Intro To Psychology

PY 101 Section 001

Spring 2014, Lecture

Ami Bryant

Karolina Zakoscielna

Prerequisites
UA Course Catalog Prerequisites
No prerequisites or none listed.

Course Description
UA Course Catalog Information

Basic principles of psychology.

Core Designations:
Social and Behavioral Sciences

This course is designed to acquaint you with the scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. Throughout the course, it will become evident that there are basic characteristics shared by all humans. There are also some aspects of experience that are shaped by social institutions and culture. Since the field of psychology is so broad, this course will provide you with a basic introduction to several core topics. These include the origins of the scientific study of psychology, research methodology, the biological bases of behavior, human development, thinking and intelligence, attention and memory, emotion and motivation, gender and sexuality, learning, social attitudes and behavior, consciousness, personality, and psychological disorders. Unfortunately, because psychology is such a vast field, we will not be able to explore these topics in great detail; however, the course content should provide you with a basic foundation to understand the fundamentals of psychology. Course material will introduce you to the scientific method applied to humans. This course does not focus on the methodology or professional skills associated with the study of psychology.

Student Learning Outcomes

General Learning Outcomes:

1. Be familiar with the key concepts, principles, and theories of psychology.
2. Develop and refine both writing and critical thinking skills.

**Specific Learning Outcomes:** By the end of this course, you should:

1. Understand that psychology is an empirical science.
2. Comprehend the biopsychosocial model and that almost all phenomena are caused by a complex interaction of factors, and that rarely is there just one simple cause of an effect.
3. Recognize the multiple influences that psychology has on human thought and behavior.
4. Be able to apply the basic principles of psychology to your personal and professional life.

**Required Texts**

UA Supply Store Textbook Information

- GAZZANIGA / PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE *(Required)*
- GAZZANIGA (RENTAL) / (RENTAL) PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE *(RENTAL)*

**Emergency Contact Information**

UA's primary communication tool for sending out information is through its web site at [www.ua.edu](http://www.ua.edu). In the event of an emergency, students should consult this site for further directions. Additional course information will be posted using Blackboard Learn.

**Severe Weather Guidelines**

The guiding principle at The University of Alabama is to promote the personal safety of our students, faculty and staff during severe weather events. It is impossible to develop policies which anticipate every weather-related emergency. These guidelines are intended to provide additional assistance for responding to severe weather on campus.

UA is a residential campus with many students living on or near campus. In general classes will remain in session until the National Weather Service issues safety warnings for the city of Tuscaloosa. Clearly, some students and faculty commute from adjacent counties. These counties may experience weather related problems not encountered in Tuscaloosa. Individuals should follow the advice of the National Weather Service for that area taking the necessary precautions to ensure personal safety. Whenever the National Weather Service and the Emergency Management Agency issue a warning, people in the path of the storm (tornado or severe thunderstorm) should take immediate life saving actions.

When West Alabama is under a severe weather advisory, conditions can change rapidly. It is imperative to get to where you can receive information from the National Weather Service and to follow the instructions provided. Personal safety should dictate the actions that faculty, staff and students take.

The Office of University Relations will disseminate the latest information regarding conditions on campus in the following ways:

- Weather advisory posted on the UA homepage
- Weather advisory sent out through UA Alerts to faculty, staff and students
- Weather advisory broadcast over WVUA at 90.7 FM
- Weather advisory broadcast over Alabama Public Radio (WUAL) at 91.5 FM
- Weather advisory broadcast over WVUA-TV/WUOA-TV, and on the website at http://wvuatv.com/content/weather. WVUA-TV Home Team Weather provides a free service you can subscribe to which allows you to receive weather warnings for Tuscaloosa via e-mail or cell phone. Check http://wvuatv.com/content/free-email-weather-alerts for more details and to sign up for weather alerts.

In the case of a tornado warning (tornado has been sighted or detected by radar; sirens activated), all university activities are automatically suspended, including all classes and laboratories. If you are in a building, please move immediately to the lowest level and toward the center of the building away from windows (interior classrooms, offices, or corridors) and remain there until the tornado warning has expired. Classes in session when the tornado warning is issued can resume immediately after the warning has expired at the discretion of the instructor. Classes that have not yet begun will resume 30 minutes after the tornado warning has expired provided at least half of the class period remains.

**Disability Statement**

If you are registered with the Office of Disability Services, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible to discuss any course accommodations that may be necessary.

If you have a disability, but have not contacted the Office of Disability Services, please call (205) 348-4285 (Voice) or (205) 348-3081 (TTY) or visit 133-B Martha Parham Hall East to register for services. Students who may need course adaptations because of a disability are welcome to make an appointment to see me during office hours. Students with disabilities must be registered with the Office of Disability Services, 133-B Martha Parham Hall East, before receiving academic adjustments.

**Policy on Academic Misconduct**

All students in attendance at The University of Alabama are expected to be honorable and to observe standards of conduct appropriate to a community of scholars. The University of Alabama expects from its students a higher standard of conduct than the minimum required to avoid discipline. At the beginning of each semester and on examinations and projects, the professor, department, or division may require that each student sign the following Academic Honor Pledge: “I promise or affirm that I will not at any time be involved with cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, or misrepresentation while enrolled as a student at The University of Alabama. I have read the Academic Honor Code, which explains disciplinary procedure resulting from the aforementioned. I understand that violation of this code will result in penalties as severe as indefinite suspension from the University.”

See the Code of Student Conduct for more information.