

Syllabus

Introduction to Psychology

ECTS credits: 4

Instructors

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Department of Psychology

Meeting Minute #18 dated 18/08/2019

Course Description

Course website

<https://www.coursera.org/learn/introduction-psych>

Prerequisites

None

Abstract

This course will highlight the most interesting experiments within the field of psychology, discussing the implications of those studies for our understanding of the human mind and human behavior. We will explore the brain and some of the cognitive abilities it supports like memory, learning, attention, perception and consciousness. We will examine human development - both in terms of growing up and growing old - and will discuss the manner in which the behavior of others affects our own thoughts and behavior. Finally, we will discuss various forms of mental illness and the treatments that are used to help those who suffer from them. The fact of the matter is that humans routinely do amazing things without appreciating how interesting they are. However, we are also routinely influenced by people and events without always being aware of those influences. By the end of this course you will have gained a much better understanding and appreciation of who you are and how you work. And I can guarantee you that you'll learn things that you'll be telling your friends and family about, things that will fundamentally change the way you think of yourself and others. How can you resist that?!

Learning Objectives

- To identify theoretical underpinnings of the major areas of psychology, including cognition (thought, memory, perception), learning, personality, social and environmental influences, development, and physiology of behavior.
- To explain different models of human behavior based on science versus intuition or general ways of knowing.
- To recognize ways of pursuing questions in Psychology via discussion of theory and empirical research
- To describe connections between knowledge gained in Psychology to everyday life.

Learning Outcomes

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

- Describe how different types of personality, social interactions, relationships, and structures change the way an individual behaves and interacts with other people.

- Understand when psychological theories predict that context will influence an individual's behavior and what consequences those behaviors will have for affect, attitudes, and beliefs.
- Distinguish between different theories in psychology, and form links across theories investigating different theoretical topics.
- Demonstrate a grasp of major theories or models in different areas of psychology.
- Understand major theories of psychology and the kinds of questions that are pertinent to the study of human psychology.
- Understand the methodological and empirical foundations underlying psychological research.
- Communicate a written understanding of psychological theories and concepts.
- Relate the theories in psychology to real world events.

Course Plan

Week Topic

- | Week | Topic |
|------|--|
| 1. | Welcome and Orientation to the Course |
| 2. | History & the Scientific Method |
| 3. | The Matter of the Mind |
| 4. | Sensation, Perception, Attention and Awareness |
| 5. | Learning |
| 6. | Memory |
| 7. | The Social Mind |
| 8. | Mental Illness |
| 9. | Psychology expanded |

Reading List

Required: Discover Psychology 2.0 - A Brief Introductory Text (<http://noba.to/5wirz72n>)

Optional: The link to these readings is provided in Week 11 of the course.

Grading System

At the end of Week 5, you should complete Midterm Test consisting of 59 multiple-choice questions.

At the end of Week 9, you should complete Final Exam consisting of 45 multiple-choice questions.

During Week 10, you should complete Final Assignment, Relating the Class to World Events. To receive your grade for this assignment, you have to grade the assignments of three other students enrolled in the course. It is especially important to submit this assignment before the deadline, because it must be graded by others. If you submit late, there may not be enough classmates around to review your work. This makes it difficult - and in some cases, impossible - to produce a grade. Submit on time to avoid these risks.

To receive a grade for the course, you have to submit to my email address two PDF files:

1. Welcome page of the course (with your name, top right) showing that you have completed all assignments.
2. Grades page of the course (with your name, top right) showing the grades you received for exams and assignment.

Failure to submit this file results in a 0 for the course.

Grade distribution

Midterm Test: 40%

Final Exam: 40%

Assignment: 20%

Examination Type

Quizzes + written assignment

Methods of Instruction

Blended: the course should be taken online. In the beginning of the course, there will be scheduled a class meeting to introduce the course. At the end of the course, there will be another class meeting scheduled to calculate your grades.

Special Equipment and Software Support (if required)

Computer and projector