

General Psychology

Instructor Laura Lawn
Linn Benton Community College
Remote TR 6:00 – 7:50pm

Psychology 201

CRN 33593
Credits: 4
Winter 2021

Course Description

Introduces the following major topics in psychology: history, research methods, biopsychology, sensation and perception, learning, memory, human development, consciousness, and associated topics in cognition. Provides an overview of current trends, and emphasizes the sociocultural approach to understand cognition, emotions, and behavior. This is the first course of a two-course sequence.

Prerequisites: WR 115 and RD 115, or IRW115, and MTH 20 or equivalent placement test scores.

Audit available.

Statewide General Education (AAOT) Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the Social Science course, students should be able to:

- Apply analytical skills to social phenomena in order to understand human behavior.
- Apply knowledge of experience to foster personal growth and better appreciate the diverse social world in which we live.

In addition, this course includes Cultural Literacy (DPR) content. Pursuant to that, students should be able to:

- Identify and analyze complex practices, values, and beliefs and the culturally and historically defined meanings of difference.

Performance Based Learner Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, students should be able to:

- Describe the key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, including basic knowledge of psychology's content domains and applications to everyday life within the course topics: history, research methods, biopsychology, sensation and perception, learning, memory, human development, consciousness, and associated topics in cognition.
- Compare and contrast research methodologies appropriate to the discipline of psychology and discuss the conclusions or interpretations that can be drawn from them.
- Apply information literacy and critical thinking guidelines in evaluating claims about human behavior specific to the course topics.
- Describe sociocultural factors and ethical standards in evaluating psychological science and practice.

Instructor Contact Information

Email You may email me at: lawnl@linnbenton.edu

-Please include your real name and course name in the subject line; email addresses can be confusing, and I like to know to whom I am speaking.

-I try to respond to email every day, so if you haven't heard back from me, email again, please.

Office Hour runs Monday from 10:30 – 12:00pm via Zoom (link on Moodle Announcements page).

Course Requirements & Supplies

Required Text – *Psychology in Modules* by Myers – ISBN: 9781319238476

- This is a Web Assisted class, with a Moodle Online Home Page. Moodle can be accessed directly via this link: <https://moodle.linnbenton.edu>. The Moodle companion site will be used to view your course lectures, to turn in work, find study notes and useful websites, and check your grades.
- Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and Adobe Acrobat Reader are all required to view the documents on the website.

Technology Recommendations

LBCC campuses will need to remain closed to the public at times during fall term. So, our class will be delivered fully remotely and we won't be able to meet face-to-face. LBCC is encouraging students to be as prepared as possible for this by encouraging you to obtain the equipment you will need in order to be successful in any modality. Please see the recommended list of equipment below. Students who cannot afford these resources can contact the [Roadrunner Resource Center](#) about funding.

Standard equipment recommendation

- Broadband internet
- A computer with 256g SSD, 8G RAM, i5 6th gen processor (or equivalent functionality)
- Device with a microphone and speaker
- Device with a camera
- Students can consult [Standard Recommendation 1](#) or [Standard Recommendation 2](#) if they are looking for a product recommendation

Minimum equipment recommendation

- A WiFi hotspot
- A computer with 128g SSD, 4G RAM, i3 6th gen processor (or equivalent functionality)
- Device with a microphone and speaker
- Device with a camera
- Students can consult [Minimum Requirement 1](#) if they are looking for a product recommendation

Center for Accessibility Resources

LBCC is committed to inclusiveness and equal access to higher education. If you have approved accommodations through the Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR) and would like to use your accommodations in this class, please contact your instructor as soon as possible to discuss your needs. If you think you may be eligible for accommodations but are not yet registered with CFAR, please visit the [CFAR Website](#) for steps on how to apply for services. Online course accommodations may be different than those for on-campus courses, so it is important that you make contact with CFAR as soon as possible.

Assessing Learning and Grading

"[Science] is more than a school subject, or the periodic table, or the properties of waves. It is an approach to the world, a critical way to understand and explore and engage with the world, and then have the capacity to change that world..."

