

0101P100

Principles of Psychology

Instructor: TBA

Email: TBA

Time: May 18, 2026 - June 19, 2026

Office Hours: by appointment

Contact Hours: 60 (50 minutes each)

Credits: 4

Course Description

Psychology is the academic discipline concerned with the systematic investigation and understanding of the human mind. This introductory course in psychology is a survey of the multiple aspects of human behavior. The course explores some of the historical, theoretical, and empirical foundations of the discipline of psychology. It involves a survey of the foundations of human functioning in such areas as the brain, learning, motivation, emotions, stress, mental health, personality, pathology/mental illness, physiological factors, and social influences.

Required Textbook(s)

Feldman, R. (2014). *Essentials of Understanding Psychology* (11th Edition). New York: McGraw Hill Publishing. ISBN-13: 978-0077861889 ISBN-10: 0077861884

Evaluation

Exams: (60% of final grade) There will be three exams over the five-week term.

Final Paper: (30% of final grade) Each student is required to write a paper. The length of the paper is 3-5 pages. It is the quality of the work and not the quantity of the pages which will be considered when determining the grade. However, papers 1-2 pages long are unacceptable. The paper must be submitted on time. The paper is due the day stated in this syllabus and the paper grade will be dropped an entire letter grade for each day it is late.

Each student will do a timeline of their own life and analyze their own development from infancy up until present day. You may choose to analyze your own development or instead analyze the development of a person you know. You must choose one or two theories to help explain your development.

The paper must be in APA format. There should be at least 3 scholarly sources, not including the textbook.

It must be uploaded to Moodle as a PDF or a Word document.

Grading

Content	Points
Fewer than 2 references; Literature is not from scholarly sources; The paper is choppy and the writing is poor.	(0-25 points)
There are at least 2 references; Literature is mostly from scholarly sources; The presentation is clear and the writing style is good. The paper flows well and connects together.	(26-50 points)
There are more than 2 references and all are from scholarly sources; The writing is clean, clear, and concise; The paper flows well, and the reader sees the connection of the research.	(51-75 points)
APA Format	

Less than half of the project adheres to APA format	(0 – 8 points)
Most of the project adheres to APA format.	(9-16 points)
APA format is used correctly and consistently for the entire project.	(17-25 points)
Total	100 points

Attendance and Participation: (10% of final grade) The remaining 10% of the student's grade will be determined by regular attendance and participation in class. You are allowed 3 absences maximum for the course before dropping a letter grade. Full and prepared participation is expected. Attendance is mandatory in the class. Respect towards the instructor and classmates is expected. If you miss a weekly discussion you will receive a zero for that week's discussion. If you are late to the discussion you will receive half credit for the discussion. There are no excused absences or make up work, so please do not request it.

Course Schedule

Please note that the schedule is meant to give an overview of the major concepts of this course. Changes may occur in this calendar as needed to aid in the student's development.

Week 1	Ch. 1: Introduction to Psychology
	Ch. 2: Neuroscience and Behavior
	Ch. 3: Sensation and Perception
	Ch. 4: States of Consciousness
Week 2	Ch. 4: States of Consciousness
	Ch. 5: Learning
	Exam 1 (Wednesday)
	Ch. 6: Memory

Week 3	Ch. 7: Thinking and Intelligence
	Ch. 8: Motivation and Emotion
	Ch. 9: Development
Week 4	Exam 2 (Monday)
	Ch. 10: Personality
	Ch. 11: Health Psychology
	Ch. 12: Psychological Disorders Final Paper Due (Friday)
Week 5	Ch. 13: Treatment of Psychological Disorders
	Ch. 14: Social Psychology
	Gender
	Exam 3 (Friday)

Grading Scale

The instructor will use the grading system as applied by JNU:

Definition	Letter Grade	Score
Excellent	A	90~100
Good	B	80~89
Satisfactory	C	70~79
Poor	D	60~69
Failed	E	Below 60

Academic Integrity

As members of the Jinan University academic community, students are expected to be honest in all of their academic coursework and activities. Academic dishonesty, includes (but is not limited to) cheating on assignments or examinations; plagiarizing, i.e., misrepresenting as one's own work any work done by another; submitting the

same paper, or a substantially similar paper, to meet the requirements of more than one course without the approval and consent of the instructors concerned; or sabotaging other students' work within these general definitions. Instructors, however, determine what constitutes academic misconduct in the courses they teach. Students found guilty of academic misconduct in any portion of the academic work face penalties that range from the lowering of their course grade to awarding a grade of E for the entire course.