

# Psychology One

## Introduction to Psychology

MWF 11:00 am-12:15 pm, Room 420-041  
Professor Greg Walton  
Course Coordinator: Bridgette Hard

### *Course Objectives and Requirements*

This course offers students an overview of the history, current status, and promise of scientific and applied psychology. Students are expected to master a considerable body of information about the principles of psychology, its methodologies, contributors, and terminology. This course is designed for students who may major or minor in psychology and serves as a foundation for upper level courses in psychology; however, it also serves students for whom this knowledge is a general contribution to a liberal arts education.

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- a. Describe foundational psychological concepts and themes, along with the studies, findings, and scientists associated with these concepts and themes.
- b. Identify and compare major theoretical perspectives on complex psychological phenomena.
- c. Recognize and appreciate the psychological dimension of everyday experiences, as well as important social problems (e.g., education, healthcare).
- d. Analyze psychological claims with an open-minded yet critical stance, including those that appear in popular portrayals of psychological science (e.g., popular press)
- e. Recognize and describe a variety of methods, both correlational and experimental, that are used to answer psychological questions, and critically evaluate their strengths and limitations.
- f. Recognize and describe the basic components of an empirical research article and know how to locate articles on topics of interest.
- g. Generate original research questions and define methods for addressing those questions.
- h. Communicate more clearly orally and in writing.

To achieve these course goals, there are five required elements of this course: (1) lectures, (2) textbook readings, (3) sections, (4) a research component that includes both (a) experiment participation and (b) a research and writing project, and (5) exams.

#### **1. Lectures**

Lectures will go well beyond what is in the text. In addition to lectures by Prof. Walton, faculty with specific areas of expertise will join the course. Attendance for the full class period is required; if you cannot arrive by 11 and stay until 12:15, we ask that you drop the course. Laptops and similar technology are permitted during lecture for note-taking purposes. We request that students exercise common courtesy to their instructors and fellow classmates by avoiding the use of distracting applications during class, such as email, web browsing, chat programs, etc.

#### **2. Textbook Readings**

Psychology, 8th Edition, Gleitman, Gross, & Reisberg. It is important to read the assigned chapters *before* lecture and section to provide a foundation for your learning. See the course calendar at the end of this syllabus for reading assignments. The Stanford bookstore offers new and used hardbound copies as well as "loose leaf" versions of the text that allow you to reorganize the textbook pages however you like (e.g., incorporated with your notes). A wide range of textbook formats, including fully electronic versions, is available at

<http://books.wwnorton.com/books/detail-formats.aspx?ID=13439> Note: older editions of the textbook will not contain updated information that you will be held accountable for on exams.

### 3. Sections

Sections are required, meet once a week for 50 minutes, and count for 10% of your grade. Attendance is 100% mandatory; if you miss a section, you must seek approval from your Teaching Fellow (TF) to attend another section that *same* week or complete a make-up assignment that consists of a supplemental reading and written reaction paper.

Attendance is not the only component your TF will consider when assessing your section grade. You can signal your involvement by actively investigating section topics in advance, participating in class discussion and asking questions that show you have done the reading and given thought to concepts, acknowledging and building on others' ideas in section, drawing out ideas or concerns of other students, and visiting your TF regularly during the quarter.

Section sign ups will take place during the first week of section. We will send out a Qualtrics form for you to fill out based on your schedule availability. If you do not sign up, you will be assigned to a section on the basis of available spaces. Sections begin the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of term. Email Kirstie ([kirstie.lee@stanford.edu](mailto:kirstie.lee@stanford.edu)) with questions about section assignments.

Note that there will be a **special section**: A group of professional actors and director will be performing a staged reading of the Tony-award winning play, *Proof*, specifically for you on May 22<sup>nd</sup> from 4:00 to 6:30pm in a location TBD. *Proof* addresses issues of mental illness, stigma, and heredity. Attendance at *Proof* is considered mandatory. Material from the play will be discussed in sections and included on your final exam.

