

# GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY

## Course Syllabus ~ Online

Psychology 105.503: Spring 2018 (38946)

**Instructor:** Cheryl Bryan, Ph.D.

**Office:** Arts & Sciences Bldg., Room A-113

**Office Hours:** M/W 8:00 – 8:45 a.m. & 11:45 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. (on campus), or by appointment via Web Conferencing in Learn, or Skype. You may also contact me using the following tools in Learn:

**Email:** Use the *Course Messages* tab in Learn (To start an email, click “Create Message” and then “To” to see a drop-down list in which you will see my name. ***Do Not*** send any mass emails from this area. If you want to contact the class as a whole, use General Class Questions—see below.

\*\*\*If you have a question about course material, please go to “**General Class Questions**” (under the “**Discussion**” tab) to submit your question. Using this tool allows all students to view your question & my answer—*students are encouraged to answer each other’s questions as well.*\*\*\*

If you run into any technical problems: Please contact UNM Learn at 277-0857 or toll free at 1-877-688-8817 **Email:** learn@unm.edu.

**Emergencies ONLY:** If Learn is down, and/or you have an issue that needs *immediate* attention, you can contact me using LoboMail (cbryan@unm.edu), or you can text me at 505.301.6222 after 7:00 AM and before 7:00 PM.

**Office Phone:** 505.925.8643

**CHESS Office:** 505.925.8600

**Text:** Ciccarelli, S. K., and White, J. N. (2015). *Psychology: an exploration. 3rd Edition.* NY: Pearson Publishers.

**Prerequisites and Co-requisites:** None

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

General Psychology is an introduction to major psychological theory and research—relating to you and me and everyone. It’s about what we’re made of and how we function, our similarities and differences, as well as biological, environmental, and social influences. An appreciation for cultural diversity is an integral part of this course and will be addressed in the text, audio lectures, and video segments. Audio lectures will be used both for clarifying text material and for discussing material not covered in the text. You are responsible for text material in addition to lecture material, but lecture material will be the primary focus in each of your exams.

## COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The following are the objectives for this course. Each module will have specific learning objectives listed on the Overview Page. The activities in that module (i.e.: discussions, assignments and assessments) are developed so that you can demonstrate you have met these objectives. Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

- define and recognize the components of the scientific method.
- demonstrate an understanding of the basic concepts, theories, and methodologies of psychological principles.
- apply psychological knowledge to your own behavior as well as your interactions with others.
- interpret and summarize scientific journal articles.
- demonstrate clear and effective communication skills.

## TECHNICAL SKILLS AND REQUIREMENTS

**Technical Skills:** In order to participate and succeed in this class, you will need to be able to perform the following basic technical tasks:

- Use UNM Learn (Help documentation located in the "How to Use Learn" link, which is located in the left-hand column/course menu in Learn.)
- Use Learn Email ("Course Messages") – including attaching files, opening files, downloading attachments
- Use Skype (for online meetings with Instructor)
- Copy and paste within applications including Microsoft Office
- Open a hyperlink (click on a hyperlink to get to a website or online resource)
- Use Microsoft Office applications (*If you are working on an Apple device, you will need to translate all documents to a MS Word format.*)
  - Create, download, update, save and upload MS Word documents
  - Download, change view, as well as print and/or save MS PowerPoint presentations
  - Create, download, update, save and upload PDF files

**Technical Requirements:** For UNM Learn Technical Support: (505) 277-0857 (24/7) or use the "Create a Support Ticket" link in your course.

### Computer

- A high-speed Internet connection is highly recommended.
- Supported browsers include: Internet Explorer, Firefox, and Safari. Detailed Supported Browsers and Operating Systems: <http://online.unm.edu/help/learn/students/>
- Any computer capable of running a recently updated web browser should be sufficient to access your online course. However, bear in mind that processor speed, amount of RAM and Internet connection speed can **greatly** affect performance. Many locations offer free high-speed Internet access including **UNM's Computer Pods**.
- For using the Kaltura Media Tools inside Learn, be sure you have downloaded and installed the latest version of **Java**, **Flash**, and **Mozilla Firefox**. They may not come preloaded.
- Microsoft Office products are available free for all UNM students (more information on the UNM IT Software Distribution and Downloads page: <http://it.unm.edu/software/index.html>)

**Tracking Course Activity:** UNM Learn automatically records all students' activities including: your first and last access to the course, the pages you have accessed, the number of discussion messages you have read and sent, discussion text, and posted discussion topics. This data can be accessed by the instructor to evaluate class participation and to identify students having difficulty.