-President Barack Obama, March 23, 2015. US Department of Education webpage

How This Class is Structured

This is a Web Assisted class, with a Moodle Online Home Page. Moodle can be accessed directly via this link: <https://moodle.linnbenton.edu>. All of your work will be done online.

The college guidelines suggest that for every hour in class, students should expect 2-3 hours outside of class work. This equals *8-12 hours of homework* for our 4-unit course.

- (1) Read the Chapters / Articles posted online for each topic, *BEFORE* doing class discussion and activities. This will give you the information in an easy-to-reference format. Consider our book an important "jumping off point" but not the sole source of learning. (Recommend doing by Monday)
- (2) Listen to the Lectures for a summary of the main topics in the text. I will present material that is not in your book but will be included on weekly tasks and quizzes. (Recommend doing by Tuesday)
- (3) Organize your thoughts with notes to help you summarize the lectures and will help prepare you for our class discussion on the topic. (Recommend doing Monday and Tuesday as / after you read and watch)
- (4) Participate in the discussion board conversations. (Initial Post due by Wednesdays, Responses due by Fridays)
- (5) Take the chapter Quizzes & course Exams These test your basic understanding of the chapter. (Quizzes due by Sunday each week; Exams in weeks 6 and 11)
- (6) Complete the Class Project Parts 1, 2, & 3, directions and rubric posted online.

Assignments and Assessments

Quizzes: Each chapter will have an online, open note (but not open-book, no Google search), 10-point quiz. 9 chapters x 10 points = 90 points possible

Discussion Board – Every week we will have Discussion Board activities. Participation is important to solidify the knowledge in your memory and give you practice with the concepts. You will be required to post a response to a prompt by Wednesday, 11:59pm of each week and respond to at least one (2) other students by Friday, 11:59pm. Discussion posts are worth 10 points each; 6 for the initial post and 2 for each peer response.

How to write a great post: In the online classroom, discussion forums are a critical way of interacting with each other. I have carefully constructed each prompt to allow you the opportunity to apply the information you've learned about psychological topics. The discussion boards will consist of one initial post thread created by each student, and two substantial comments on other students' posts. Other students' posts will become visible once your own initial post is submitted. Each initial post must consist of a minimum of 200 words. Your initial post should be written as an essay with attention to grammar, punctuation, and writing style. Use 3rd person in your writing.

Be sure to answer all parts of the question. Responses to peers are to be at least 50 words. Your responses must reflect some significant reflection and include more than a sentence such as “I agree with your thoughts on this” or “I like your post.”

Class Project – This class will have a project worth 100 points. These will be individual projects, turned in online, due week 9 by Sunday, 11:59pm. Directions, including a grading rubric will be posted online in Moodle.

Exams 1 & 2 – There will be a 50-point open-note test during week 6 (Exam 1) and another in Finals week (Exam 2).

Assignment Summary

Chapter Quizzes (10 points each x 9 sections)	90 Points Possible
Discussion Board Posts & Responses (10 pts each x 10 posts)	100 Points Possible
Class Project	100 Points Possible
Exam 1	50 Points Possible
Exam 2	50 Points Possible
Total	390 Points Possible
<i>Late Submissions will drop in grade by 10%. All late work must be turned in no later than 1 week after the due date.</i>	

Grades

A – 90-100%	351+ points
B – 80-89%	312 – 350 points
C – 70-79%	273 – 311 points
D – 60-69%	234 – 272 points
F – 0 – 59%	< 233 points

- I – I do not grant incompletes. In the case of emergency, students may take advantage of the college policies for dropping the class. In the event of an emergency at the end of the term, the instructor will assign a grade based on the assignments submitted and, instructor may, at their discretion, accept work beyond the end of the term.
- No Show / Drop – If a student does not attend class during the first week of the term, the instructor may drop the student from the class. Attendance is defined as logging in to the course website and completing an assignment or discussion post before the end of day on Friday of the first week.
- Last day to drop classes for full refund is January 11.
- Last day to withdraw from class without responsibility for grade is, February 21.

Assessment and Academic Integrity

Using someone else’s work as your own or using information or ideas without proper citation (this is *plagiarism*) can lead to your failing the assignment, forum post, test, or class. Bibliographies and in text citations are required whenever you use outside sources, including internet sources (unless otherwise indicated by me). Do not directly reproduce material from another source in your weekly forum or assignment (even if you cite it!). You must provide material written in your own words and that contain your original ideas.