### 4. Weekly Quizzes

A quiz covering lectures and textbook reading will be posted on Coursework every Friday (or Thursdays on exam weeks), by 5 PM. The quizzes are designed to review the week's material and aid in your exam preparation. There will be 10 quizzes over the 10 weeks in the quarter, but only your 8 highest quiz scores will be graded. The quizzes are open-note and open-book but are not to be taken in collaboration with other students. Each quiz will be open for one week, and you may attempt each quiz up to three times. The quizzes will count for 20% of your section grade.

### 5. Research Component

#### a) Experiment Participation Requirement

Participation in 7 hours of psychology experiments is a requirement of the course. By participating, you gain valuable first-hand knowledge of experimental psychology and contribute to the advancement of the field. Experiments begin the second week of the quarter; the final day to participate is the last day of lecture. If you do not complete your experiment hours by the last day of lecture, you will receive an incomplete for the course. Detailed guidelines are available in the **Research Participation Requirement handout**.

If you wish not to participate, you may satisfy the requirement by writing a 5-page paper on the ethics of experimentation on human beings. You will need to declare this option before the first exam and turn it in by the second exam. To do this, email the course coordinator, Bridgette Hard.

#### b) Research and Writing Project.

The Research and Writing Project is designed to help you develop the skills necessary to develop, evaluate, and communicate innovative research. The project is divided into several written parts spaced throughout the quarter, including a final revised paper due the last week of *section*. The final grade for this project will be based on the quality of your work on every phase of the project. This project is worth 20% of your course grade. Detailed guidelines are available in the **Research and Writing Project handout**.

## 6. Exams

There will be three exams, each covering one third of the course (lectures & textbook chapters). Each exam includes multiple-choice questions and one or two short-answer essay questions. The third exam (given during the final exam slot) also includes a longer comprehensive/integrative essay question. Exams take place in 420-040 unless announced otherwise.

Institutionally approved absences must be verified with Kirstie Lee **at least 1 week** in advance to arrange for alternative exams. No other make-up exams are allowed, except for verified medical illnesses and emergencies. Early exams will not be given.

To take this course, you must be able to attend the university-assigned final exam slot (Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 8:30-11:30 AM).

## Course Policies

### Grading

This course will be graded on a 100-point scale using standard cutoffs for letter grades (A,B,C,D,NP with +/-). Exams and assignments are not graded on a curve. Your final course grade will be determined in the following way:

10%	–	Section Participation
20%	–	Exam 1
20%	–	Exam 2
20%	–	Exam 3
10%	–	Exam 3 Integrative Essay
20%	–	Research & Writing Project

### Course Web Page – <http://coursework.stanford.edu>

Visit at least once a week for lecture notes, outlines, announcements, and assignments.

### Academic Integrity

Students are expected to adhere to Stanford's Honor Code and are responsible for understanding the University rules regarding academic integrity. In brief, conduct prohibited by the Honor Code includes all forms of academic dishonesty, among them copying from another's exam, unpermitted collaboration, and representing another's work as one's own. To view the honor code and receive tips for how to adhere to it, visit:

<http://studentaffairs.stanford.edu/communitystandards>

### Academic Accommodations

Students who have a disability, which may necessitate an academic accommodation or the use of auxiliary aids and services in a class, must initiate the request with the Office of Accessible Education (OAE). The OAE will evaluate the request with required documentation, recommend appropriate accommodations, and prepare a verification letter dated in the current academic term in which the request is being made. Please contact the OAE as soon as possible; timely notice is needed to arrange for appropriate accommodations (phone 723-1066; TDD 725-1067). If accommodations are needed, please send your OAE letter to Kirstie Lee.

### Lecture Recording

We record each lecture to give faculty the chance to evaluate their lectures and improve their teaching. We do not distribute these videos to students unless there is a valid university responsibility (e.g., athletic or academic competitions) that prevents lecture attendance.

We understand that team competitions and athletic commitments require students to travel often. If your sport or event is in season and requires you to travel, you may ask your coach to email missed lecture dates to [kirstie.lee@stanford.edu](mailto:kirstie.lee@stanford.edu) and sign our video viewing agreement by the end of week 2. Email Kirstie Lee or stop by room 422 to receive the agreement.

