

Brian P. Sexton

Instructor

Winter 2024 Virtual office hours:

Tuesday: 8 – 9 pm & or by appointment

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(*Students MUST use their Rutgers email account when sending emails)

Required Text:

21:830:101:W5 Principles of Psychology

Psychological Science, 7th edition, by Elizabeth A. Phelps, Elliot Berkman, Michael S. Gazzaniga Norton:

- Ebook registration card ISBN: 978-0-393-88492-0
- Paperback + Ebook registration card ISBN: 978-0-393-88495-1
- Purchase directly from the Publisher by clicking on Chapter Inquisitive Link on Canvas and that will guarantee that the Norton Assignments Grades will be transferred to Canvas Gradebook. Look for an email with detailed instructions for linking the Norton Assignments to Canvas.

Course Description:

An introductory survey of areas of research and fields within modern psychology. The following topics will be covered: Research Methodology, Biology & Behaviors, Consciousness, Sensation & Perception, Learning & Memory, Thinking, Language and Intelligence. This course, combined with Psychology 102, provides a comprehensive introductory survey of psychology, however, Psychology 102 is not a prerequisite for 101. Students who have not taken Psych 102 may take 101.

Course Objectives:

- To develop an awareness of the scientific study of human behavior and mental processes throughout the lifespan and of the factors that contribute to positive and negative psychological outcomes.
- To understand current psychological research and theory on physiological psychology, learning, memory, and cognition and to understand the interrelations among these disciplines.
- To understand and apply the scientific methods used in psychological research.
- To promote student thought, participation, scientific curiosity, and critical thinking skills.
- To relate psychological theories and research to personal experiences and current events.
- To understand the influences of the wider sociocultural context on psychological processes.

Online Access:

This is an online class, which means that we will not meet in a face-to-face class setting, ever. We will be using the Rutgers Canvas site for the course. This course will be conducted totally online, in an asynchronous manner, which means that students (and the professor!) do NOT log on to the course at any specific time during the week. You may do so at any time, though there are specific deadlines for certain assignments that must be met, which will be explained in more detail below. You may log on and complete/submit your coursework whenever you choose, as long as it is received by 11:59pm (Eastern Standard Time) on last day of the Module. Submissions after deadlines will NOT be counted! There will be NO extensions of time limits/due dates! You may submit work early. All your assignments will be accessed through Canvas.

Please keep in mind that it is your responsibility to make sure that you can connect to the Internet and access the course online. Computer or Internet access difficulties are not an excuse for failing to log in to the course or meeting course requirements or deadlines.

Course Requirements:

We will typically cover Two to Three Chapters per module, unless noted in the Course Schedule. There are due dates for Discussions and Assignments per module. You can work ahead on future assignments. Late Assignments are not accepted.

- I will usually post one to two discussion questions each week. You must post your initial response to each Discussion by due date (2nd day of Module) listed on the course schedule posted on Canvas. You must complete the Discussion Requirements by the date listed. Please see the detailed instructions listed in the E-Discussion section below. This is a graded part of your course. Each Discussion is considered a separate assignment for those requirements.
- There will be Two Short Research Papers with instructions listed below.
- All written assignments must be drop boxed into the folder in Canvas. Do not email them.
- There will be Inquisitive Quizzes and Zap Lab Assignments for each Chapter. Check your course schedule for due dates. Since this is a 4-week course, not every module will be the same length.

Your final grade will be determined by your performance in four areas:

1) MODULE DISCUSSIONS: Your active participation in Module Discussion Board in Canvas (I will post one to two questions per week, and you MUST create and post your response online and respond to other students' posts). This will count for 20% of your final grade. There is a detailed rubric on the Discussions in the Getting Started Folder of the Course.

2) INQUISITIVE QUIZZES (Norton Based Assignment but accessed through a link on Canvas): There will be a Chapter Inquisitive quiz as noted on the course schedule. These will count for 30% of your final grade. See the instructions for the Inquisitive Assignments below.

3) ZAPS LABS (Norton Based assignment but accessed through a link on Canvas): There will be ZAPS LABS assigned in the different modules. The due dates will be listed on the course schedule. These will count for 20% of your final grade. See Instructions listed below.

4) Two Short Research Papers (30%). See Instructions listed below.

E-DISCUSSIONS: There are going to be one to two E-Discussions each week. We are going to engage in an asynchronous online discussion concerning these topics using the "Discussion Board" feature of Canvas. Your first initial post for each Discussion question must be posted by second night of the module before 11:59 pm. You will receive 20 points for meeting the time deadlines and up to another 20 points for the quality of your initial post. You will be required to respond to at least three other students or faculty responses to the question in an intelligent, thoughtful manner. You will receive ten points per response up to thirty points. Please note that while you can earn only up to 30 points through replying to other postings, you are certainly encouraged to post as many times as you wish. You can earn an additional 30 points by providing meaningful comments to other student's or faculty's pieces of writing which encourages vibrant communication and debate among class members. If you simply posted a message that says, "I totally agree with the statement," without any other support for your position, you will NOT receive credit for the posting. You need to show that you have considered the evidence before responding to the question. You can earn a total of 100 points per discussion. The E-discussion will be closed at 11:59 pm on the last day of the module. Late submissions of Discussion posts will not be accepted. There is a Rubric on Canvas detailing the criteria and points for the discussions. This will also be available when your Discussion has been graded showing where you might have lost points.