## COURSE STRUCTURE AND REQUIREMENTS

**Instructor Response Time:** Within Learn, I routinely check for student correspondence and respond within 24 hours (Mon - Thurs) and 48 hours (Fri - Sun). I check Learn email much more often than LoboMail, so for the quickest response use Learn "Course Messages" to email me for this course regarding personal course issues. If Learn is unavailable, and you must reach me immediately, you can text me at 505.301.6222. (Be sure to state your name and the course you are texting about in the message.) If you email me through LoboMail, please note that it is UNM policy to not accept email from non-UNM accounts. Also, be sure to put something in the subject line; otherwise, I might not read it thinking it is SPAM. *Again, I check Course Messages in Learn much more often than LoboMail, so if you need a timely response, email me through Course Messages in Learn.*

## COURSE STRUCTURE AND REQUIREMENTS (cont.)

### **Procedures for Completing Coursework:**

- All assignments/assessments open and close on specific dates at specific times, and will NOT be reopened after they close—see Course Schedule for assignment dates/times.
- Make-up Exam (not quizzes): Generally speaking, there are NO make-up exams (for missed exams) in this course; however, occasionally there are legitimate reasons for missing an exam. Please let me know, either in advance or within 24 hours of the exam, if you are unable to take an exam. Depending on circumstances, you may be allowed to make up the exam—however, it will be a different exam than originally posted on Learn; it may be an essay exam. If you become extremely sick or encounter some other emergency on the day of the exam, you will need to provide some verification (e.g., a note from your physician, an accident report, etc.).
- All work in this course needs to be submitted within Learn. If you have difficulty using a tool to complete work, use the “Create a Support Ticket” link in the Course Menu immediately and notify me (your instructor) as well.

### **ASSIGNMENTS—Evaluation of your mastering course content**

#### **Plagiarism Tutorial:** (10 points: apx. 3% of your final grade)

The University of Indiana has developed a tutorial to help students understand plagiarism. This on-line tutorial, which takes approximately 1-2 hours, is required for this course, and can be located at <https://www.indiana.edu/~academy/firstPrinciples/index.html>. You will need to submit your unique confirmation certificate to receive credit for taking the tutorial.

#### **Quizzes:** (12 x 5 = 60 points: apx.19% of your final grade)

There are 12 quizzes (one per chapter), which open at designated times in Learn (see schedule)—*each quiz is open for one week, opening Monday mornings at 12:01 a.m., and closing Sundays at 11:59 p.m.* You are allowed to take each quiz as often as needed/wanted (while open) with your highest score counting toward your grade. Each quiz has 10 questions and is worth a total of five (5) points each. Quizzes CANNOT be made up if missed, and will not be opened at a later date. You will have 15 minutes to complete each 10-question quiz. Within a chapter no two quizzes are the same, and exam questions will *not* be taken from the quiz questions. All quiz questions are taken from the textbook.

#### **Discussions:** (6 x 10 = 60 points: apx. 19% of your final grade)

You will complete six (6) discussions: Five (5) are related to what was learned in a particular segment, what needs further explanation/study, and how you can apply chapter information to your life. Additionally, there is one (1) discussion at the beginning of class, which is a “get to know your classmates” discussion. This assignment is titled *Introduction Discussion*. For complete details of each assignment go to the Discussion tab in the far left-hand column in Learn.

#### **Exams: 150 points** (2 of the first 3 exams + final = 150 points: apx. 49% of your final grade)

Four examinations will be given covering material presented in the *lectures, text, and videos*. All of the examinations are noncumulative—except the final exam. Exams will consist of objective questions in a multiple-choice format. You will have 60 minutes to take the exam, although each is designed to require only 50 minutes. Each exam is worth 50 points (50 questions) and worth 15.33% of your final grade in this class.

