

Principles of Psychology

Psychology 110

2a, MW 9:50-11,
F 9:40-10:40

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RESOURCES

Textbook: Gleitman, H., Gross, J., & Reisberg, D. (2011). *Psychology* (8th edition). New York, NY: W.W. Norton & Company.

Course Website: <http://people.carleton.edu/~jneiwort/neiworth/index.html>

Moodle site: <https://moodle.carleton.edu/course/view.php?id=16584>

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Psychology 110 attempts to review and integrate theories, research and applications of major topics of psychology. This information can be provided in a variety of formats; in this course there are three themes that pervade each topic: 1) that psychology often makes use of comparisons with other theories/ideas/sciences to construct a basis for externalizing internal mechanisms, 2) that psychology is a science, or a set of procedures for systematically observing facts about behavior and organizing these facts into generalizations about why humans and other animals act as they do, and 3) that psychology is a means of promoting human welfare, and as such is a body of information that can be applied to help solve a variety of human problems.

Our discussions will always start with (1), in that each topic will be introduced in a historical context and any metaphors or ideas borrowed from other fields will be reviewed. Next, the mechanics of studying the topic will be identified (2), and finally, its usefulness in promoting human welfare will be discussed (3). It is our hope that this sort of review will firmly ground your study of psychology in a bigger context. In addition, it should direct you towards understanding the strengths and weaknesses of each area of study within psychology.

CLASS MEETINGS

The course meets three times each week: Mon and Wed from 9:50 – 11:00am and Friday, from 9:40 – 10:40 am. For most topics, we will introduce the main ideas and research in 1-2 meetings, and then break into smaller groups to discuss or apply the material. All meetings will begin in Olin 141, but we may sometimes disperse to other rooms or outside for discussions and application activities.

ASSIGNED READINGS

Most assigned reading will come from the textbook, Henry Gleitman's *Psychology* (8th edition). Additional readings will be made available on Moodle prior to the assigned reading date. Please consult the schedule for the required readings for each class meeting. We strongly encourage you to read the assignment *before* class because lectures will build from the assigned readings, but will not provide a detailed review: most often we will go well beyond the basics of the readings in class.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Our deadline/exam policy is this: You must take exams and hand in assignments on the prescribed days. Any exceptions to this (e.g., due to sudden illness or unforeseen circumstances) must be arranged with the instructors at least one class meeting prior to the due date. It is unacceptable to show up/call on the exam day or on the day that an assignment is due and attempt to make arrangements for an alternate time.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Arrangements for special needs

If you are a student who typically takes exams through the student support services office because of special needs (i.e., time and a half, separate room, etc), please discuss with us any accommodation you may need by the end of second week of term (April 6th). You will be required to take the exam on the same day that it is scheduled for everyone else, but the exam itself must be printed out early and sent to the Office of Disability Services at least 2 class sessions before you take it. Contacting either of us within 1 class period of your request will not allow you to take it through student support services.

Taking the exam in the classroom under extended time circumstances will not be possible because a class is scheduled in the room immediately after our class. Thus, if you need and want to take the exams under extended time circumstances, such arrangements must be made through student support services, and we must be informed 1 week before each exam of your needs.

Religious observances

If you have a religious observance that conflicts with your participation in this course, let us know by the end of the second week of term (April 6th) to discuss appropriate accommodations.

COURSE EVALUATION:

Your grade will consist of your performance on three exams and a paper.

Exam 1:	25%
Exam 2:	25%
Exam 3:	25%
Paper:	25%

Exams

Exams are not cumulative *per se*, however, topics covered later in the course will build on material discussed earlier in the course. The schedule specifies which topics are the focuses of each exam. Exam 1 will be given on April 18, Exam 2 will be given on May 9 and Exam 3 will be given on May 30. If you prefer to take Exam 3 during finals period, you may do so during our normally scheduled slot during finals: June 2 8:30am-11am in Olin 141.