INQUISITIVE QUIZZES: InQuizitive is a formative, adaptive learning tool that improves student understanding of important learning objectives. Students receive quiz questions based on how well they understand the content, and the engaging and game-like elements motivate you as you learn. InQuizitive is adaptive in three ways:

1. Students get the help they need when they need it. Students who have read their assigned reading and have a solid grasp of the material will complete an InQuizitive activity more quickly than those who need help with the content.
2. Students receive more questions on the learning objectives they're struggling with most.
3. Students receive easier questions if they're struggling, or harder questions if they've shown they're ready for them.

Here are some examples of the gaming features in InQuizitive:

1. **Confidence slider:** Students can increase their confidence level to earn additional points on each question.
2. **Levels:** Students progress through Levels 1, 2, and 3, and a reward screen appears after each level is completed.
3. **Sound effects:** Students receive immediate auditory feedback on their actions as well as background music as they answer the questions. Note: These can be turned off at any time.
4. **Visual design:** The user-friendly design, Help buttons, and our little alien friend, Quizmo, guide students through the activities.
5. **Bonus points:** Awarded to students for answering 5 questions in a row correctly, they keep students motivated to reach the Target Score.
6. **Bonus questions:** Offered when students seem to be struggling, additional questions keep them reaching for a higher score.
7. **Take a Break:** Students have the option at any time to take a break.
8. There is a **Target Score** for each quiz that must be reached to receive full credit for that quiz. You should allow at least 30 minutes or more to complete each quiz depending on how fast you grasp the concepts in the quiz

There is a required graded Training assignment to learn how to use InQuizitive.

ZAP LABS: ZAPS is a series of interactive psychology lab assignments in which you will take the part of a researcher or research participant. There is a graded Introduction to ZAPS that is posted on Canvas. You should do that assignment first to help you prepare for these assignments, Each ZAPS assignment includes five parts:

1. The Introduction, in which the topic of the experiment is established.
2. The Experience, in which you conduct the experiment.
3. The Results, in which you analyze the data that was produced during the experiment.
4. The Discussion, in which you interpret the results of the experiment and read more about the topic.
5. The Learning Check, in which you answer five questions to check your understanding of the subject.

SHORT RESEARCH PAPERS: You will be required to submit two short research papers of 3+ pages on a topic shown in the assignment area of Canvas with questions posed about the topic. The Title and reference page do not count to the 3-page minimum. You are not required to have an abstract page for these short research papers. You must use a minimum of 2 Journal Articles or Scholarly works. There will be a total of 2 short research papers. The Papers should be written in APA style. There is information in the Getting Started Tab of Canvas for APA Style. Papers will be due on the date indicated before 11:59 pm in the course schedule. Paper should be submitted to Canvas and will automatically be submitted to Turnitin. The papers will be evaluated on your understanding of the topic and how you answer the posed questions.

Turnitin: Assignments in this course may be checked for plagiarism using Turnitin, a Web-based resource that compares the text of student papers to an extensive electronic database. Papers posted in the assignment area will be automatically submitted to Turnitin. You will not have to submit it to Turnitin's website. If you submit the assignment before the due date, you will be able to see the similarity report on Canvas. The allowed Similarity for this course is 20%. Anything above that may be subject to a grade reduction. At this point you will be able to make changes to the papers to address any problems and resubmit the new version if it is resubmitted prior to the due date and time.

PAPER SUBMISSION: Please remember to submit your papers in either .doc, .docx, .pdf or .rtf format. I will not be able to open apple, google or .odt files in Canvas. If I cannot open the file, I will send you an email requesting it to be resubmitted in a format I can open. If I do not receive the resubmission within 24 hours of the request, the paper will be considered late.

BROWSERS: Please be aware that not all Browsers work well with Canvas. This can cause log-on and submission problems. It has been documented that Safari and Internet Explorer are not compatible. The best choice is Google Chrome and Firefox seems to work too.

How to calculate your grade:

Short Research Papers:	(30%)
Discussion Posts	(20%)
Inquisitive Quizzes:	(30%)
ZAP Labs	(20%)

Numerical Grade Conversion

A	100-92	C	74-70
B+	91-87	D	69-62
B	86-80	F	61 & below
C+	79-75		

Academic Integrity:

This course adheres strictly to the University policy on academic integrity outlined at the following URL:
<http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/>