



The mission of the University of Mount Union is to prepare students for fulfilling lives, meaningful work, and responsible citizenship.

Department of Psychology

PSY 110S: Psychological Sciences

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION:

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

PSY 110S The Psychological Sciences This course examines the scientific study of behavior and mental processes using current issues and research as the framework for exploring the discipline of psychology. In this course you will learn that psychology is a science that attempts to answer some of the age-old questions about the human experience by using rigorous empirical methods. Students will become familiar with the concepts, general theories, and specific approaches and applications used in the field of psychology as well as how they relate to the work done by other social scientists. The following subfields in psychology will be explored: research methodology, biological bases of behavior, development, sensation and perception, consciousness, learning, memory and cognition, motivation and emotion, personality, social behavior, abnormal psychology, and the treatment of psychological disorders. This course may have online section available. Prerequisites: None. 4 Semester Hours.

COURSE PURPOSE:

As part of the Integrative Core, this class needs to meet certain course objectives. Social Science Foundational Knowledge courses will include pedagogical approaches (e.g., activities, assignments, or assessments) which reinforce and continue the development of the five Core Abilities (information literacy skills, research skills, critical thinking skills, creative thinking skills, and communication skills).

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS:

Griggs, R. A. (2014). *Psychology: A concise introduction (6th^h ed.)*. New York: Worth Publishers.
ISBN-10: 1-4641-6078-3

All course materials comply with copyright/fair use policies

COURSE DELIVERY:

This course is delivered Online Asynchronously. Your instructor will provide materials for you in our learning management system (D2L). Some of the materials will be readings, lectures for viewing, assignments for completing, and exams for evaluation. You can access and satisfy these requirements on your own schedule, so long as you meet the expected deadlines. Some of the methods we employ for asynchronous online learning include self-guided lesson modules, pre-recorded video content, virtual libraries, lecture notes, and online discussion boards or other media platforms.

This course is organized in alignment with Mount Union University's online course template. Each weekly lesson contains an overview and objectives, readings, and related materials, learning activities and assessments, as well as supplemental resources.

PROGRAM LEARNING GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

Program Learning Goal	Program Learning Objective
A. Knowledge Base	1. Students will demonstrate a breadth of knowledge and application of psychological ideas.
B. Scientific Inquiry and Critical Thinking	2. Students will develop skills in scientific reasoning and problem solving including effective research methods.
C. Ethical and Social Responsibility in a Diverse World	3. Students will develop ethically and socially responsible behaviors for personal and professional settings.
	4. Students will develop the above skills within a landscape that involves increasing diversity.
D. Communication	5. Students will develop competence in written, oral, and interpersonal communication skills.
E. Professional Development	6. Students will develop the ability to apply psychology-specific content and skills in career preparation.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

After successful completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Communicate about and demonstrate an understanding of the history and theory of the science of psychology.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of basic psychological concepts, theories, and research.
3. Communicate an understanding of the scientific approach to studying psychological phenomenon.
4. Demonstrate the ability to critically read and evaluate social science data presented in popular and academic venues.
5. Demonstrate an appreciation of the role of diversity in psychological science.

MEASUREMENT OF LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Each of the course learning objectives are aligned with weekly learning objectives. Each week students will be given resources, lectures, and activities to complete that align with the weekly learning objectives. After reviewing the resources and participating in the weekly activities, the student will be assessed to see if they have achieved the knowledge or skills described in the learning objectives.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS FOR ONLINE COURSES:

College coursework during these times requires students to be more responsible than ever in keeping up with reading and assignments, checking email and D2L frequently, and staying in regular communication with instructors. Technology access will therefore be critically important to your success in this course. The lecture presentations, links to articles, assignments, quizzes, and rubrics are located on the D2L site for the course. To participate in learning activities and complete assignments, you will need:

- Access to a working computer that has a current operating system with updates installed, plus speakers or headphones to hear lecture presentations.
- Access to a video/web camera.
- Reliable Internet access and a Mount Union email account.
- A current Internet browser that is compatible with D2L.
- Microsoft Word as your word processing program.
- Reliable data storage for your work, such as a USB drive or Office365 OneDrive cloud storage.

