



**PSY 101- Introduction to Psychology**

Mercer County Community College

Fall 2008

Saturday 9:00-11:40am

Professor Heather Jennings

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Office: LA 129 (West Windsor)

KC 328 (James Kerney Campus)

Office Hours:

Tuesday and Thursday 10-10:30 am and 4:15- 5:15 pm (WW)

Saturday (JKC) 12:00-1:00pm

Webpage: [www.mccc.edu/~jennings](http://www.mccc.edu/~jennings)

**Required Textbook:**

Carpenter, S., Huffman, K. (2008). *Visualizing Psychology*. NY, NY: Wiley Publishers

Textbook website: [www.wiley.com/college/carpenter](http://www.wiley.com/college/carpenter)

**Books that Can Really Help You!**

Perrin, R. (2004). *Pocket guide to APA style*. New York: Houghton Mifflin Company

*American Psychological Association Publication Manual*, Fifth Edition. (2001).

Gelfand, H., Walker, C., American Psychological Association. (2001). *Mastering APA Style: Student's Workbook and Training Guide*.

- This is a self-guided workbook for learning APA style writing.

**Welcome to Psychology 101!**

This class will provide you with the basic principles of psychology. For many of you, this may be the only course you take in psychology in order to satisfy your general education

requirements or as a general elective. However, some of you will decide to pursue further coursework in psychology by electing psychology as a major.

In this class you will learn what psychology really is, which includes a wide-range of issues relating to all areas of our lives. This course will introduce you to each of the sub-areas of psychology that you can pursue later on in more depth if you wish, such as developmental, cognitive, social, personality, and abnormal psychology. This will allow you the opportunity to decide what specific topics within psychology most excite you.

Whatever your motivation was for signing up for this course, I sincerely hope this will be a wonderful experience for you, as you are introduced to the fascinating, controversial, and always intriguing, field of psychology.

### Academic Integrity

The work a student produces must be their own and should result solely from their own efforts. Plagiarism or cheating on any assignment is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense. Student's who violate this policy will receive an "F" for the course. Please refer to the Mercer County Community College Academic Integrity Handbook, or request one from the professor.

### Reasonable Accommodations for Students with Documented Disabilities

Mercer County Community College is committed to supporting all students in their academic and co-curricular endeavors. Each semester, a significant number of students document disabilities, which may require learning, sight, hearing, manual, speech, or mobility accommodations to ensure access to academic and co-curricular activities. The college provides services and reasonable accommodations to all students who need and have a legal entitlement to such accommodations.

For more information regarding accommodations, you may visit the Office of Academic Support Services in FA129 or contact them at 609.570.3422 or [urbanb@mccc.edu](mailto:urbanb@mccc.edu).

It will be the student's responsibility to arrange an accommodation. If you are a student with a disability or special need, please advise the professor within the first 2 weeks of the course so appropriate accommodations can be made.

### Attendance and Conduct

As college students you choose to be here. You have elected to register for this course and YOU will determine your overall experience in this class. Although I do not expect students to attend every class due to demands of life, attendance is very important and required. If you miss class, it is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to get the information you have missed. Do not expect or request the notes to be supplied by me if you did not attend lecture. Attendance and lecture notes are crucial to success in this class.

Missing 6 or more classes will result in the lowering of your final grade by one letter grade.

Without question, students who attend class perform better than those who do not...make sure you get to class. If you are often absent, it should lead you to ask the question, “**Why did I register for this course?**” You will not hurt my feelings if this class is not for you, but please don’t just disappear- **drop** the class as soon as you realize you don’t want to be here. If you choose to not return without officially dropping the course, you will receive an “F” on your transcript.

### Attendance Bonus

Students who attend every class will receive a **4 point bonus**. If you miss only one class, you will receive a **2 point bonus**. Lateness is not acceptable from college students; therefore two lates will be equal to one absence. If you arrive to class after I have taken role, it is **YOUR** responsibility to advise me that you arrived late, otherwise you will be marked as absent. All absences without a doctor’s note will be considered unexcused. It is at my discretion to add additional points for active participation.

### Exams

Grades will be based on five 50 question multiple-choice exams. All exams will be administered in the testing center. The exams are available at BOTH the **JKC and West Windsor Testing Centers**. The JKC Testing Center is located in the Learning Center (KC 311) and the West Windsor Testing Center is located in LA 216 please check the hours of operation to ensure you arrive during testing hours. All students **MUST** provide a current student ID to take the exams and must know the course number, test number and instructor’s name.