## ASSIGNMENTS—Evaluation of your mastering course content (cont.)

### **Research Paper:** (1 worth 30 points: 10% of your final grade)

This paper will familiarize you with using professional journals in exploring the field of psychology. For each paper, you must first find a topic **within the field of psychology** that interests you and for which you can find three (3) *peer-reviewed* journal articles. Each article should present *original* research data (not just a discussion, opinion, review, or theoretical paper), and all articles should directly relate to the topic you have chosen. When writing the paper, you should employ the following format:

- 1) **Introduction:** State the topic you chose and why you were interested in it.
- 2) **Research:** Summarize in your own words the findings of each of the studies that you read. What is the purpose of each study? What was learned in each study? Be sure to go beyond what is contained in the abstract alone (i.e., don't just review the abstracts).
- 3) **Evaluation:** In discussing each study, give your own evaluation. How good was each study? Why? Do you agree with the conclusions drawn by the authors? Why or why not? Could the findings be explained in another way?
- 4) **Summary:** After presenting the individual studies, tie them together. What do they have in common? Do their findings fit together in any way? What have you learned about the topic you chose?

**Each paper must follow APA formatting.** Here is a reference site for APA formatting (no need to write an abstract): <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>. Your paper must be typewritten and not exceed 5 double-spaced pages. Submit under the Assignments tab in Learn. Additionally, copy the abstract (summary paragraph at the beginning of each journal article) for each of the three (3) articles and attach these copies with your paper—you can cut-and-paste the abstracts on pages *after* the Reference page. **Please note:** Mid-term (before Spring Break) you will choose and submit the three (3) journal articles that you have chosen to use for your research paper. See Course Schedule for due dates

### **EXTRA CREDIT OPTIONS** (*Optional*, worth up to 5 points)

You may earn **up to a total of 5 extra credit points** that count toward your final point total for the semester. These are simply added to your total points earned from your exams to determine your final letter grade. You have three options for earning bonus points: (1) research participation, *or* (2) a research movie paper, *or* (3) a research paper. (*The research papers will be submitted in Learn under the Assignments tab.*) The primary objective for research participation and the research paper is to allow you additional exposure to methodological issues relevant to psychology research. **All extra credit is due no later than midnight on Friday, May 4, to receive credit.** Extra credit will not be accepted after this date.

**Extra Credit Option 1: Research Participation.** You may participate in studies being run in the psychology department on Main Campus. Different studies are worth different numbers of bonus points, depending on how long the study is and how involved it is. You may earn a total of 5 bonus points from participating in research studies. You will receive an e-mail at the beginning of the semester that will give you sign-on instructions for the Psychology Research (SONA) website.

**Extra Credit Option 2: Research Movie Paper.** Movie Reviews (worth 5 points total—NOT 5 points for each movie, and you must report on 2 movies to get credit). Watch 2 of the movies listed below. Connect 5 scenes in EACH movie with 5 topics that you have learned in this class. No need to write an essay, just relate the concepts/theories to scenes in each movie—a paragraph per concept/theory. Write enough to show that you understand the topic/concept/theory and note the chapter for which it relates. Enjoy! **Movie choices:** To be determined by student suggestions. Please submit the assignment either in the assignment box or as an attachment in Learn.

**Extra Credit Option 3: Research Paper.** Complete a second Research Paper—please see above area titled Research Paper for paper details.

## GRADING

Although you are required to take four exams in this class, only **three** will count toward your final grade. *The final (4<sup>th</sup>) exam is mandatory*, and of the *first three exams your lowest grade will be dropped*. Therefore, your final grade will consist of your two (2) best exam scores from the first three (3) exams + your score from the final exam + quizzes + writing assignments. Make-up essay exams will also be worth 50 points. Grades will not be curved.

### Grading Scale:

<u>Your Total Points</u>	<u>Percentage: Total</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
304-310	98-100	A+
279-303	90-97.9	A
273-278	88-89.9	B+
248-272	80-87.9	B
242-249	78-79.9	C+
217-241	70-77.9	C
211-216	68-69.9	D+
186-210	60-67.9	D
≤ 185	≤ 59.9	F

### Grading Procedures

- For each assignment/assessment you will be graded on your knowledge of psychological theory and research. Content will depend on learning objectives for the chapter being studied.
- For quizzes and exams, you will have immediate feedback of your score once you submit the assessment.
- For all written assignments, grades will be posted (with comments) within one week of the due date. For discussions, the due date is for the complete assignment—always a Sunday at 11:59 PM—so your grade will be posted by 11:59 PM that following Sunday.
- It is your responsibility to check your “My Grades” page on Learn to ensure your points are posted and to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. (Please note that the total points showing in MyGrades may not be correct, as one exam score is dropped.) You have one week after points have been posted to contact me. Grades may not be changed if you fail to contact me within one week from the posting of the score . . . so check your grades often and contact me if something looks wrong.