Please contact the IT Help Desk at (330) 829-8726 or Helpdesk@mountunion.edu if you need assistance with obtaining or using a device, any necessary software, or internet access at any time during this semester.

ASSIGNMENTS:

All course written requirements should be submitted via the Assignments tool in D2L. Lessons will run Monday-Sunday of each course week. Lessons will open on the Friday prior to the start of a lesson. All assignments, other than discussion forum posts, should be completed and submitted by the last day of the lesson week (Sunday) at 11:59 p.m. Because of the way the course is structured, students must stay on track with assignment dates and cannot complete assignments from previous weeks once the due date is passed.

DISCUSSION FORUM PARTICIPATION:

Participation in discussion forums is critical for maximizing students' learning experiences and is required for the online delivery of this course. Each student is required to be part of an online community who interact, through discussion, to enhance and support the professional development of the group.

Active participation in discussion topics is defined as making at least one (1) original posting biweekly for each discussion topic and at least one (1) responses to colleagues' postings. This will result in a minimum total of five (5) postings each semester.

NOTE: Your original post will be due each week by Thursday at Noon and all subsequent posts will be due by Sunday at 11:59 p.m.

The course discussion rubric provides specific guidelines on how discussion contributions will be graded and what is considered a substantive response. Some characteristics that are considered to be a part of excellent discussion contributions are outlined below. The instructor will consider these characteristics when assessing students' quality and level of participation.

- Each student should submit his/her initial post(s) early in the session and your subsequent responses to the posts of other learners at timely intervals within the duration of the session. Keep in mind the goal is to have a dynamic discussion that lasts throughout the entire session.
- Discussions occur when there is dialogue. Build upon the posts and responses of other learners to create discussion threads. Revisit the discussion forum and respond (if necessary) to what other learners have posted to initial responses.
- Postings should be substantive and will be evaluated on their quality and the degree to which they promote discussion among classmates.
- For a posting to be considered substantive, it should meet the following criteria:
 - It ties personal experience and practice to the concepts that are being discussed.
 - It avoids repeating or rehashing points made by others.
 - It demonstrates understanding and integration of course readings and provides relevant citations.
 - It incorporates ideas shared by others and the instructor to create a clearer and more comprehensive presentation of the concept under review.
 - It poses real-life questions or challenges that spring from the discussion material and attempts to shape informed conclusions.

COURSE GRADING:

Grades will be based on depth of personal insight, critical thinking, and application of theoretical concepts to scenarios being analyzed. Specific guidelines and grading criteria will be provided with each assignment.

The following activities will be evaluated, and the relative weight of that evaluation is noted:

<u>Assignments/Assessments</u>	<u>Total Points</u>	<u>% of Final Grade</u>
Weekly Posts (5)	50	10%
Weekly Essays (5)	100	20%
Reference Page & Outline	150	30%
Comparison/Contrast Essay	100	20%
Power Point & Video Presentation	100	20%
Total		100%

Grading Scale

94-100%	A	77-79%	C+
90-93%	A-	74-76%	C
87-89%	B+	70-73%	C-
84-86%	B	67-69%	D+
80-83%	B-	64-66%	D
		60-63%	D-
		59% or less	F or fails

COURSE FLEXIBILITY:

This syllabus is designed to assist you in planning your studies and course work and will be followed as closely as possible. Nevertheless, every course syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. It is important to remember that your Mount Union email account is the official method of communication and will be used by University faculty and officials to communicate any notices, updates, or changes regarding your courses.

COURSE POLICIES/PROCEDURES/EXPECTATIONS

DWOC offers support to Mount Union students across disciplines, academic levels, and abilities, and can help in any stage of the writing and oral presentation process. To make an appointment, visit the website or the physical location in KHIC if living near campus.

COURSE COMMUNICATION:

Students are expected to check their Mount Union email account frequently for important course information. If you are having trouble understanding any aspect of the course, please contact me.

