

# General Psychology

## STS 210

### Spring 2025

**Instructor:** Dr. Anjum

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Office Hours are by appointment only

**Prerequisites:** None

**Course Description:** Introduction to the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. Includes topics such as research methods, the neurological bases of behavior, consciousness, sensation and perception, learning, memory, thinking and intelligence, personality, motivation and emotion, development, psychological disorders and social psychology.

#### **General Education Status:**

Credits: 3      Lecture Hours: 3      Lab Hours: 0

**Textbook:** Lilienfeld, Lynn, Namy and Woolf (2014), *Psychology: from inquiry to understanding, 3rd edition*, Pearson, Upper Saddle River, NJ.

**Learning Outcomes:** Here are the formal course outcomes for *General Psychology*. Upon successful completion of the course, you will be able to:

1. Recognize key psychological theories and concepts and summarize the contributions of key psychological figures.
2. Describe the various research methods and apply this knowledge to evaluate psychological research studies.
3. Articulate the importance and value of psychology in today's world.
4. Deliver clear and organized presentations and documents using APA style.

#### **Course Content Areas:**

Core Course Content Areas (we will augment these core areas with additional concepts):

##### Psychological theories:

Evolutionary Psychology and how evolution works, Functionalism, Structuralism, Psychodynamic theories (Freud and neo-Freudians), Behaviorism, Cognitive Psychology, Piaget's cognitive developmental theory, Erikson's psychosocial developmental theory, Vygotsky's sociocultural theory, Maslow's hierarchy of needs.

##### Research

Hypothesis, naturalistic observation, correlational research, experiments, placebo effects, independent, dependent and confounding variables.

### Brain, Perception, and Consciousness

How neurons work, neurotransmitters, frontal, occipital, parietal, and temporal lobes. How information is transformed from sensory to perception, stages of sleep, hypnosis.

### Learning, Memory, and Intelligence

Schemas, assimilation and accommodation, classical conditioning (UR, US, CR, CS, NS, Discrimination, Generalization), operant conditioning (positive and negative reinforcement, punishment, shaping), observational learning (including brain mirror neurons), how memory works (sensory, short term memory, long term memory), strategies to improve memory, intelligence (Gardner, Sternberg, emotional intelligence).

### Abnormal Psychology

DSM –IV, Schizophrenia, Dissociative Identity Disorder, Anxiety Disorders (Generalized Anxiety Disorder, Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, Panic Disorder, Phobia), Mood Disorders (Major Depression, Bipolar Disorder), Therapies (Psychodynamic, Behavioral, Cognitive, Humanistic, System, and Biological).

### Social Psychology

Attitudes

Attribution theory

Obedience and conformity

**Grading:** The final grade will be based on the following criteria:

Introductions	5%
Attendance	5%
HW Assignments	30%
Discussion Board	10%
Midterm Powepoint	20%
Final Exam	30%

### **Final Grade Percentage Criteria:**

**A 93+**

**B+ 89-92**

**B 83-88**

**C+ 80-82**

**C 74-79**

**D 65-73**

## F 64 & below

**Attendance:** Attendance will be taken at the beginning of class and will be mandatory.

**Participation/Discussions:** Responding to the discussion posts is how you will receive this grade. All students must respond to the discussion prompt on specified Saturday's by 11:55pm. Response should be at least 1 / 2 (half) page to a maximum of 3 / 4 (three quarters) of a page. Also, once you submit your write-up, you must THEN respond to other classmates' responses 2 more times and agree /disagree with their responses with a valid response. This accounts for a total number of 3 submissions for the posted discussion . **ANY LATE ASSIGNMENT SUBMITTED WILL RESULT IN 25 POINTS.**

**Homework:** You will have a homework assignments due every week. You are expected to submit a reflection (summary) of each chapter read EVERY week 1 page typed double spaced. You are to give your input on the chapter and what you found to be significant in the chapter. **NO** heading on assignments please or 25 points taken off!! **ANY LATE ASSIGNMENT SUBMITTED WILL RESULT IN 25 POINTS. NO ASSIGNMENT SUBMITTED WILL RESULT IN A 0.**

**Midterm Powerpoint:** I will be asking for you to choose one specific chapter, choose a sub-section within the chapter and do a PowerPoint with **at least** 18-20 slides on the specifics including title and reference slide. As long as the powerpoint is detailed and creative based on topic that you choose, that is what I will be looking for. The last slide should be a reference page formatted into the proper APA format. Detail the specifics of the topic that interest you. Make sure that your presentation is creative – use color, pictures, graphs, video clip of no more than 30 seconds to a minute. You can choose any ONE chapter from the textbook and within the chapter, choose an important topic/issue. The textbook should be one of the sources used. You are free to go outside of the textbook and use other outside sources. I am looking for 2+ sources (cited). Once completed, you will upload the PowerPoint onto canvas under the Midterm Powerpoint tab of our course by 11:55pm on **March 8th**.

**Final:** Final will consist of a cumulative multiple choice exam. You will receive a study guide two weeks in advance to prepare. You will have 60 minutes to complete the exam within the 24 hour period on **May 3rd**. The Final Exam will use Respondus Lockdown Browser and Monitor for academic integrity. Please read more about that below:

### *Using Respondus LockDown Browser and a Webcam for Online Exams*

Respondus LockDown Browser is a locked browser for taking exams in Moodle. It prevents you from printing, copying, going to another URL, or accessing other applications during a test. If a Moodle quiz requires that LockDown Browser be used, you will not be able to take the assessment or quiz with a standard web browser. You may be required to use LockDown Browser with a webcam (Respondus Monitor), which will record you during an online exam.