Paper

In this assignment, you will be asked to design an experiment to further explore a topic you found intriguing in class or your readings or to test commonly held beliefs about psychological principles. The assignment includes an experiment proposal, a draft of the paper, peer review of the draft and a final paper. You must submit all components of the assignment by the deadlines to receive full credit for the assignment. If you are interested in topics covered later in the course, feel free to read ahead to inform yourself about those topics.

E-tiquette

We realize that laptops, tablet computers and cell phones are constant companions and that the call of facebook and Angry Birds is strong, but you also need to learn to disconnect from these technologies to focus on learning or interacting with your peers and instructors. During our class meeting times, your cell phone should remain stowed away and laptops should only be used for course work.

Honor Policy

We expect all students to be truthful and to complete all course assignments including homework, tests and exams etc without assistance from any source. If you use ideas from others, including their data findings or their wording, you must acknowledge that you borrowed another person's idea. If an instance of academic dishonesty occurs in this class, the case will swiftly be referred to the Academic Standing Committee, which will take appropriate action that can include dismissal from the college. Please seek help on proper citation format from us or the Student Academic Support programs. Also see <http://apps.carleton.edu/campus/doc/honesty/> for additional information the academic honesty at Carleton. Plagiarism will not be tolerated and will result in an automatic zero for the assignment.

Important Dates:

April 18 – Exam 1

April 25 – Experiment Proposal due (submitted via Moodle by 5pm)

May 9 – Exam 2

May 20 (a Sunday) – Draft of paper due (submitted via Moodle by 5pm)

May 30 – Exam 3 (or June 2 8:30am)

May 30 – Paper due in hardcopy to Psych office by 4:30pm

Schedule

	Date	Topic	Reading
<i>Week 1</i>	March 26	Introduction and Overview	Gleitman Ch 1
	March 28	The Brain & Nervous System	Gleitman Ch 3
	March 30	The Brain & Nervous System	Gleitman Ch 3
<i>Week 2</i>	April 2	Sensation	Gleitman Ch 4
	April 4	Perception	Gleitman Ch 5
	April 6	Sensation & Perception activity	
<i>Week 3</i>	April 9	Learning I	Gleitman Ch 7
	April 11	Learning II	Gleitman Ch 7
	April 13	Learning Activity	
<i>Week 4</i>	April 16	<i>Review for Exam 1</i>	
	April 18	*** Exam 1 *** <i>Scientific Method, Neuroscience, Sensation, Perception, Learning</i>	
	April 20	Memory	Gleitman Ch 8
<i>Week 5</i>	April 23	Memory Activity	
	April 25	Development	Gleitman Ch 14
	April 25	<i>Experiment Proposal Due to Moodle by 5pm</i>	
	April 27	Development Activity	
<i>Week 6</i>	April 30	<i>Midterm break - go plant a tree!</i>	
	May 2	Motivation	Gleitman Ch 12
	May 4	Emotion, Stress	Gleitman Ch 12
<i>Week 7</i>	May 7	<i>Review for Exam 2</i>	
	May 9	*** Exam 2 *** <i>Memory, Development, Motivation, Emotion, Stress</i>	
	May 11	Social Influences & Relationships	Gleitman Ch 13
<i>Week 8</i>	May 14	Social Influences & Relationships	
	May 16	Personality	Gleitman Ch 15
	May 18	Freud, psychoanalysis	
	May 20	<i>Paper draft due to Moodle by 5pm</i>	
<i>Week 9</i>	May 21	Psychopathology	Gleitman Ch 16
	May 23	Treatment of Mental disorders	Gleitman Ch 17
	May 25	Peer Review	
<i>Week 10</i>	May 28	<i>Review for Exam 3, term wrap up</i>	
	May 30	*** Exam 3 *** <i>Social Influences & Relationships, Personality, Freud, Psychopathology &</i>	
	May 30	<i>Final Paper due to Psych office by 4:30 pm</i>	
	June 2 8:30-11am	Alternate date for Exam 3	