PSYCH 1: General Psychology
Study List for EXAM 1

Below are listed terms, concepts, names, and topics you will need to be familiar with to perform well on the exam. Note that you may be asked to apply a term conceptually—so you should understand the terms in a way that lets you use them and apply them, not just recite their definition.

These terms, concepts, names, and topics include those that were covered in the textbook and/or class. Not all of these items will be on the test, which will be comprised of 50 multiple-choice questions. Also note that this list may not be 100% inclusive. By NOT listing a term or concept, I do not imply that it will definitely not be on the exam.

- Psychology and its goals
- Approaches: Introspection (Wundt), Psychodynamic (Freud), Behaviorist (Watson, Skinner), Cognitive, Evolutionary (Darwin), Biological
- Areas of specialization (e.g., Industrial/Organizational, Clinical/Counseling, etc.)
- Assumptions of science
- Scientific method: Theory, hypothesis, hypothesis testing, variables
- Experimental method: Independent and dependent variables, generalizability, validity
- Descriptive methods: Observation, self-report data (e.g., surveys), case studies
- Correlational research: Correlational coefficient, positive correlation, negative correlation
- Ethics in research
- Central nervous system
- Peripheral nervous system
- Somatic nervous system
- Autonomic nervous system
- Sympathetic nervous system
- Parasympathetic nervous system
- Endocrine system
- Hormones
- Pituitary gland
- Neurons: Types and structure (e.g., cell body, dendrites, axon)
- Action potential
- Synapse
- Neurotransmitters (e.g., serotonin, dopamine, endorphin)
- Receptors
- Brain imaging techniques (e.g., PET scan, MRI)
- Brain structures (e.g., amygdala, thalamus, hippocampus, cerebrum, cerebral cortex)
- Lobes of the brain (frontal, parietal, occipital, temporal)
- Somatosensory cortex, motor cortex
- Corpus callosum
- Split brain
- Lateralization
- Plasticity
- Sensation
- Perception
- Transduction
- Absolute threshold
- Just noticeable difference
- Cornea
- Iris
- Pupil
- Lens
- Retina
- Optic nerve
- Rods and cones
- Visual pathways
- Gestalt psychology and laws of grouping: Figure-ground, proximity, similarity, continuity, closure, simplicity
- Depth perception
- Perceptual illusions
- Top-down and bottom-up processing
- Consciousness
- Attention
- Cocktail party phenomenon
- Sleep-wake cycle, stages of sleep (including REM sleep)
- Dreams and theories about dreaming
- Sleep disturbances (e.g., narcolepsy, sleep apnea, insomnia)