



**Spring 2019**  
**INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE**  
**(PSYC 101, 201)**

---

**I. COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

---

Throughout the course, the student will be exposed to the basic principles of psychology, the scientific study of behavior and mental processes.

At the end of this course the student will be able to:

1. Illustrate how the field of psychology developed by describing the historical and intellectual underpinnings of the field
2. Describe the various areas of specialization in psychology and the diverse careers they are related to
3. Explore the various stages of the scientific method in psychological research, distinguish between the different types of research and cite the major ethical issues involved in the conduct of research
4. Evaluate the shortcomings and the advantages of different research designs
5. Compare and contrast major perspectives of psychology, and explain the differences among them
6. Describe the characteristics of the human nervous system and their relationship to human behavior
7. Outline the vital processes of sensation and perception, including vision and hearing
8. Contrast the different states of human consciousness and identify the role of psychoactive substances in altering a person's own consciousness
9. Evaluate the different types of learning
10. Describe the key processes of memory, including how information gets stored, retrieved, and forgotten
11. Identify different key processes involved in human thinking and the role of language in these cognitive processes
12. Generate a comprehensive definition of human intelligence
13. Contrast theories of cognitive and socioemotional development across the lifespan
14. Evaluate classic theories of personality and contrast them with contemporary approaches to understanding personality
15. Identify aspects of social cognition and factors that influence social behavior
16. Distinguish between the various types of psychological disorders
17. Define the field of health psychology and identify the role of psychologists in promoting healthy lifestyle changes
18. Recognize and avoid plagiarism when writing a psychological report
19. Participate in an experiment conducted by the department to get acquainted first-hand with various empirical methods and research questions within the field of psychology
20. Look critically into issues of ethicality in research and academic writing, including the role of the IRB in the social sciences, as well as the APA code of ethics and standard of writing, for the psychological report that students have to submit via Turnitin.

---

## II. RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS

---

Textbook: King, Laura A., (2017), The Science of Psychology, *fourth edition*, McGraw-Hill.  
( Do not use previous editions of the book )

---

## III. GRADING CRITERIA

---

There will be three examinations. Exams I and II will consist of MCQ and short essay questions and will count for 28% each. Exam III will consist of MCQ only and will count for 26% of the final course grade. Classroom attendance will count for 4%, participation for 4%, & drop quizzes for 10 %. One of the quizzes comprises of a Case Study aimed at assessing the critical understanding of psychological disorders. You will be asked to critically reflect on a case study, conceptualizing patient's problems and symptoms based on DSM 5 disorders and suggesting treatment modalities based on understanding of the bio-psychosocial model. *Note that there are no makeups for any missed drop quizzes by the student, regardless of the reason.* The distribution of percentages will not be dependent on class norms (i.e. non-curved).

Students can also opt to receive a potential maximum of 3 points added to their final grade by participating in research studies or submitting summaries for scientific articles in psychology (typically 1 point for participating in one research study or summarizing one article). **The deadline for submitting the summaries on Turnitin are: Monday April 1<sup>st</sup>, Monday April 8<sup>th</sup>, Monday April 15<sup>th</sup> all @ 4:00 pm.** *Note that the possibility of participating in a research study or completing a summary will depend on the availability of research studies happening during that semester. For example, if only 2 research studies are advertised, then there will only be a possibility of receiving a maximum of +2.*

In cases of plagiarism, students will get -1 instead of +1. In addition, any plagiarism will be reported to the Dean's Office, which may result in disciplinary measures.

---

## IV. EXAM SCHEDULE AND INFORMATION

---

Exam I: Saturday, February 16, 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Exam II: Saturday, March 23, 4:00- 7:00 p.m.

Exam III: Tuesday April 30, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

**Orientation:** Thursday, Jan 24, 6:00 – 7:30 Hostler Auditorium

**Quiz Night:** Wednesday, March 20, 6:00 – 8:00

All exams will take place in OSB, Bliss and FEA/SRB Labs. Students are responsible for checking the seating plan posted on Moodle before the exam.

---

## V. COURSE POLICIES

---

**Attendance.** Attendance will be taken at the start of each session. A student who misses more than one-fifth of the sessions in the first twelve weeks of the semester can be dropped from

the course. Students who cannot be dropped for excessive absence will receive a grade of 40. (Undergraduate Catalogue 2018- 2019, p.155).

Students are expected to be in class 2 minutes before class-time; students who come late will be considered 'absent'. Coming late can be anywhere from 30 seconds to 30 minutes. Please do not argue about tardiness.

#### **Important Notice**

It is essential that you adhere to the classroom attendance at all times. The sessions at the beginning of the semester are as important as all sessions since important details pertaining to the syllabus are being discussed. If you miss the first couple of sessions, you are responsible to go over the syllabus on your own and to be aware of all the details in it without exception.

**Emails.** Students are expected to check their Emails on a daily basis, as formal communication on course policies, procedures, and announcements will be informed via email. We will give at least 24 hour notice for each announcement however, within this time frame it is the students' responsibility to follow up and check their AUB email.

**Academic dishonesty.** Please be aware that AUB regulations related to academic dishonesty are quite clear (see AUB webpage for details). Cheating on exams, presenting work you did not do, forging participation to any experiment, violating rules of proper academic conduct and other related matters will be dealt with according to strict AUB recommendations. Academic dishonesty may produce an automatic and irreversible fail.