Please note there are no exceptions to this policy and no videos will be distributed beyond the approved dates submitted by the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of the quarter. If you expect to travel to represent Stanford, but are unsure of the dates, please contact Kirstie.

### **Ongoing Improvements**

As part of our ongoing efforts to make this course an even better experience for students, our teaching team continually conducts research to improve our teaching methods. In this course, new teaching methods may be used and various aspects of student performance may be analyzed on an ongoing basis. Information about you and your performance in this course will be held strictly confidential. If you would like to opt out of participating in any new teaching methods or having your performance analyzed as part of this research, you may do so without penalty. For more information, please contact the instructor or, if applicable, course coordinator.

## *Common Questions and Key People*

The key people in this course are listed on the following page, along with their contact information. Here are some of the various issues you might encounter and who you should contact:

- Too sick to take an exam or turn in an assignment: Contact your Residence Dean and the Office of Undergraduate Advising, who will communicate with your instructors on your behalf.
  - UAR (Undergraduate Research and Advising): (650) 723-2426, [vpue-advising@stanford.edu](mailto:vpue-advising@stanford.edu).
  - Find your Residence Dean at: <http://studentaffairs.stanford.edu/resed/about/contact/rds>
- General questions about experimental participation: [psych1research@lists.stanford.edu](mailto:psych1research@lists.stanford.edu)
- Questions about a specific experiment (rescheduling, following up on credits): the researcher for the study
- Questions about signing up for section or switching sections: [kirstie.lee@stanford.edu](mailto:kirstie.lee@stanford.edu)
- Making up missed sections: Your TF
- Exam arrangements (i.e., athlete make-ups or DRC-approved requests): [kirstie.lee@stanford.edu](mailto:kirstie.lee@stanford.edu)
- Problems with the Psych One coursework site: [kirstie.lee@stanford.edu](mailto:kirstie.lee@stanford.edu)
- Issues about fairness of grading or other concerns/feedback about the course: [bridgette.hard@stanford.edu](mailto:bridgette.hard@stanford.edu)
- Finding out more about course topics and opportunities in the psychology department, feedback on ideas for your R&W project, or how to study for exams: office hours of Bridgette Hard or any TF.

## Contact Information and Office Hours

The Psych One teaching team holds regular office hours at the times and locations listed below. Alternatively, please schedule an appointment on their [youcanbook.me](http://youcanbook.me) website.

### Teaching Team

Greg Walton	Instructor	<a href="mailto:gwalton@stanford.edu">gwalton@stanford.edu</a>	by appointment via email	Jordan 244
Bridgette Hard	Course Coordinator	<a href="mailto:bridgette.hard@stanford.edu">bridgette.hard@stanford.edu</a>	<a href="http://bridgettehard.youcanbook.me">bridgettehard.youcanbook.me</a>	Jordan 423
Kirstie Lee	Course Administrator	<a href="mailto:kirstie.lee@stanford.edu">kirstie.lee@stanford.edu</a>	Mon-Fri 8-3p	Jordan 422
Rebeca Lopez	Research Participation Coordinator	<a href="mailto:psych1research@lists.stanford.edu">psych1research@lists.stanford.edu</a>	Mon-Fri 8:30-12p	Jordan 422