Each exam will be available for a 7- day period (review course schedule for dates). It is the **student’s responsibility** to take the exam within the allotted amount of time; therefore failure to complete the exam will result in a zero. Make-up exams are not an option in this course. Should you miss an exam, you will have the option of taking EXAM 6, a cumulative exam final, which will replace your lowest exam grade.

### Retest policy:

Each student will have the opportunity to retake each exam. Students may retake the exam at any time during the 7 day testing period. The higher grade will be calculated towards the final grade. **NO** retests will be possible after the exam period has expired.

#### For example:

Exam #1 (exam period) Sept. 1-8<sup>th</sup>

- Ask testing center for PSY 101/Exam IA/Jennings

Retest Exam #1 (exam period) Sept. 1-8<sup>th</sup>

- Ask testing center for PSY 101/Exam IB/Jennings

All students are welcome to come to my office hours and review version “A” to discuss any questions about the exam before taking the retest. Take advantage of this opportunity!

Fall and Spring	
Monday through Thursday	10 a.m. - 6:45 p.m.
Friday	10 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.
Saturday	9 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

### West Windsor Campus

Fall and Spring Semesters			
During the first two weeks of each semester		After the second week of each semester	
Monday - Thursday	10:30 a.m. - 8 p.m.	Monday - Thursday	9 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Friday	9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Friday	9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Saturday	9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Saturday	9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

For further information go to the testing center on the college's website:

[http://www.mccc.edu/student\\_services\\_testing.shtml](http://www.mccc.edu/student_services_testing.shtml)

### Journal Review Assignment (50 points)

Each student will be required to review and analyze TWO scholarly journal articles. These are two separate assignments...you are not reviewing two articles together. Each article review must answer the questions listed in the table below and must be typed (double-spaced, 12-point font, 1-inch margins). You must select two of the articles listed below. Each article can only be used once. All articles are from the journal *Current Directions in Psychological Science* and are attached in the syllabus.

### Articles to choose from:

- Representation of Objects and Events: Why do Infants Look So Smart and Toddlers Look So Dumb?
- Spanking Children: Evidence and Issues
- When Photographs Create False Memories
- Does Drinking Promote Risky Sexual Behavior?
- Who Develops Posttraumatic Stress Disorder?
- Math Anxiety: Personal, Educational, and Cognitive Consequences

In your review, no direct quotes are permitted. Please paraphrase it – put it into your own words. You will lose 1 point for every direct quote in your review. Your review must be at least 1 page in length but no more than 2 pages. At the end of the review make sure to include the full APA citation for the article.

Each article review is worth 25 points	
5 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What were the researchers interested in?</li> <li>What research question(s) were they trying to answer?</li> </ul>
5 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Who participated in their research? Describe the characteristics of the participants. Where did they get their participants from?</li> </ul>
5 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How was the research conducted (describe what the researchers did)?</li> <li>Does the research fit one of the basic research methods we discussed in chapter 1 - naturalistic observation, survey/questionnaire, case study of single individual, experiment, correlational research? Which?</li> <li>If it was an experiment, what variables were manipulated? What variables were measured, recorded or observed?</li> </ul>
5 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What did the researchers find? What were the results?</li> <li>What conclusions do the researchers make?</li> </ul>
5 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Correct APA citation of the article</li> </ul>

### Extra Credit Opportunities

#### Journal Review

Students will have the option of submitting an additional journal review paper. This extra credit paper will follow the same guidelines as the required assignment. This paper can be submitted at any time during the semester however, it **MUST** be submitted by December 2<sup>ND</sup>. This paper will be worth **10 extra credit points**.

Each extra credit article review is worth 10 points	
2 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What were the researchers interested in?</li> <li>What research question(s) were they trying to answer?</li> </ul>
2 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Who participated in their research? Describe the characteristics of the participants. Where did they get their participants from?</li> </ul>
2 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How was the research conducted (describe what the researchers did)?</li> <li>Does the research fit one of the basic research methods we discussed in chapter 1 - naturalistic observation, survey/questionnaire, case study of single individual, experiment, correlational research? Which?</li> <li>If it was an experiment, what variables were manipulated? What variables were measured, recorded or observed?</li> </ul>
2 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What did the researchers find? What were the results?</li> <li>What conclusions do the researchers make?</li> </ul>
2 point	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Correct APA citation of the article</li> </ul>

### Flash cards

To encourage good study habits, I will give 4 extra credit points per exam to students who make flash cards of the chapter material. It may not sound like much, but that adds up to 20 extra credits points which will be added to your overall final points. Take advantage of this opportunity!

