Principles of Psychology:
Psychology 110-01 Syllabus (Fall 2015)

Neil Lutsky and Adam Putnam
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"The purpose of psychology is to give us a completely different idea of the things we know best."
-Paul Viale

Organization and Requirements:

Psychology 110-01 is a survey course emphasizing the application of scientific methods to understanding the mind and behavior. We will cover major topics in psychology, including how individuals differ in personality, how people are influenced by others, how animals learn, how the nervous system is structured and supports mental events, how psychopathology is diagnosed and treated, how people acquire and process information, and how humans develop in early childhood and throughout their lives. Course sessions will generally consist of lectures and interactions on Monday and Wednesday and of presentations, project work, and discussions on Friday. We meet in Olin 149 from 1:50-3:00 Mondays and Wednesdays, and from 2:20-3:20 on Fridays.

The schedule below lists the topics and readings we will be covering. Readings should be completed prior to the class meeting for which they are listed. We recommend that you then review those readings, your class notes, and course slides after each class session. We will not lecture on every topic in the text nor will the text cover all topics presented in class. However, the reading assignments provide useful and often necessary background for lecture and discussion, and should be completed before scheduled class meetings. Please note that if you choose to bring a computer or other electronic device to class, it is a course rule that you restrict your use of that device to course-related activity during class meeting times. You will find the slides from presentations in class and other course materials (e.g., handouts, links to videos) available after each course session on Moodle.

Three examinations—two midterms and a final—will be given in this course. You should also expect to complete two class projects and associated short reports. Grading will be based on the following weights: research reports (15% for each module), two in-term examinations (20% each), a final examination (25%), and participation (5%). Each exam must be taken at its scheduled time; each assignment must be completed for class on the date it is due. Any exceptions to either expectation (e.g., due to serious illness) must be arranged with the instructors prior to an exam or paper due date. Students who require special accommodations for class or testing should contact the Coordinator of Disability Services, Andy Christensen (x4464 or anchrist@carleton.edu) to begin the process.

The course text is Psychology (8th Edition) by Gleitman, Reisberg, and Gross. In addition, you ought to purchase the paperbacks Darkness Visible by Styron and Divided Minds by Spiro Wagner and Spiro. Additional assigned readings will be made available through Moodle. Special help sessions for course projects, computer work, and exam preparation will be scheduled during the term by the course assistant, Sam Hayward (haywars@carleton.edu). We also encourage you to visit our offices to discuss psychology and course-related questions and ideas during open course office hours. We are often available at other times; please just stop by or set up a time to visit via e-mail.

Finally, Carleton's Academic Standing Committee wants you to remember the following: "All assignments, quizzes, and exams must be done on your own. Note that academic dishonesty includes not only cheating, fabrication, and plagiarism, but also includes helping other students commit acts of academic dishonesty by allowing them to obtain copies of your work. You are allowed to use the Web for reference purposes, but you may not copy material from any website or any other source without proper citations. In short, all submitted work must be your own. Cases of academic dishonesty will be dealt with strictly. Each such case will be referred to the Academic Standing Committee via the Associate Dean of Students or the Associate Dean of the College. A formal finding of responsibility can result in disciplinary sanctions ranging from a censure and a warning to permanent dismissal in the case of repeated and serious offenses. The academic penalty for a finding of responsibility can range from a grade of zero in the specific assignment to a F in this course." If you have questions about academic dishonesty or plagiarism, please don't hesitate to contact one of us.
Schedule Subject to Change
Check Moodle for Updates and Links

Topic and Reading Schedule:

M 9/14  Introduction to Psychological Science and to Major Themes.

W 9/16  Personality in the Clinical Tradition.
         Gleitman et al., Psychology, pp. 605-622.

F 9/18  Personality in the Measurement Tradition; Research Module I: Personality.
         Follow link in Moodle to Research Module I.
         DeNeve, Happy as an extraverted clam? pp. 141-144.

M 9/21  Social Behavior and Immediate Social Influence.
         Gleitman et al., Psychology, pp. 519-534.

W 9/23  Social Influences on Extended Social Behaviors.
         Gleitman et al., Psychology, pp. 534-541.

F 9/25  Obedience and the Holocaust.
         Sabini & Silver, On destroying the innocent with a clear conscience. Moralities of Everyday Life, pp. 55-87.
M 9/28  Basic Models of Learning.
   Gleitman et al., Psychology, pp. 259-289.

W 9/30  Cognitive Learning.
   Gleitman et al., Psychology, pp. 289-298.
   Duhigg, C., The power of habit, pp. 3-30.

F 10/2  Applied Learning Theory; Research Module I due.

M 10/5  Examination: Personality, Social Psychology, Learning, and Emotion.

W 10/7  Brain Structure and Functioning.
   Gleitman et al., Psychology, pp. 105-130.

F 10/9  Schizophrenia.
   Wagner &Spiro, Divided Minds, pp. 1-316.

M 10/12  Neuropsychology.
   Gleitman et al., Psychology, pp. 85-105.

W 10/14  Psychopathology.
   Gleitman et al., Psychology, pp. 635-674.

F 10/16  Accounts of Depression.
   Styron, Darkness Visible, pp. 1-84.
M 10/19  **Midterm Break.**

W 10/21 Psychotherapy and its Evaluation.
   
   Gleitman et al., *Psychology*, pp. 677-713.

F 10/23  Brain, Mind, and Self.
   

M 10/26  **Examination:** Psychopathology, Biological Psychology, and Psychotherapy.

W 10/28 Thinking and Decision-making.
   
   Gleitman et al., *Psychology*, pp. 341-375.

F 10/30  Applied Cognitive Psychology; **Research Module II: Cognition.**
   
   Ariely, *Predictably Irrational*, pp. xi-23, 75-102, 139-166.
   
   *Follow link in Moodle to Research Module II.*

M 11/2  Memory.
   
   Gleitman et al., *Psychology*, pp. 300-337.

W 11/4  Social Cognition.
   
   Gleitman et al., *Psychology*, pp. 506-519.
   
   Norenzayan & Nisbett, Culture and causal cognition, pp. 132-135.

F 11/6  Cognitive Research; **Research Module II.**
   
   Kassam, Misconceptions of memory: The Scooter Libby effect, pp. 551-552.
   
M 11/9  Sensation and Perception.


W 11/11  Intelligence.


F 11/13  Cognitive Testing and Society; Research Module II due.

   Kuncel & Hezlett, Fact and fiction in cognitive ability testing for admissions and
   hiring decisions, pp. 339-345.

M 11/16  Development and Change.

   Gleitman et al., Psychology, pp. 545-588.

W 11/18  Tentative Conclusions about Psychology.

Sat 11/21  Final Examination, 3:30-6:00: Cognitive, Developmental, and Psychology in
   General.

September 10, 2015