**Exams.** Missing an exam will lead to a rescheduling or make up exam **only** if the student provides an adequate AUBMC medical note within one week of the absence.

(All Make up exams are composed of short essays)

Phones / smart watches should be turned off and left outside the Lab during all Exams. Any student caught with such devices will get a zero in the exam.

If a student cannot take the exam because of an essential participation in a university event (e.g. a dedication for a sports team), the instructor must be informed at least two weeks in advance of the exam day. Missing the exam for other reasons – attending social events like weddings, job interviews, and vacations – will result in a grade of 0.

Students should bring their AUB ID to the exams; they should also upload their photos on Moodle. Failure to do this will result in the deduction of one grade from their exam.

**Withdrawal.** Please observe the **April 12 withdrawal deadline** set by the Registrar's Office.

**Other.** Cellular phones and other such hand-held devices must be turned off and put away at all times during class. A student whose phone shall ring will be asked to leave the classroom. Also Students are not allowed to take a picture, film or record a student and /or a teacher without the explicit permission of the person concerned.

Power point presentations will not be placed on Moodle .

### **Important Notice**

The department reserves the right to change portions of the syllabus anytime during the semester without prior notice.

There will be some extra sessions: your instructor will assign the time & date.

---

## **VI. COURSE SCHEDULE**

---

### ***First Exam***

Chapter 1: What is Psychology?  
Chapter 2: Psychology's Scientific Method  
Chapter 3: Biological Foundations of Behavior  
Chapter 4: Sensation and Perception  
Chapter 5: States of Consciousness

### ***Second Exam***

Chapter 6: Learning  
Chapter 7: Memory  
Chapter 8: Thinking, Intelligence, and Language  
Chapter 9: Human Development  
Chapter 10: Motivation and Emotion

### ***Third Exam***

Chapter 12: Personality  
Chapter 13: Social Psychology  
Chapter 15: Psychological Disorders  
Chapter 17: Health Psychology

AUB strives to make learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers due to a disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please inform me immediately so that we can privately discuss options. In order to help establish reasonable accommodations and facilitate a smooth accommodations process, you are encouraged to contact the Accessible Education Office: [accessibility@aub.edu.lb](mailto:accessibility@aub.edu.lb); +961-1-350000, x3246; West Hall, 314'.

**“Please contact your PSYC 201/101 instructor and/or your academic advisor, as well as the Counseling Center in the Office of Student Affairs (Ext. 3196), as soon as possible to discuss options for accommodations. Those seeking accommodations must submit the Special Needs Support Request Form along with the required documentation at least two weeks before the date of the exam.”**

### ***Non-Discrimination***

AUB is committed to facilitating a campus free of all forms of discrimination including sex/gender-based harassment prohibited by Title IX. The University's non-discrimination

policy applies to, and protects, all students, faculty, and staff. If you think you have experienced discrimination or harassment, including sexual misconduct, we encourage you to tell someone promptly. If you speak to a faculty or staff member about an issue such as harassment, sexual violence, or discrimination, the information will be kept as private as possible, however, faculty and designated staff are required to bring it to the attention of the University's Title IX Coordinator. Faculty can refer you to fully confidential resources, and you can find information and contacts at [www.aub.edu.lb/titleix](http://www.aub.edu.lb/titleix) <https://www.aub.edu.lb/titleix>. To report an incident, contact the University's Title IX Coordinator Trudi Hodges at 01-350000 ext. 2514, or [titleix@aub.edu.lb](mailto:titleix@aub.edu.lb) <<mailto:titleix@aub.edu.lb>>. An anonymous report may be submitted online via EthicsPoint at [www.aub.ethicspoint.com](http://www.aub.ethicspoint.com) <https://www.aub.ethicspoint.com/>.

---

## VII. INSTRUCTORS: CONTACT INFORMATION AND OFFICE HOURS

---

Instructor	E-mail	Office Hours	Office Location
Dr. May Awaida (Coordinator)	<a href="mailto:mawaida@aub.edu.lb">mawaida@aub.edu.lb</a>	MWF 11:00 – 12:00	103 F Jesup Hall
Dr. Maral Boyadjian	<a href="mailto:mb38@aub.edu.lb">mb38@aub.edu.lb</a>	MW 4:00 –5:00	Physics
Ms. Pascale Nakhle	<a href="mailto:pn09@aub.edu.lb">pn09@aub.edu.lb</a>	TR 10:00 - 11:00	107C Jesup Hall
Ms. Lama Ghanem	<a href="mailto:lg14@aub.edu.lb">lg14@aub.edu.lb</a>	T 7:00 – 8:00	107C Jesup Hall
Ms. Sinine Nakhle	<a href="mailto:sn47@aub.edu.lb">sn47@aub.edu.lb</a>	MW 09:00 – 10:00	107 C Jesup Hall
Ms. Hala Naffah	<a href="mailto:hn41@aub.edu.lb">hn41@aub.edu.lb</a>	T 2:15 – 3:15	107C Jesup Hall
Ms. Mia Atoui	<a href="mailto:ma207@aub.edu.lb">ma207@aub.edu.lb</a>	TR 11:15 - 12:15	107C Jesup Hall
Ms. Margaret Bassil	<a href="mailto:mb74@aub.edu.lb">mb74@aub.edu.lb</a>	TR 8:30- 9:30 W 11:00 – 12:00	107C Jesup Hall

\* If you are unable to make it to your Instructors' office hours, feel free to take an appointment directly with them.