## EXPECTATIONS FOR PARTICIPATION

**Netiquette:** Your participation is expected to be academic and constructive. It is important to recognize that each of us may have a different point of view. It is acceptable to debate a topic using facts and citations to support your stance or viewpoint; however, you should conduct your debate in a professional tone. Here is the link to UNM's Discussion and Blog Netiquette policy (also located in Learn under the Introduction tab): <http://online.unm.edu/help/learn/students/pdf/discussion-netiquette.pdf>.

## EXPECTATIONS FOR PARTICIPATION (cont.)

### Students are expected to:

- spend 8-10 hours per week on this course
- learn how to navigate in Learn
- communicate with one another in discussions
- keep abreast of course announcements
- use the Learn course email instead of LoboMail email
- keep instructor informed of class related problems, or problems that may prevent you from full participation
- address technical problems immediately
- observe course netiquette at all times

## COURSE POLICY

**Accommodation of Learning Disabilities/Special Needs:** If you have a learning disability or special needs that would impact your ability to master the material and/or take the exams or complete assignments as described above, please contact the Accessibility Resource Center (277-3506) <http://as2.unm.edu/>; they will provide me with a letter stating your special needs to succeed in this course. For Valencia: <http://valencia.unm.edu/students/advisement-and-counseling/equal-access-services.html>.

**Withdrawal:** In accordance with University regulations, students withdrawing after the deadline to withdraw without an assigned grade, are assigned a grade of “W.” (For UNM scheduled deadlines, check with the Office of the Registrar -- <http://schedule.unm.edu/>)

**Incomplete:** Under special circumstances, a grade of Incomplete (I) can be granted. Contact me as soon as possible to arrange this, and provide me with written documentation of why the course could not be completed. ***Please Note*** “Incomplete grades must be resolved no later than one year (twelve months) from the published end day of the semester in which the grade was assigned. Incomplete grades not resolved within the time frame stated in this policy will be converted automatically to an IF (failing) grade. The student is responsible for making arrangements with the instructor for resolving an incomplete grade” (<http://dos.unm.edu/faq.html#section-1-item-11>).

**Academic Integrity:** The University of New Mexico believes that academic honesty is a foundation principle for personal and academic development. All University policies regarding academic honesty apply to this course. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating or copying, plagiarism (claiming credit for the words or works of another from any type of source such as print, Internet or electronic database, or failing to cite the source), fabricating information or citations, facilitating acts of academic dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students. The University’s full statement on academic honesty and the consequences for failure to comply is available in the college catalog and in the *Pathfinder*.

**Copyright Issues:** All materials in this course fall under copyright laws and should not be downloaded, distributed, or used by students for any purpose outside this course.

## COURSE POLICY (cont.)

**Please Note:** In an effort to meet obligations under Title IX, UNM faculty, Teaching Assistants, and Graduate Assistants are considered “responsible employees” by the Department of Education (see p. 15 - <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/qa-201404-title-ix.pdf>). This designation requires that any report of gender discrimination which includes sexual harassment, sexual misconduct and sexual violence made to a faculty member, TA, or GA must be reported to the Title IX Coordinator at the Office of Equal Opportunity ([oeo.unm.edu](http://oeo.unm.edu)). For more information on the campus policy regarding sexual misconduct, see: <https://policy.unm.edu/university-policies/2000/2740.html>

## HOW TO SUCCEED IN PSYCH 105:

- Review and complete assignments in the START HERE module.
- Read textbook chapter(s) associated with each lecture *before* you listen to the lecture.
- Use PowerPoint slides to take notes while reading the textbook and listening to class lecture . . . **they are your study guides.**
- Participate in a study group! This is a tool that A students consistently employ—let me know and I can set up online Web Conferencing for student collaboration.
- Trade contact information with one or two students whom you feel comfortable trading this information, so, if you miss a module, you can get notes from a classmate.
- Take advantage of the Extra Credit opportunity!
- Come to office hours (or make an appointment to meet with me either in-person or online via Skype) if you need to discuss anything pertaining to this course.
- Utilize student support services. If you need assistance finding the support you want, please meet with me—I am here to help you succeed in this course.
  - Also, here is a link: <http://valencia.unm.edu/campus-resources/>
- No one succeeds in a vacuum! Act smart . . . ask for help when you need/want it.