### Teaching Fellows

Chipper Stotz	<a href="mailto:cstotz@stanford.edu">cstotz@stanford.edu</a>	Monday 1:30-3:30	Tressider 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
Christine Liu	<a href="mailto:cliu5@stanford.edu">cliu5@stanford.edu</a>	Wednesday 10-12	Psych Lounge
Ifath Casillas	<a href="mailto:ifathc17@stanford.edu">ifathc17@stanford.edu</a>	<a href="http://ifathcassillas.youcanbook.me">ifathcassillas.youcanbook.me</a>	Tressider
Josiah Leong	<a href="mailto:josiah@stanford.edu">josiah@stanford.edu</a>	<a href="http://Josiahleong.youcanbook.me">Josiahleong.youcanbook.me</a>	Jordan 478
Kyle MacDonald	<a href="mailto:kyle.macdonald@stanford.edu">kyle.macdonald@stanford.edu</a>	<a href="http://Kylemacdonald.youcanbook.me">Kylemacdonald.youcanbook.me</a>	Psych Lounge
Lior Bugatus	<a href="mailto:liorbu@stanford.edu">liorbu@stanford.edu</a>	<a href="http://Liorbugatus.youcanbook.me">Liorbugatus.youcanbook.me</a>	Jordan 424
Monica Thieu	<a href="mailto:mthieu@stanford.edu">mthieu@stanford.edu</a>	Tuesdays 2-4 pm	Psych Lounge
Sal Lempert	<a href="mailto:slempert@stanford.edu">slempert@stanford.edu</a>	<a href="http://Sallempert.youcanbook.me">Sallempert.youcanbook.me</a>	Jordan 375
Sara Bergman	<a href="mailto:sarah4@stanford.edu">sarah4@stanford.edu</a>	Tuesdays 2-4 pm	Jordan 139

## Psych One Course Calendar

	Date	Lecture	#	Speaker	Reading	Important Dates & Deadlines
Week 1	M 30 Mar	Introduction	1	Walton	PRLG	Complete section signup form! Create SONA account & complete prescreen.
	W 1 Apr	Methods	2	Walton	Ch. 1	
	F 3 Apr	Evolution	3	Hard	Ch. 2	
Week 2	M 6 Apr	Biology	4	Walton	Ch. 3	1 <sup>st</sup> week section *Complete Eligibility Survey
	W 8 Apr	Brain	5	Walton	Ch. 4	
	F 10 Apr	Perception	6	Hard	Ch 5 (*182-188, 196-212)	
Week 3	M 13 Apr	Learning	7	Walton	Ch. 7	R&W Part 1 due in Section  <b>Altern. essay option closes</b>
	W 15 Apr	Memory	8	Hard	Ch. 8	
	F 17 Apr	<b>Exam 1 (3/30 through 4/13)</b>				
Week 4	M 20 Apr	Thinking	9	Hard	Ch. 9	Meet with TF to discuss R&W topic
	W 22 Apr	Language	10	Nordmeyer	Ch. 10	
	F 24 Apr	Intelligence	11	Walton	Ch. 11	
Week 5	M 27 Apr	Emotion	12	Gross	Ch. 12 (*462-464, 484-501)	R&W Part 2 due in Section
	W 29 Apr	Influence	13	Walton	Ch. 13	
	F 1 May	Everyday Psychology	14	Walton	Listen: "The Bad Show"	
Week 6	M 4 May	Culture	15	Conner		<b>Alternative essay due</b>
	W 6 May	Childhood	16	Hard	Ch. 14	
	F 8 May	<b>Exam 2 (4/15 through 5/4)</b>				
Week 7	M 11 May	Family	17	Walton		R&W Part 3 due in Section
	W 13 May	Adulthood	18	Hard		
	F 15 May	Personality	19	Walton	Ch. 15	
Week 8	M 18 May	Kindness	20	Zaki	Listen: "The Good Show"	*Proof at 4pm
	W 20 May	Health	21	Crum		
	F 22 May	"Abnormality"	22	Walton	Ch. 16	
Week 9	M 25 May	<b>Memorial Day</b>		(no class)		R&W Part 4 due in Section
	W 27 May	Mental Illness	23	Walton		
	F 29 May	Treatment	24	Hard	Ch. 17	
Week 10	M 1 Jun	Happiness	25	Hard		<b>Last Day of Experiments</b>
	W 3 Jun	Big Picture	26	Walton		
	F 5 Jun	<b>FINAL EXAM: Exam 3 (5/6 through 6/3) + Integ. Essay, 8:30–11:30 am, Location TBA</b>				

\*Indicates parts of the chapter that are emphasized.