How to Ensure the Grade you Want:

- Use the tools: computer, the textbook, college support services, library, instructor face time, classmates.
- Check in with class online every week.
- Think about what you are reading and doing. Why does this matter? What questions or reflections arise? How might it impact one's working life?
- Spend 1-2 hours before class discussions reading the chapter and summarizing one's thoughts. Spend about 1 hour after reflecting and refining any notes.
- Ask questions!
- Keep track of due dates.
- Be a group member that others want on their team.
- Share insights with your group or the class as a whole, in a way that invites discussion, reflection and debate.

A Quick Heads-up

As we go through topics, students are encouraged to share details of their past experiences in class. Sometimes, this may include elements that, while topical, are not things you might otherwise share broadly. While I do expect that other students would keep anything of this nature confidential outside of class, I cannot guarantee that your peers will choose to do so. Use your best judgment on self-disclosure.

201 Course Calendar

Week 1 (January 4 – 10) Intro to Course / History of Psychology

Syllabus & Intro to Course;

Read Text / Watch Video Lectures

- Discussion Post due Wednesday, 11:59pm
- Responses to other discussion posts due Friday, 11:59pm
- Quizzes due Sunday, 11:59pm

Week 2 (January 11 – 17) Thinking Critically & Psychological Research

Read Text / Watch Video Lectures

- Discussion Post due Wednesday, 11:59pm
- Responses to other discussion posts due Friday, 11:59pm
- Quiz due Sunday, 11:59pm

Week 3 (January 18 – 24) Biology of Mind

Read Text / Watch Video Lectures

- Discussion Post due Wednesday, 11:59pm
- Responses to other discussion posts due Friday, 11:59pm
- Quiz due Sunday, 11:59pm
- Class Project Pt 1** due Sunday, 11:59pm

Week 4 (January 25 – 31) Consciousness

Read Text / Watch Video Lectures

- Discussion Post due Wednesday, 11:59pm
- Responses to other discussion posts due Friday, 11:59pm
- Quiz due Sunday, 11:59pm

Week 5 (February 1 – 7) Nature / Nurture

Read Text / Watch Video Lectures

- Discussion Post due Wednesday, 11:59pm
- Responses to other discussion posts due Friday, 11:59pm
- Quiz due Sunday, 11:59pm

Week 6 (February 8 – 14) Exam 1

- Discussion Post due Sunday, 11:59pm
- Responses to other discussion posts due Sunday, 11:59pm
- Exam 1** (covering Chapters 1 – 4) due Sunday, 11:59pm
- Class Project Pt 2** due Sunday, 11:59pm

Week 7 (February 15 – 21) Development Through the Life Span

Read Text / Watch Video Lectures

- Discussion Post due Wednesday, 11:59pm
- Responses to other discussion posts due Friday, 11:59pm
- Quiz due Sunday, 11:59pm

Week 8 (February 22 - 28) Sensation & Perception

Read Text / Watch Video Lectures

- Discussion Post due Wednesday, 11:59pm
- Responses to other discussion posts due Friday, 11:59pm
- Quiz due Sunday, 11:59pm

Week 9 (March 1 – 7) Learning

Read Text / Watch Video Lectures

- Discussion Post due Wednesday, 11:59pm
- Responses to other discussion posts due Friday, 11:59pm
- Quiz due Sunday, 11:59pm
- Class Project Pt 3** due Sunday, 11:59pm

Week 10 (March 8 - 14) Memory

Read Text / Watch Video Lectures

- Discussion Post due Wednesday, 11:59pm
- Responses to other discussion posts due Friday, 11:59pm
- Quiz due Sunday, 11:59pm

Finals Week (March 15 - 17)

- Exam 2** (covering second half of class) Due **Wednesday, March 17**, 11:59pm
- All late submissions due Wednesday, March 17, 11:59pm
- Last Day of Term is Friday, March 19, 11:59pm

*The instructor may revise the class calendar, modify content, and/or substitute assignments in response to institutional or class situations.