**COURSE SCHEDULE**  
**Psy 105-503 – Online**  
**Spring 2018**

**Please note:**

1. Each week will open on a Monday & close on the following Sunday (regardless of UNM holidays) unless otherwise noted below. Exams are NOT open on Sundays.
2. All assignments are due on the date noted below at 11:59 PM
3. Quizzes open and close the week corresponding with the Chapter.
4. Discussions: Initial post is always due on a Thursday, and two (2) responses to other students' posts are always due on a Sunday—discussion dates noted below.
5. Exams are open on the dates noted below, which are always on a **Friday and Saturday**.

<u>Week/Dates</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Week 1: Jan 15-21	Review Syllabus View Instructor “Welcome Video” <i>Introduction Discussion</i> : Open throughout course, and, at the same time, your initial & 2 response posts are <b>due</b> Sunday, January 28 by 11:59 PM <i>Plagiarism Tutorial</i> Intro: Psychology in Action Chapter 1 The science of Psychology <i>Quiz-Chapter 1</i>
Week 2: Jan 22-28	Chapter 2: The Biological Perspective <i>Quiz-Chapter 2</i> <i>Introduction Discussion due</i> Sunday, January 28 by 11:59 PM
Week 3: Jan 29-Feb 4	Chapter 3 Sensation and Perception <i>Quiz-Chapter 3</i>
<b>Week 4: Feb 5-11</b>	<b>EXAM 1: CHAPTERS 1, 2, and 3—Opens <u>Friday</u>, Feb 9 at 12:01 AM Closes <u>Saturday</u>, Feb 10 at 11:59 PM</b>
Week 5: Feb 12-18	Chapter 5: Learning (we skip Chapter 4) <i>Quiz-Chapter 5</i> <b>Discussion 1</b> : Initial post due Thursday & two responses to other students posts due Sunday
Week 6: Feb 19-25	Chapter 6: Memory <i>Quiz-Chapter 6</i> <b>Discussion 2</b> : Initial post due Thursday & two responses to other students posts due Sunday
Week 7: Feb 26-Mar 4	Chapter 7: Cognition: Thinking, Intelligence, and Language <i>Quiz-Chapter 7</i>
<b>Week 8: Mar 5-11</b>	<b>EXAM 2: CHAPTERS 5, 6, and 7—Opens <u>Friday</u>, March 9 at 12:01 AM Closes <u>Saturday</u>, March 10 at 11:59 PM</b>



**COURSE SCHEDULE (cont.)**  
**Psy 105-503 – Online**  
**Spring 2018**

**Week 9: Mar 12-18** **Spring Break ~ No Class**  
**(Chapter 8 module will open for those of you who want to work ahead)**

Week 10: Mar 19-25 Chapter 8: Development Across the Life Span  
*Quiz-Chapter 8*  
**Discussion 3:** Initial post due Thursday &  
two responses to other students posts due Sunday

Week 11: Mar 26-Apr 1 Chapter 9: Motivation, Stress, and Emotion  
*Quiz-Chapter 9*  
**Discussion 4:** Initial post due Thursday &  
two responses to other students posts due Sunday

Week 12: Apr 2-8 Chapter 11: Theories of Personality  
*Quiz-Chapter 11*  
**Discussion 5:** Initial post due Thursday &  
two responses to other students posts due Sunday

**Week 13: Apr 9-15 EXAM 3: CHAPTERS 8, 9, & 11—Opens Friday, April 13 at 12:01 AM**  
**Closes Saturday, April 14 at 11:59 PM**

Week 14: Apr 16-22 Chapter 10: Social Psychology  
*Quiz-Chapter 10*  
*Journal Assignment (due by Sunday, April 22, 11:59 PM)*

Week 15: Apr 23-29 Chapter 12: Psychological Disorders  
*Quiz-Chapter 12*  
*Intriguing Discussion (due by Sunday, April 29, 11:59 PM)*

Week 16: Apr 30-May 6 Chapter 13: Psychological Therapies  
*Quiz-Chapter 13*  
**EXAM 4: Cumulative, including Chapters 10, 12, and 13**  
**Opens Friday, May 4 at 12:01 AM**  
**Closes Saturday, May 5 at 11:59 PM**  
*See Common Key Terms for Final—use as study guide*

**Extra Credit Assignment: Closes Friday (May 4) at 11:59 p.m.**  
**(Research credit must be completed by Friday, May 4 at 5:00 p.m.)**