

**Department of Humanities & Social Sciences
NJIT**

**PSY-210/007: General Psychology
Fall 2025**

Instructor: Stephen Maret, PhD
E-mail: sma3925@njit.edu
Office Hours: T/F 2:30-3:30PM

Class Meets: T/F 4-5:20PM
Classroom: CKB 223
Office: Cullimore 315

Course Description:

Psychology is the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. The content focuses on the exploration of major psychological theories and concepts, methods, and research findings in psychology. Topics include the biological bases of behavior, perception, cognition and consciousness, learning, memory, emotion, motivation, development, personality, social psychology, psychological disorders and therapeutic approaches, and applied psychology.

Student Learning Outcomes: As a result of meeting the requirements in this course you should be able to:

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

- Demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, research methods, core empirical findings, and historic trends in psychology.
- Explain (including advantages and disadvantages) and compare major theoretical perspectives of psychology (e.g., behavioral, biological, cognitive, evolutionary, humanistic, psychodynamic and socio-cultural);
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the following nine general domains: (1) biological bases of behavior and mental processes, (2) sensation and perception, (3) learning and memory (4) cognition, consciousness, (5) individual differences, psychometrics/measurement, personality, (6) social processes (including those related to socio-cultural and international dimensions), (7) developmental changes in behavior and mental processes that occur across the lifespan, (8) psychological disorders, and (9) emotion and motivation;
- Describe and demonstrate an understanding of applied areas of psychology (e.g., clinical, counseling, forensic, community, organizational, school, health);
- Draw the distinction between scientific and non-scientific methods of understanding and analysis.
- Recognize and understand the impact of diversity on psychological research, theory and application, including (but not limited to): age, race, ethnicity, culture, gender, socio-economic status, disability, and sexual orientation.
- Understand and apply psychological principles to personal experience and social and organizational settings.

- Demonstrate critical thinking skills and information competence as applied to psychological topics.

Course Evaluation:

Your grade for this course is based on...

Unit Tests: We will have 4 tests covering the 3 chapters of reading and lectures at the end of every unit. Each test is 50 multiple-choice questions. Each question is worth 2 points for a total of 100 points for each test. The lowest test grade will be dropped,

Missed tests cannot be made up for any reason and the result is a “0” for a missed test. The first missed test or lowest test grade will be the one dropped, so the best 3 tests will count toward the student’s grade.

Course Value for Tests: 3 best tests X 100 possible points per test = 300 points

Unit Discussions: We will have 4 discussions on Blackboard, one for each unit. Each discussion requires a minimum of 5 posts, with 3 of these posts due by the midpoint of the unit. Late mid-unit posts are penalized by 50% and late end-unit posts are not accepted. Each post is worth 5 points, for a total possible score of 25 points for each discussion question.

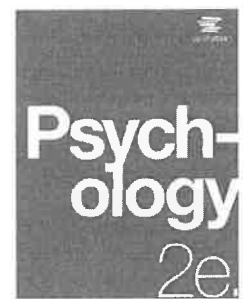
Course Value for Discussions: 5 posts per discussion = 25 possible points per discussion X 4 discussions = 100 points

Social Media Use Critical Thinking Paper: A short (3-4 pages) critical thinking paper will be due by midnight on Saturday 11/22/25 and must be submitted on Blackboard in either WORD or PDF format. GoogleDocs, link, or email submissions are not accepted. Late work is penalized by 10% per day. There are NO exceptions to this rule. No work will be accepted after midnight on Monday 12/1/25. Early submissions are encouraged.

Course Value for Social Media Use Critical Thinking Paper = 100 points

Total Possible Course Points = 300 best 3 tests + 100 discussion points + 100 paper points = 500 points

Required Sources: Spielman, R.M., Jenkins, W., & Lovett, M. (2020). Psychology (2nd ed.). Nashville, TN.: OpenStax.



This book is free and will be embedded in our Canvas course site. You can download it here: <https://openstax.org/details/books/psychology-2e> and order a hard copy. Hardcover: ISBN-13: 978-1-975076-45-0 Paperback: ISBN-13: 978-1-975076-44-3 Digital: ISBN-13: 978-1-951693-23-7

Schedule of Topics, Readings, and Exams:

Unit	Week	Day	Date	Topic	Reading	Discussions
1	Week 1	Tues	9/2	Introduction		
		Fri	9/5		Ch. 1	
	Week 2	Tues	9/9	History		
		Fri	9/12		Research	Ch 2

	Week 3	Tues	9/16	Biopsychology	Ch 3		
		Fri	9/19			Two final posts	
	Week 4	Tues	9/23	TEST #1			
2		Fri	9/26	Consciousness	Ch. 4		
	Week 5	Tues	9/30				
		Fri	10/3	Learning	Ch. 6	Minimum of 3 posts	
	Week 6	Tues	10/7				
		Fri	10/10	Memory	Ch. 8		
	Week 7	Tues	10/14			Two final posts due	
		Fri	10/17	TEST #2			
3	Week 8	Tues	10/21	Emotion	Ch. 9		
		Fri	10/24	Motivation			
	Week 9	Tues	10/28	Developmental	Ch. 10	Minimum of 3 posts	
		Fri	10/31				
	Week 10	Tues	11/4	Personality	Ch. 11		
		Fri	11/7			Two final posts due	
	Week 11	Tues	11/11	TEST #3			
4		Fri	11/14	Social Psychology	Ch. 12		
	Week 12	Tues	11/18				
		Fri	11/21	Stress	Ch 14	Minimum of 3 posts	
		Sat	11/22	PAPER DUE ON CANVAS BY MIDNIGHT			
	Week 13	Tues	11/25	NO CLASS: Thursday classes meet on This Tuesday			
		Wed	11/26	Friday classes meet on this Wednesday			
		Fri	11/28	NO CLASS THANKSGIVING			
	Week 14	Tues	12/2	Psychopathology	Ch 15		
		Fri	12/5			Two final posts due	
	Week 15	Tues	12/9	Test #4			

Course Policies:

- **Absence/Attendance:** Attendance is taken. You are allowed 3 unexcused absences. Excused absences require documentation. For each unexcused absence more than 3 will (#s 4-10) reduce your grade by .5%. More than 10 absences will result in failing this course.
- **Academic Integrity:** Academic Integrity is the cornerstone of higher education and is central to the ideals of this course and the university. Cheating is strictly prohibited and devalues the degree that you are working on. As a member of the NJIT community, it is your responsibility to protect your educational investment by knowing and following the code of Academic Integrity policy that is found at: [*NJIT Academic Integrity Code*](#).
- **AI Use:** This course expects students to work without artificial intelligence (AI) assistance in

order to better develop their skills in this content area. As such, AI usage is not permitted throughout this course under any circumstance.

Policies and schedules listed on this syllabus may be subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.

Grading Scale:

A 94-100%

B- 80-83%

D 60-66%

A- 90-93%

C+ 77-79%

F 0-59%

B+ 87-89%

C 70-76%

B 84-86%

D+ 67-69%