

Inver Hills Community College  
2500 80th Street East  
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076

Jason Kaufman, Ph.D.  
Fine Arts 103  
(651) 554-3768  
jkaufma@inverhills.edu

General Psychology  
PSYC 1101-97 and -99  
Fall 2009  
Online  
4 credits

### COURSE DESCRIPTION


This course presents a survey of psychology, including theoretical and experimental findings and applications. Topics include research methodology, the nervous system, perception, cognition, learning, memory, human development, emotions, motivation, personality, psychological disorders and their treatment, attitudes, social influence, and growth processes.

### REQUIRED TEXT

Gazzaniga, M., Heatherton, T., & Halpern, D. (2010). *Psychological science* (3rd ed.). New York: W. W. Norton & Co.

### COURSE SCHEDULE

Classes	Readings	DQs	Topics and Assignments
1. 8/24-8/28	Ch. 1 (all)	1	Introduction to Psychological Science
2. 8/31-9/4	Ch. 2 (p. 33-65)	2	Introduction to Psychological Science (cont.)
3. 9/7-9/11	Ch. 11 (p. 469-481)	3	Personality
4. 9/14-9/18	Ch. 13 (p. 571-601)	4	Personality (cont.)
5. 9/21-9/25	Ch. 2 (p. 77-98)	5	Biological Foundations of Behavior <b>Examination 1 due Friday, 25 September at 11:59 pm CDT</b>
6. 9/28-10/2	Ch. 2 (p. 104-122)	6	Biological Foundations of Behavior (cont.)
7. 10/5-10/9	Ch. 2 (p. 104-122)	7	Biological Foundations of Behavior (cont.)
8. 10/12-10/16	Ch. 5 (p. 179-206, 209-218, 222-233)	8	Sensation and Perception
9. 10/19-10/23	Ch. 4 (p. 133-135, 144-177)	9	Consciousness

10. 10/26-10/30	Ch. 6 (all)		Learning <b>Examination 2 due Friday, 30 October at 11:59 pm CDT</b>
11. 11/2-11/6	Ch. 6 (all)	11	Learning (cont.)
12. 11/9-11/13	Ch. 7 (p. 286-299, 318-320)	12	Memory
13. 11/16-11/20	Ch. 8 (p. 342-345, 351, 356-377)	13	Intelligence
14. 11/23-11/27	Ch. 9 (all), Ch. 12 (p. 549-554)	14	Motivation and Emotion
15. 11/30-12/4	Ch. 10 (all)	15	Health and Well-being <b>Examination 3 due Friday, 4 December at 11:59 pm CST</b>
16. 12/7-12/11	Ch. 14 (all), Ch. 15 (p. 665-674)	Wrap-up	Psychological Disorders
17. 12/14-12/17 <i>(a short week!)</i>	None		<b>Final Examination due Thursday, 17 December at 11:59 pm CST</b>

## PARTICIPATION AND TIMELINESS

1. I expect you to participate online in a meaningful way each week via your post and classmate comments in the discussion threads. I encourage you to ask questions relevant to the assigned readings, and to make comments to both myself and your classmates. Posts and classmate comments should be: (a) thoughtful, (b) well-informed and relevant to the topic, (c) indicative of having completed the readings, (d) respectful of other participants, and (e) sensitive to people and their cultures.
2. I expect you to participate every week prepared to discuss the assigned readings. ***Thus, please complete all assigned readings prior to the assigned discussion questions.***
3. I expect you to complete all of your work per the assigned schedule. Please be careful to wisely manage the time you devote to your studying and assignments for this course. Routine absences from your online work may negatively affect your grade. ***I reserve the right to fail you from the class if you miss assignments for more than two weeks.***
4. I expect you to complete all discussion questions and examinations ***online via D2L*** no later than their assigned due dates. ***Late discussion questions submitted within 24 hours of the due date will be deducted 25 percent from the original score. Late discussion questions submitted more than 24 hours after the due date will be deducted 50 percent from the original score. Late classmate comments will not earn credit. Late examinations will not be accepted.***

However, in very extenuating circumstances, I may allow you to take an examination early if you have made prior arrangements with me.