### Course Grading

Your final grade for this class will be calculated on a point system. Your grade will be based on exam totals for a **total of 300 possible points for the course**. The final grades can be computed as follows:

<u>Points</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
279 +	A	93%
270	A-	90%
261	B+	87%
249	B	83%
240	B-	80%
231	C+	77%
210	C	70%
180	D	60%
Below 180	F	

Use the space below to keep track of your cumulative points from the exams, paper and extra credit.

EXAM 1 \_\_\_\_\_ pts.      FLASHCARDS EXAM 1 \_\_\_\_\_ pts.  
EXAM 2 \_\_\_\_\_ pts.      FLASHCARDS EXAM 2 \_\_\_\_\_ pts.  
EXAM 3 \_\_\_\_\_ pts.      FLASHCARDS EXAM 3 \_\_\_\_\_ pts.  
EXAM 4 \_\_\_\_\_ pts.      FLASHCARDS EXAM 4 \_\_\_\_\_ pts.  
EXAM 5 \_\_\_\_\_ pts.      FLASHCARDS EXAM 5 \_\_\_\_\_ pts.

Total Exam points \_\_\_\_\_ / 250 pts.  
Article Review #1 \_\_\_\_\_ / 25 pts.  
Article Review #2 \_\_\_\_\_ / 25 pts.  
Total flashcard pts. \_\_\_\_\_ / 20 pts.  
Extra credit paper \_\_\_\_\_ / 10 pts.  
Attendance Bonus \_\_\_\_\_ pts.

**TOTAL POINTS** \_\_\_\_\_ pts.

All assignments and exams must be completed by the due date listed below in the course schedule. If you miss a due date please do not attempt to submit the assignment, I will not accept late papers. However, you may submit ONE late assignment during the course. The ONE late assignment MUST be submitted with a "late pass" (attached below). This late pass will allow a ONE day extension...not one class...one day only. So for example, if the assignment is due on October 1<sup>st</sup>, you can submit the assignment on October 2<sup>nd</sup> without penalty. Once the one day extension has passed the assignment will not be accepted. Therefore, if you want to earn extra credit in this course YOU MUST PLAN AHEAD.

I sincerely hope that you find this subject to be interesting and enjoy this psychology course. It is my goal for each of you to successfully learn in this class, as well as, think critically about issues related to Psychology. Please feel free to contact me at any time during the semester in class, during office hours, by phone or email with any questions.

## Tentative Course Schedule

Class date:	Course material	Exam period	Assignment Due Dates
August 30 <sup>th</sup>	Ch.1-Introduction and Research Methods		
September 13 <sup>th</sup>	Ch.2-Neuroscience and Biological Foundations	<u>Exam 1</u> September 27- October 4 <sup>th</sup> (Ch.1 and 2)	
September 27 <sup>th</sup>	Ch. 9-Life Span Development I		Journal Review #1 Due September 27 <sup>th</sup>
October 4 <sup>th</sup>	Ch. 10-Life Span Development II		
October 11 <sup>th</sup>	Ch.12- Personality	<u>Exam 2</u> October 18-25 <sup>th</sup> (Ch. 9, 10 and 12)	
October 18 <sup>th</sup>	Ch. 4- Sensation and Perception		
October 25 <sup>th</sup>	Ch.5- Consciousness	<u>Exam 3</u> November 8-15 <sup>th</sup> (Ch.4 and 5)	
November 1 <sup>st</sup>	Ch.6 –Learning		
November 15 <sup>th</sup>	Ch. 7 –Memory	<u>Exam 4</u> Nov. 27- December 6 <sup>th</sup> (Ch. 6 and 7)	Journal Review #2 Due November 22 <sup>nd</sup>
November 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Ch.13- Psychological disorders	<u>Exam 5</u> December 3-10 <sup>th</sup> (Ch. 13)  <u>Exam 6- Optional</u> December 3-10 <sup>th</sup> (Cumulative)	
December 6	LAST CLASS MEETING!		



Please cut and staple the “late pass” to the late assignment before turning in your one late assignment

<p>PSY 101</p> <p>Introduction to Psychology</p>	<p>“LATE PASS”</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Assignment: _____</p> <p>Original Assignment Due Date: _____</p> <p>Date submitted: _____</p>
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