I will be communicating with you regarding grades and assignments. If you need to get in touch with me, the best method is via email. I am here to help and will do my best to respond to inquiries in a timely manner. Generally, I will reply to emails within one business day. Feedback on assignments will be posted within one week after the due date, unless otherwise noted.

LATE WORK POLICY:

As a very compacted and condensed 6-week course, it is critical that assignments be submitted by the posted due dates. Students who anticipate any delays in completing assignments must communicate with the instructor by email, as soon as possible.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Academic Integrity is at the heart of the mission and values of the University and is an expectation of all students. Maintaining academic integrity is a reflection of your character and a means to ensuring that you are achieving the outcomes of this course and that your grades accurately reflect your learning and understanding of the course material. Cutting corners or cheating in this class will result in cheating yourself out of learning.

Academic integrity is a partnership between me, as the instructor, and you, as the student. My role, as instructor of this course, is to facilitate learning and to provide you with clear guidelines and feedback to help you maintain your academic

integrity. Your role in this course is to take responsibility for your learning and to complete all assignments in an honest manner and to ask for clarification from me if you are unsure of how to do so.

Students who are found responsible for committing academic dishonesty will receive a zero for the assignment. The academic dishonesty issue will also be brought to the Department Chair and the Office of Academic Affairs who may impose additional sanctions as provided in the University policy regarding Academic Honesty.

ONLINE LEARNING:

Attendance for an online or hybrid course is defined as an online presence demonstrated by active participation and engagement in all learning activities as required by the instructor. Failure to fulfill requirements within the parameters of each session will be construed as absence.

Online expectations:

- For online essays, you can use notes and your book, but no group work is permitted in any way.
- If you violate one of the standards in the University Academic Honesty statement, it will result in a zero for that assignment, and I am required to report it to the Office of Academic Affairs.
- While group studying and sharing of ideas is encouraged, you may not consult with other students about papers or other assignments in this course.

ONLINE CONDUCT:

Professionalism is always expected. Because the virtual classroom is a place designed for the free exchange of ideas, we must show respect for one another in all circumstances. We will show respect for one another by exhibiting patience and courtesy in our exchanges. Appropriate language and restraint from attacking those whose perspectives differ from your own is a minimum requirement. Bullying will not be tolerated. Courtesy and kindness are the norm for those who participate in my class. Think before you type or communicate. Remember, typing in all CAPS is the same as yelling, and sarcasm comes across differently when written.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY:

As a learning community, the University of Mount Union embraces the entrepreneurial mindset, creativity, and innovation. To support innovation, the University has an Intellectual Property Policy to help identify, protect, communicate, and commercialize innovation resulting in possible monetary rewards for the innovator at UMU. The University strongly encourages innovators to have an open discussion with the Office of Academic Affairs to discuss any innovations. The complete UMU Intellectual Property Policy is available on iRaider under "Policies -> Institutional Policies".

STUDENT RIGHTS AND GRIEVANCES:

Students have a right to equitable access for their course instruction, materials, and facility. Students also have a right to respectfully express their views and opinions in class discussion boards as well as in their writing and speaking assignments, without fear of ridicule or retribution. In addition, students have a right to safety and privacy during their course instruction that prohibits discrimination and harassment of any type by any person. Students also have a right to fairness in grading and learning objective assessment, as well as timely communication from the instructor. Any student who may feel that their rights have been violated may file a grievance regarding Title IX, civil rights, conduct, discrimination or harassment using the appropriate grievance procedure in the University's student handbook available on the Mount Union website. Academic complaints, such as disputes over a grade, should be filed in accordance with the procedures laid out in the University Catalogue available on the Mount Union website.

UMU DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION STATEMENT:

At the University of Mount Union, we continuously strive to welcome, accept, and respect all people. We believe that through the union of disparate perspectives, we strengthen our community, facilitate global enlightenment, and enable collective self-discovery. As such, we embrace diversity and inclusiveness to facilitate the development of ideas, the advancement of global perspectives, and to create a greater understanding and acceptance of all people. We actively promote a diverse and inclusive environment that obliges mutual respect and positive engagement to effectively enrich learning and living for our students, faculty, staff, administration, and community.