5. I expect you to do your own work. ***Plagiarized work will earn zero points for that assignment the first time, and failure from the course with a report to the Dean of Students the second time.***

#### GRADING

Your course grade is based on the percent earned of a possible 550 points:

- 15 Discussion Questions (20 points each, 300 points = 55% of grade)
- 3 Examinations (50 points each = 27% of grade)
- Final Examination (100 points = 18% of grade)

<b>A</b>	93% - 100%	Superior achievement.
<b>A-</b>	90% - 92%	
<b>B+</b>	87% - 89%	
<b>B</b>	83% - 86%	Above-average achievement.
<b>B-</b>	80% - 82%	
<b>C+</b>	77% - 79%	
<b>C</b>	73% - 76%	Average achievement.
<b>C-</b>	70% - 72%	
<b>D+</b>	67% - 69%	
<b>D</b>	63% - 66%	Below-average achievement.
<b>D-</b>	60% - 62%	
<b>F</b>	0% - 59%	Failure to achieve.

Please note that College policy stipulates that instructors can only submit whole course grades. Thus, pluses and minuses unfortunately will not show up on your transcript at the end of the course.

#### LECTURE NOTES

I have written the lecture notes summarize and/or expand upon the information in the textbook. I have written them in order to provide an overview of the various topics we will encounter during the semester.

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

The discussion questions (DQs) are writing assignments that require you to consider the idea we study each week and to write about that those ideas in the online D2L courseroom. ***There are typically two parts to a weekly DQ: a lecture component and a lab component.*** The lecture component of each DQ requires you to explore what you are reading in the textbook and lecture

notes, whereas the lab component requires you to apply this information to an article that is linked within each DQ.

***Each post must be a minimum of 500 words in length*** (yes, I do check), and I strongly suggest you plan to write more. A post that is on-time, of sufficient length, and intelligently written will earn between 7 and 10 points (i.e., from a C to a high A). A late, short, or inadequate post will earn less than 7 points (i.e., a grade of D or lower). I consider a post of 499 words (not including your name, the original question, etc.) to be of insufficient length, so please make sure to dedicate sufficient time to the process of writing them. ***Unless otherwise stated, each post is due by 11:59 pm CDT on Wednesday night of each week.***

I also expect you to respond to at least two of your classmates for each DQ. Classmate comments must be substantive. ***Comments such as “I agree” and “Good job” will not earn points.*** Classmate comments that meaningfully contribute to the discussion, are intelligently written, on time, of sufficient length, and two or more in number for that week will automatically earn 10 points. Late, short, inadequate, or less than two classmate comments will earn 0 points. ***Unless otherwise stated, classmate comments are due by 11:59 pm CDT on Friday night of each week.***

## EXAMINATIONS

The midterm examination and final examination are comprehensive tests that each address approximately one-half of the materials covered during the course. Questions are generally multiple-choice and are based primarily on our readings. You will take both examinations in our D2L courseroom.

## COURSE GOALS

The following goals are addressed in this course. You are expected to learn how to:

1. Explain the scientific methods used in the study of psychology.
2. Identify psychological theories, concepts, and terminology as applied to psychology.
3. Integrate psychological theories and research with personal observations.
4. Evaluate relevant societal, cultural, and psychological issues and how they relate to diversity.

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

As described in the *Inver Hills Community College Academic Integrity Policy*:

Academic integrity is one of the most important values in higher education. This principle requires that each student's work represents his or her own personal efforts and that the student acknowledges the intellectual

contributions of others. The foundation for this principle is student academic honesty. IHCC students are expected to honor the requirements of the Academic Integrity Policy.

The complete policy may be read at:

[http://www.inverhills.edu/Enrollment/CollegePolicies/AcademicIntegrity.aspx?  
zoom\\_highlight=academic+integrity](http://www.inverhills.edu/Enrollment/CollegePolicies/AcademicIntegrity.aspx?zoom_highlight=academic+integrity)