

Office hours: TTh 10:15-11:00am & MW 11:10-12:30pm, Room 433B.

Online discussions about readings: Mondays & Wednesdays 6:40 to 8:00pm 6:10 to 7:30pm

e-mail: my address is posted at: <http://babyface.cabrillo.edu/salsa/listing.jsp?staffId=425>

REQUIRED READING: Wade and Tavris (2011). *Psychology, tenth edition*.

There are copies of the text on reserve at the Cabrillo College library.

## **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR KNOWING ALL THE INFORMATION IN THIS SYLLABUS.**

*There is no on-campus orientation for this course.*

Psych 1 is an introduction to the science of behavior and mental processes. Psychology includes many topics; some of them may be familiar, others may be new to you. Some students believe psychology is just “common sense.” One of the things you will learn in this course is that psychology has more in common with physics, chemistry and biology than it does with art, literature or common sense.

## **EXAMS**

There are **three exams at the Aptos campus**.

These exams are on **Thursday nights** at 6:30pm in Room 401 (see schedule on page 4).

*If you cannot take the Final Exam at the scheduled date and time, do not take this class.*

There are **four online exams** (see schedule).

Each of these exams is accessible *for three days only*--from *noon* on a Thursday until *noon* on a Sunday.

There are **twelve practice tests**—one for each chapter.

Each of these is accessible *for two weeks only*--the week the chapter is assigned, and the following week.

## **DISCUSSIONS**

There will be an online Discussion area for each chapter.

Each time you *post a new question* about the currently assigned reading, you earn 4 points (up to a maximum of 120 for the course).

**SEE THE FOLLOWING PAGES FOR DETAILS ABOUT THESE ACTIVITIES.**

The primary course objectives are:

- (1) describe major concepts in the field
- (2) describe modern research findings in the field
- (3) compare and contrast alternative explanations of behavior
- (4) evaluate evidence related to explanations of behavior
- (5) apply principles of psychology to everyday problems
- (6) describe the scientific method.

## DETAILS OF THE COURSE

Accommodations are provided to ensure equal opportunity for students with verified disabilities. If you have a disability that requires accommodations for this class, please contact the Learning Skills Program at 479-6220 (for students with learning disabilities and attention deficit disorder) or Disabled Student Services at 479-6379, to make arrangements as soon as possible.

The website for this course is intended to be usable by disabled students using assistive devices for the blind or hearing impaired. To help Cabrillo College achieve this goal, please report any accessibility problems you may experience when using an assistive device. You can file a report at:

<http://www.cabrillo.edu/home/feedback/accessibilityform.html>

## EXAMS

You must take **four online exams** (see schedule). Each of these exams has 60 multiple-choice items and is worth 120 points. Each exam becomes accessible to you at *noon* of the first day scheduled (a Thursday) and must be finished before *noon* of the last day scheduled (a Sunday).

Note: once you start taking an exam, there is a time limit for finishing it: you have two hours. Also, once you submit your answers to an online exam (using the “submit” button), you may not re-open that exam to change answers.

You may NOT take an online exam after the deadline. **There are no “makeups” for online exams.**

Your score for an exam, and a report showing which items you answered incorrectly, become available to you online after noon of the last day scheduled for that exam (a Sunday).

In addition to questions about the information in the textbook, the exams include questions about supplemental material posted on the course’s Blackboard website.

Note: You may ask questions about test topics on the Wednesday before an online exam. However, *I will not answer questions about test topics during the days an online exam is accessible.*

You also must take **two in-class midterms** on Thursday nights (see schedule below). Each of these has 80 multiple-choice items and is worth 160 points.

The **in-class comprehensive final exam** has 170 multiple-choice review items (340 points). *If you cannot take the Final Exam at the scheduled date and time, do not take this class.*

You are not allowed to use the textbook or any notes while you take *in-class* exams.

Bring a blue **Apperson** form for each in-class exam (not a green Scantron). I won’t have any forms or pencils. If you do not turn in your exam on the proper form, in good condition, you lose 10 points.

Anyone caught cheating on an exam gets either a 0 on that exam or an F in the course, depending on the extent of the offense.

## Why I make you come to Aptos

The teaching and learning in this course occur online, and you have a large degree of flexibility in how you schedule these activities. Still, I require three trips to the Aptos campus. Because testing is a highly effective technique for learning, I require three in-class exams. Researchers find that repeated testing causes long-term retention of information, so you will take online exams and then be tested again in-class on the same topics (with some different questions). The effectiveness of repeated testing also is why the final exam includes material from the entire course.

