia, off-campus exams can be written at another university or college. Arrangements for an examination may be made through the Registrar's Office or the Continuing Education office of most universities and colleges. If it is not possible to write your exam at an approved institution, please contact us for assistance.

- **All fees associated with examinations written at other locations are your responsibility.**
- Some courses may require specific software or internet accessibility at the off-campus examination location.

Course Schedule

You have 6 months to complete this course. You may set your own schedule and complete the course in less time than this.

Please do not leave all of your course work until a few weeks before your completion date. Although I will make every effort to accommodate your schedule within reason, I need time to grade assignments and mark exams.

Recommended Schedule

Week	Chapter/Lesson	Topic	Assignment
1-2	1	The Evolution of Psychology	1
3-4	2	The Research Enterprise of Psychology	2
5	Complete Test 1		
6-7	3	Biological Bases of Behaviour	3
8-9	4	Sensation and Perception	4
10	Complete Test 2		
11-12	5	Variations in Consciousness	5
12-13	6	Learning	6
14	Complete Test 3		
15-16	7	Human Memory	7
17-18	8	Language and Thought	8
19	Complete Test 4		
Send in the application to write the final exam.			
Final Exam - Covers Chapters 1 to 8			

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity demands responsible use of the work of other scholars. It is compromised by academic dishonesty such as cheating and plagiarism. A student who is uncertain whether or not a course of action might constitute cheating or plagiarism should seek in advance the advice of the instructor involved.

- Cheating is copying or the use of unauthorized aids or the intentional falsification or invention of information in any academic exercise
- Plagiarism is the act of presenting the ideas or words of another as one's own. Students are required to acknowledge and document the sources of ideas that they use in their written work.
- Self plagiarism is also a form of plagiarism. It is the presentation of the same work in more than one course without the permission of the instructors involved.
- A student who knowingly helps another to commit an act of academic dishonesty is equally guilty.
- Penalties are levied in relation to the degree of the relevant infraction. They range from requiring the student to re-do the piece of work, through failure on that piece of work, to failure in the course, and to dismissal from the university.

Student Handbook

You are responsible for becoming familiar with the contents of the Student Handbook. It contains important information about scheduling examinations (if applicable), applying for extensions, withdrawing from your course, ordering books, and computer and library services available to you. If you have questions about the policies outlined in the [handbook](#), contact:

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 21 University Avenue (Rhodes Hall)
 Wolfville, NS B4P 2R6
 Phone: 1-800-565-6568
 Fax: 902-585-1068
 Email: openacadia@acadiau.ca

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