As members of the University of Mount Union community, we pledge to:

- Acknowledge, respect, honor, and celebrate diversity.
- Work together to create an environment that is both diverse and inclusive.
- Take these inclusive attitudes with us as we continue our life journeys.

OTHER RESOURCES AND POLICIES

Other UMU resources and Policies can be found on the [UMU Common Syllabus Elements](#) page. Elements found on this page are:

- Academic Integrity
- Accessibility
- Resources for Student Success
- Student Rights and Grievances
- Technology Support

ASSIGNMENTS AND COURSE SCHEDULE

COURSE SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE BY THE INSTRUCTOR BASED UPON STUDENT NEEDS

Week	Topics	Activity	Due Date/Time
Week 1	Introduction to Psychology, Neuroscience	Weekly Post/Response, Weekly Essay	5/23/21 11:30PM
Week 2	Sensation & Perception, Learning Theory	Weekly Post, Weekly Essay, APA Reference Page	5/30/21 11:30PM
Week 3	Memory, Problem Solving & Intelligence	Weekly Post, Weekly Essay	6/6/21 11:30PM
Week 4	Lifespan Development, Personality Theory	Weekly, Post, Weekly Essay, Outline with Thesis Statement	6/13/21 11:30PM
Week 5	Social Psychology, Abnormal Psychology	Weekly Posts, Weekly Essay	6/20/21 11:30PM
Week 6	Research Methods, Oral & Written Communication	Final Essay, Power Point Presentation	6/27/21 11:30 PM
Week 7			

APPENDICES

Discussion Rubric

Criterion	Below Average	Average	Very Good	Excellent	Score
Quality of Information in Posting	Posting simply restates the main concept. Does not demonstrate an understanding of materials and concepts. Introduces little or no substantive contribution to discussion.	Demonstrates a moderate understanding of materials and concepts. No details and/or examples are given.	Postings consistently focus on the week's topic and relate the underlying concepts in the readings to the discussion. Provides at least 1 supporting detail or example. Demonstrates strong understanding of materials and concepts.	Postings consistently focus on the week's topic and relate the underlying concepts in the readings to the discussion. Comments including several supporting and details and/or examples. Demonstrates a superior understanding of materials and concepts.	
Citations and Resource Development	Never cites sources and/or does not provide information regarding outside resources related to the topic.	Rarely cites sources or provides information regarding outside resources related to the topic.	Occasionally cites sources or provides information regarding outside resources related to the topic.	Consistently cites relevant and reliable sources used to develop posting and provides information regarding outside resources related to the topic.	
Critical Thinking	Does not identify and summarize the problem, is confused or identifies a different or inappropriate problem.	Identifies the main problem and subsidiary, embedded, or implicit aspects of the problem.	Identifies not only the basics of the issue, but recognizes nuances of the issue.	Provides exemplary insights, engages other opposing postings, and draws support from experience and information not available from assigned sources.	
Word Choice, Voice, and Grammar	The writer struggles with a limited vocabulary and is unable to convey meaning. Grammar, spelling, and basic punctuation are often incorrect.	Though understandable, writing lacks detail and precision. Some problems exist with word usage, syntax and grammar are present.	The writer demonstrates a strong grasp of standard writing conventions. A few problems with word usage and grammar are present.	The writer demonstrates a strong grasp of standard writing conventions, including spelling, punctuation, word usage appropriate for graduate level work. Very few grammatical and/or typographical errors were present, if any.	
Participation	A post own comments but does not interact with others in the online community.	Rarely interacts or responds to other members of the online community other than required responses.	Occasionally responds to other members of the online community over the required minimum number of postings.	Consistently encourages and facilitates interaction among members of the online community on an ongoing basis over the required minimum number of postings. Provides very timely responses to postings.	

Criterion	Below Average	Average	Very Good	Excellent	Score
Total Score:					