Roediger, H.L. & Karpicke, J.D. (2006). The power of testing memory: Basic research and implications for educational practice. *Perspectives on Psychological Science, 1*, 181-210.

Szpunar, K.K., McDermott, K.B. & Roediger, H.L. (2007). Expectation of a final cumulative test enhances long-term retention. *Memory & Cognition, 35*, 1007-1013.

## EXTRA CREDIT

Each *in-class* exam has 10 extra credit items (= 20 points). These are the only extra credit points available in this course (3 x 20 = 60 extra credit points).

## MAKEUPS

The online exams cannot be made-up. If you miss one of the *in-class* midterms, the only chance to do a “makeup” is the same day as the final exam. *You may not retake an exam* that you have done already. Because you have had additional time to study, makeup exams are more difficult than regular exams.

## ONLINE ACTIVITIES

The Blackboard site for this course includes practice tests and other material that supplements what is in the textbook.

You earn points by doing the practice test for each chapter. Each practice test gives you a good opportunity to identify topics that you need to study more. Each practice test has 20 questions and is worth 20 points. **Each practice test is accessible for two weeks**--the week a chapter is assigned, and the following week. There are 12 of these chapter practice tests, so you can earn a total of 240 points.

The Blackboard site for this course also has a “Discussion” area where we may post questions and answers related to the readings. Two evenings each week, I will log on and answer your questions live. This will happen on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:40 to 8:00pm.

Please put the PAGE NUMBER of the material you ask about. Discussions should stay clearly related to the readings. Questions about test forms, scheduling, etc. should be sent to me by email and not posted in the Discussion area. **Each time you post a NEW question about the assigned reading, you earn 4 points** (up to a maximum of 120 points for the semester). A “new” question is one that has not been asked already by someone else. You may learn a lot by looking at other people’s questions and the answers.

Each week there will be a new discussion opened for the chapter assigned that week. For example, Week 2 is for Chapter 1. If you ask questions about the readings at other times, you may get responses from classmates but not from me. This means you need to keep up with the reading.

The only extra credit points available in this course are from the three *in-class* exams (20 points possible on each exam).

## GRADING

Twelve practice tests (12 x 20) = 240

New questions about readings (4 points each) = maximum of 120

Online Exam 1 = 120

Online Exam 2 = 120

Online Exam 3 = 120

Online Exam 4 = 120

Midterm Exam 1 = 160

Midterm Exam 2 = 160

Final Exam = 340

**Total for Course = 1500**

1350 = A

1200 = B

1050 = C

900 = D

Of course, you may start reading *before* the dates listed here.

(Note: sometimes a section of the textbook ends on the page following the last page I've assigned.)

DATE	TOPIC	READ	
<b>UNIT ONE</b>			
Week 1	2-5	Getting Oriented	
Week 2	2-12	What is Psychology?	Chapter 1
Week 3	2-19	Research methods	Chapter 2
Week 4	2-26	Biological systems	Chapter 4
Between 3-1 noon & 3-4 noon	<b>Online Exam 1</b>		
<b>UNIT TWO</b>			
Week 5	3-4	Sensation/Perception	p. 179-199, 212-219
Week 6	3-11	Learning	Chapter 7
Week 7	3-18	Rhythms and Consciousness	p. 141-166
Between 3-22 noon & 3-25 noon	<b>Online Exam 2</b>		
Week 8	<b>3-29</b>	<b>IN-CLASS MIDTERM 1</b>	<b>6:30pm, Room 401</b>
<b>UNIT THREE</b>			
Week 9	4-1	Memory	Chapter 10
	4-8	<i>Spring Break</i>	
Week 10	4-15	Cognition and Intelligence	Chapter 9
Week 11	4-22	Theories of Personality	Chapter 13
Between 4-26 noon & 4-29 noon	<b>Online Exam 3</b>		
<b>UNIT FOUR</b>			
Week 12	4-29	Mental Disorders	Chapter 16
Week 13	5-6	Treatments	Chapter 17
Week 14	5-13	Human Development	Chapter 14
Between 5-17 noon & 5-20 noon	<b>Online Exam 4</b>		
Week 15	<b>5-24</b>	<b>IN-CLASS MIDTERM 2</b>	<b>6:30pm, Room 401</b>
	<b>5-31</b>	<b>IN-CLASS FINAL EXAM</b>	<b>6:30pm, Room 401</b>