INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY
Psychology 301, Unique 43585
Spring 2011 TuTh 9:30 – 10:45 NOA 1.124

Instructor: James E. Spivey, Ph.D. SEA 5.104 Phone: 475-6836
E-mail: spivey@psy.utexas.edu
Office Hours: MWF 12:00 – 12:45, Th 8:30 - 9:00, or by appointment

Teaching Assistant: Emily Luther: eluther@mail.utexas.edu
Office Hours: To Be Announced by TA

Text: Myers, D. G. (2011) EXPLORING PSYCHOLOGY (8th ed.). New York: Worth.

Course Objectives: Students will explore the diverse interests of modern psychology along with the research findings and competing theories that guide scholarship and service in the field of psychology.

Prerequisites: A passing score on the reading section of the TASP test.

Attendance: Roll will be taken at each class meeting. Note that a great deal of the course material is not in written form and must be acquired through class attendance. Attendance at every lecture is required.

Course Requirements and Grading Procedure: The course grade will be based on three "hour" examinations, each covering about one-third of the course material, attendance and an optional final exam. The final exam will be divided into three sections, each representing one-third of the class material. A student may choose not to take the final exam and to have his/her exam grades determined by the hour exams.

A student may take one section of the final exam to improve the grade earned on an hour exam plus any section needed to make up for an excused absence (e.g., illness or university-sponsored trip). A student with an unexcused absence for an hour exam may take that section of the final to improve the zero grade, but the hour exam zero is averaged with, not replaced by, the final exam section score. This latter student may also take any section needed to make up for an excused absence.

The final exam section score will be compared with the corresponding hour exam score, and the higher of the two scores will be recorded as the hour exam score (except for those with an unexcused absence). There will be no make-up for the final exam except in the most extreme cases such as hospitalization. If you wish to replace an hour exam score with the final exam score, DO NOT MISS THE FINAL EXAM!

All Psychology 301 students are required to serve as subjects in research being conducted in the Psychology Department or to write a research paper. This requirement will be discussed during the initial meeting of the class.

Grade Scale:

Percent	Letter Grade	Points
92-100	A	231-252
90-91	A-	226-230
88-89	B+	221-225
82-87	B	206-220
80-81	B-	201-205
78-79	C+	196-200
72-77	C	181-195
70-71	C-	176-180
68-69	D+	171-175
62-67	D	155-170
60-61	D-	150-154
0-59	F	0-149

Assignments and Exam Schedule
Psychology 301, Spring 2011

Date	Text Chapters, Exams
Jan 18, 20	Orientation, 1
Jan 25	1, 2
Jan 27, Feb 1	2 , 4
Feb 3	4, 5
Feb 8	6
Feb 10	3
Feb 15	EXAM 1 – Course Material Jan 18 – Feb 10
Feb 17	7
Feb 22	7
Feb 24	8
Mar 1	8
Mar 3	9
Mar 8	9, 10
Mar 10	10
Mar 15, 17	S P R I N G B R E A K
Mar 22	10, 11
Mar 24	11
March 29	EXAM 2 – Course Material Feb 17 – Mar 24
March 31	Statistics Appendix
Apr 5, 7	12
Apr 12, 14	13
Apr 19, 21	14
Apr 26, 28	15
May 3	EXAM 3 – Course Material March 31 – Apr 28
May 5	Discuss Final Exam
Saturday, May 14, 2011 7:00 – 10:00 pm	EXAM 4 (FINAL EXAM) - All Course Material

LOCATION OF FINAL EXAM: To be determined by the University one month prior to finals. At that time, the location will be announced in class. It also will be available on line.

Students with Disabilities: The University of Texas provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact the office of the Dean of Students at 471-6259, 471-4641 TTY.

ABSENCE POLICY
PSYCHOLOGY 301 – SPIVEY
Unique Number: 43585
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Examination Absence

Absence from an examination is a very serious matter and will result in a grade of zero for the exam if the student's absence has not been excused by the instructor. Do not contact the TA concerning exam absences. You must contact the instructor, Dr. Spivey.

Hour Exams.

If at all possible, requests to be excused from an hour examination should be filed with the instructor prior to the examination. If a student is unable to file such a request prior to the exam (e.g., the student is in the hospital), the requisite medical excuse, signed by a physician or a mental health professional, will be due no more than three class days after the exam. I would expect a phone call or an E-mail even prior to that.

If the student's absence is excused by the instructor as described above, the missed hour exam may be made up as indicated in the syllabus. Note that the make-up policy discussed in the syllabus is only for those who take the original exam and for those whose absence from the exam is excused by the instructor. If the absence from an exam has not been excused by Dr. Spivey, the exam cannot be made up and a grade of zero will be permanently assigned for that exam.

Final Exams.

Absence from the final examination will NOT be excused except in the rarest case. Note that the final examination will be given 7:00 – 10:00 pm, Saturday, May 14. The place of the exam will be determined later in the semester by U.T. Admin, and the location will be announced in class. Once grades are turned in, on the day following the final, grades cannot be changed except in the case of a computational error. No make-up can be scheduled once grades are turned in, regardless of the excuse. If a student encounters a severe emergency medical problem, the request for an excused absence must be filed with the instructor by the day of the exam by the student or another person acting for the hospitalized student.

Religious Holidays

Students seeking an excused absence for the observance of a religious holy day must follow the policy stated in this paragraph. Notification must be made IN WRITING during the first two weeks of the term/semester. If the absence is to occur during the first two weeks of the semester or term, the notification must be given on the first class day. The notification, IN WRITING, must be delivered personally to the instructor. The notification then must be signed and dated by the instructor. Alternatively, the notification may be sent by certified mail, with a return receipt request, so that the notification reaches the instructor by the deadline indicated above.

LECTURE ATTENDANCE POLICY
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Lecture attendance is required. This policy is in place to help students perform at their best. A great deal of the course material is not in the text, and students that do not attend lectures do not do well in this course.

The matrix below indicates the points available for attendance. Note that exams and holidays do not count toward the total of 26 attendance days. This total is based only on lectures.

Number of Lectures Attended	Unexcused Absences	Earned Points
23 to 26	0 - 3	12
21 to 22	4 - 5	6
0 to 20	6 or more	0

Excused Absence: Religious Holidays – Please see Course Absence Policy for Exams and Assignments on the reverse side of this page.

Excused Absence: Medical – A student will be granted an excused absence on medical grounds only if s/he provides a medical excuse, signed by a physician or mental health professional. This excuse must be delivered to Dr. Spivey within three days of the absence unless the student is in the hospital. An email or a phone call prior to that would be expected.

Excused Absence: University Service – A student representing The University of Texas will be provided with an excuse signed by a university official. That excuse should be delivered to Dr. Spivey in advance of the absence.

Personal Reasons: Attendance at a wedding or another personal event does not constitute appropriate grounds for an excused absence.

Allowed Unexcused Absences: After reading the above, it should be obvious that a student should save the allowable cuts for those days when s/he is not feeling quite well but cannot obtain a physician/s excuse or for those days when s/he wishes to be absent for personal reasons.