This course requires the use of Respondus LockDown Browser and/or Respondus Monitor with a webcam for the midterm and final online exams. The webcam can be built into your computer or can be the type that plugs in with a USB cable. Watch [this short video](#) to get a basic understanding of LockDown Browser and the webcam feature. A student [Quick Start Guide \(PDF\)](#) is also available.

1. Download and install LockDown Browser from this link:  
<http://www.respondus.com/lockdown/download.php?id=264548414>
2. Once your download has finished, locate the "LockDown Browser" shortcut on the desktop and double-click it. (For Mac users, launch "LockDown Browser" from the Applications folder.)
3. You will be brought to the Moodle login page within the LockDown Browser, click "Login with your UCID" to log in with your NJIT UCID and password and then click Login.
4. Under "My courses", click on the course in which you have to take the exam that requires the LockDown Browser.
5. After you enter the course, find the exam and click on it.
6. A confirmation prompt will appear, click the "Start attempt" button. Once a quiz has been started with LockDown Browser, you cannot exit until the Submit all and finish button is clicked.
7. If you are required to use a webcam (Respondus Monitor), you will be prompted to complete a Webcam Check and other Startup Sequence steps.

**\*I hold charge of modifying the syllabus anytime throughout this SPRING 2025 semester and then debriefing the students.**

**\*You must submit your first assignment on time regardless of book in possession or not. If book order is not delivered, must use powerpoints for time being to assist complete 1<sup>st</sup> assignment.**

#### **Assignment Schedule:**

Class Meet	TOPIC/Read Chapters	HOMEWORK
1/25	Introduction/syllabus	Order Textbooks Introductions due (1/25)
2/1	Chapter 1	Read chapter 1
2/8	Chapter 2 & 3	Read chapter 2 and 3 1 FULL page reflection/critique of chapter 2
2/15	Chapter 4	Read chapter 4 Discussion Board # 1
2/22	Chapter 5 & 6	Read chapter 5 and 6 1 FULL page reflection/critique of chapter 5
3/1	Chapter 7	Read chapter 7 Discussion Board # 2
3/8	Chapter 8 & 9	<b>Midterm Powerpoints are due!</b> Read Chapters 8 & 9
3/15	Chapter 10	Read chapter 10 1 FULL page reflection/critique of chapter 10
3/22	Spring Break	Spring Break
3/29	Chapter 13	Chapter 13 & 14 Discussion Board # 3
4/5	Chapter 14	Read chapter 14
4/12	Chapter 15	Read chapter 15 1 FULL page reflection/critique of chapter 15 Study Guide for final exam

4/19	Easter – no class	Easter Weekend – no class
4/26	Chapter 16	Read chapter 16
5/3	FINAL EXAM	Final Exam, Saturday 5/3/2025 from 12am-1155pm on Canvas

## Resources for NJIT Online Students

### IST Service Desk

The IST Service Desk is the central hub for computing information and first point of contact for getting help and reporting issues related to computing technology at NJIT.

Students can put in a ticket with the service

desk: <https://servicedesk.njit.edu/CherwellPortal/IST>

or call (973) 596-2900 Monday - Friday from 8:00am – 9:00pm

### Academic Advising Success Center

“...assist in the advisement of students who are undecided in their major, transitioning into another major at NJIT, and those students who need additional support to graduate successfully and in a timely manner.”

### Academic Integrity

“New Jersey Institute of Technology is an institution dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge through teaching and research. The university expects that its graduates will assume positions of leadership within their professions and communities. Within this context, the university strives to develop and maintain a high level of ethics and honesty among all members of its community. Imperative to this goal is the commitment to truth and academic integrity. This commitment is confirmed in this NJIT University Code on Academic Integrity.”

### Academic Support and Student Affairs

“From questions about becoming a student at NJIT – to student engagement – to searching for information on career development, the Division of Academic Support and Student Affairs Staff is here to help.”

### Additional Tutoring Centers

[Math Learning Center](#); [Chemistry Learning Center](#); [The Writing Center](#); [ECE Study Groups](#)  
[Bookstore](#)

“Show your New Jersey Institute Of Technology pride all year long with our authentic assortment of New Jersey Institute Of Technology collegiate apparel...Plus, our selection of [textbooks](#), [computers](#), and [supplies](#) will ensure every New Jersey Institute Of Technology student is prepared for success.”

### Center for Counseling and Psychological Services

“The NJIT Center for Counseling and Psychological Services (C-CAPS) is committed to assisting students in the achievement of their academic goals as well as benefiting from their personal

experience on campus. College life can be personally challenging and stressful at times. We believe that the educational process is an important component of the development of the individual as a whole person. Our goal is to optimize the college experience and improve the quality of the lives of our students by promoting their mental health and facilitating students' personal, academic and professional growth."

#### Disability Support Services

"The Disability Support Services office works in partnership with administrators, faculty and staff to provide reasonable accommodations and support services for students with disabilities that have provided our office with documentation to receive services."

#### The Learning Center

"Our mission is to assist students both in the classroom and beyond by providing tutorial services, academic coaching, academic and personal enrichment workshops and staff and peer support so students can meet the demands of their coursework and are prepared for life after graduation."

#### Moodle Help Page

Tutorials for students.

#### Robert W. Van Houten Library

"The Van Houten Library offers electronic and print resources essential to the mission of NJIT, including a core collection of academic books, databases, and journals, as well as research and consultation services."

#### Student Financial Aid Services

"Student Financial Aid Services (SFAS) at NJIT is committed to providing you with every opportunity to obtain funding to support your undergraduate educational costs at NJIT."