



Framingham
State University

PSYC 101 General Psychology

COURSE INFORMATION

Semester	: Winter 2022 (December 22, 2022 – January 16, 2023)
Credit	: 4
Teaching Hours	: 50 Hours
Location	: Online
Professor	: Christine Mihal Vasapoli
Email	: cmihal@framingham.edu

DESCRIPTION

This introductory psychology course covers a survey of information and theory. Topics include the brain and behavior, research methods, learning, consciousness, motivation, emotion, human growth and development, personality, abnormal behavior, and psychotherapy, social cognition and understanding.

1.000 Credit hours

4.000 Lecture hours.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the course the goal is:

- 1) To provide students with a broad-based, introductory understanding of the field of psychology.
- 2) To provide students with an introduction to the subspecialties of psychology.

REQUIREMENTS & GRADING CRITERIA

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

Paper: (30% of final grade) **Final Project**

Each student is required to write a paper (30% of final grade). The length of the paper is 4-5 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 online on Canvas. 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.

Please choose a **psychological disorder** (such as schizophrenia) or **disability** (such as memory loss). Find a fictional or non-fictional movie, book, story, television character etc. about the disorder of your choice. Discuss the history of your topic and any known **causes, symptoms and treatments**. Discuss how the topic you have chosen is accurately or inaccurately portrayed. This is your chance to diagnose someone. For example, a presentation could



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discuss amnesia and how amnesia is portrayed by Drew Barrymore in the movie *50 First Dates*. If you are absent the day you are scheduled to give your presentation you will receive a zero.

Grading

Research of topic (history, causes, symptoms, treatments)	50 points
Portrayal of topic in movie, book, show etc.	40 points
APA format and proofreading	10 points
Total	100 points

Attendance and Participation: (10% of final grade) Discussions are worth 10% of your final grade. Each student is required to post their own original post about the readings AND reply to a classmate's post on the discussion board each week. You will get one final discussion grade at the end of the semester. Your post should contain your opinions, reactions and interpretations of the reading and not just a copy and paste from the text book. The discussion board is meant to mimic a real classroom discussion. Although I do read each post, I do not respond to every single post.

TEXTS AND MATERIALS

Feldman, R. (2012). *Essentials of Understanding Psychology (10th Edition)*. New York: McGraw Hill Publishing.

COURSE CONTENT/OUTLINE

Weekly schedule of the topics that will be covered and all assignments due for that week. Also, include expected dates for returning assignments.

WEEK 1 12/22-1/1	Ch. 1: Introduction to Psychology
	Ch. 2: Neuroscience and Behavior
	Ch. 3: Sensation and Perception
	Ch. 4: States of Consciousness Ch. 5: Learning
	Exam 1- Sunday, 1/1
Week 2 1/2-1/8	Ch. 6: Memory
	Ch. 7: Thinking, Language and Intelligence
	Ch. 8: Motivation and Emotion
	Ch. 9: Development
	Exam 2- Sunday 1/8



Week 3 1/9-1/16	Ch. 10: Personality
	Ch. 11: Health Psychology
	Ch. 12: Psychological Disorders
	Ch. 13: Treatment of Psychological Disorders
	Final Paper due Friday, 1/13
Exam 3- Monday, 1/16	

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

You may hand in your work early, but for each day an assignment is late it will be marked down an entire letter grade.

Workload Expectations

Since the summer course meet for two contact hours daily (10 contact hours of classroom time weekly), the students should spend 20 hours per week doing out-of-class work. For the three week 4-credit hour course, this reflects 50 hours of classroom time and 100 hours of out-of-class time.

ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

Framingham State University's policy regarding academic honesty (taken from the [undergraduate catalog](#)):

"Integrity is essential to academic life. Consequently, students who enroll at Framingham State University agree to maintain high standards of academic honesty and scholarly practice. They shall be responsible for familiarizing themselves with the published policies and procedures regarding academic honesty. In addition to the required statement, faculty members shall, at their discretion, include in the course syllabus additional statements relating the definition of academic honesty to their courses. Infractions of the Policy on Academic Honesty include, but are not limited to: 1. Plagiarism: claiming as one's own work the published or unpublished literal or paraphrased work of another. It should be recognized that plagiarism is not only academically dishonest but also illegal; 2. Cheating on exams, tests, quizzes, assignments, and papers, including the giving or acceptance of these materials and other sources of information without the permission of the instructor(s); 3. Unauthorized collaboration with other individuals in the preparation of course assignments; 4. Submitting without authorization the same assignment for credit in more than one course; 5. Use of dishonest procedures in computer, laboratory, studio, or field work; 6. Misuse of the University's technical facilities (computer machinery, laboratories, media equipment, etc.), either maliciously or for personal gain; 7. Falsification of forms used to document the academic record and to conduct the academic business of the University."



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ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT

“Framingham State University offers equal opportunities to all qualified students, including those with disabilities and impairments. The University is committed to making reasonable accommodations as are necessary to ensure that its programs and activities do not discriminate, or have the effect of discriminating, on the basis of disability. The [Disability/Access Services Office](#) serves students with learning and psychiatric disabilities as well as students with visual, mobility and hearing impairments. For further information about this, please contact Dr. LaDonna Bridges, Associate Dean of Academic Success and Dean of CASA (Center for Academic Success and Achievement) at 508-626-4906 or lbridges@framingham.edu.”

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