



PSYC 150  
Foundational Issues in Psychology  
MWF 8:00-8:50  
Clough 114

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Office hours: TTH 9-11AM  
& By Appointment

**Required Text:**

Tavris, C. & Wade, C. (2001). Psychology in Perspective, 3rd Edition. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice-Hall, Inc.

**EXAMS:** Exams are designed to test your ability to apply the knowledge you have learned and will be a combination of multiple choice and short answer/essay questions.

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:** Explicit details concerning honor code violations are listed in your college handbook. Honor code violations will not be tolerated and will be reported immediately to the appropriate authority. Please review the Rhodes College academic dishonesty policies. Since you will be required to submit written reports for this course, pay special attention to the section on plagiarism.

**ASSIGNMENTS:** The course has been divided into six sections that cover a major psychological perspective. Each section is divided into two chapters. For each chapter, a supplemental reading(s) has(have) been assigned. These are seminal journal articles that have influenced and/or advanced a field of psychology that we will discuss in that chapter. For example, Bouchard, et al. (1990) discuss the results of a massive twin study which will be discussed in Chapter 3 as we examine the influence of genetics on behavior. These articles are on reserve in the library. Your task is to obtain and read each of these articles by the first class period scheduled for that chapter. You will also be required to write a short report for some of these papers, which will also be due at the beginning of the first class period scheduled for that chapter. For example, you should obtain and read Bouchard, et al. (1990) by 9/8. If you choose to write a report for this article, it would also be due on 9/8. For Section I of the course (Introduction to Psychology) there is a mandatory assignment due on 9/2. For all other sections (II-VI), chose one article from that section to write-up. In most cases, you will have several articles to choose from within a given section. Choosing an article that is interesting to you will make this task more enjoyable. Therefore, you will be submitting one mandatory assignment and five article reports. This is a total of 6 submissions each worth 20 points of which I will count the best 5. Note: these submissions will count as a quarter of your final grade – so take them seriously!

**ARTICLE REPORTS:** Your reports should include the following information:

- What are the hypotheses being tested in the study?
- Were interesting or unique methodology utilized?
- What are the main results of the study?
- Why is this study so important? What are the implications of these results? How do you think this study has furthered our understanding of this field of psychology? What are your thoughts about this study?



Your reports should be concise. Scientific writing should state the important information without being verbose or adding superfluous information. Please try to follow this rule. Part of your task is to provide me with the information I have requested in one single-spaced page of text. This is harder than you think. Points will be taken off for not including important information. For some articles, you should focus on the methodology. For other articles, how the field was advanced by the results of the study are more important. In other words, use the one page of text space wisely.

GRADING:	Exam 1	100 points
	Exam 2	100 points
	Exam 3	100 points
	<u>Write-ups/Assignments</u>	<u>100 points (20 points each)</u>
	Total	400 points

### \*TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

			Additional Readings/Assignments
<b>I Introduction to Psychology</b>			
8/25 - 8/27	Chapter 1	Introduction & Organization	
8/30 - 9/2	Chapter 2	Research Methods	Assignment - Bad statistics
<b>II Biological Perspective</b>			
9/8 - 9/13	Chapter 3	Gene & Behavior	Bouchard, et al
9/15 - 9/22	Chapter 4	Psychophysiology	Rosenzweig, et al.; Hobson & McCarley
9/24	Catch-up/Review		
<b>9/27</b>	<b>Exam I</b>		
<b>III Learning Perspective</b>			
9/29 - 10/4	Chapter 5	Behavioral Learning	Watson & Rayner; Skinner
10/6 - 10/11	Chapter 6	Social & Cognitive Learning	Bandura, et al.
<b>IV Cognitive Perspective</b>			
10/13 - 10/20	Chapter 7	Thinking & Reasoning	Festinger & Carlsmith
10/22 - 10/27	Chapter 8	Memory	Loftus
10/29	Catch-up/Review		
<b>11/1</b>	<b>Exam II</b>		
<b>V Sociocultural Perspective</b>			
11/3 - 11/8	Chapter 9	Social Influences	Milgram; Darley & Latane
11/10 - 11/15	Chapter 10	Cultural Influences	Triandis, et al.
<b>VI Psychodynamic &amp; Clinical Perspective</b>			
11/17 - 11/22	Chapter 11	Psychodynamic Perspective	
11/29 - 12/3	Chapter 12	The Whole Elephant	Rosenhan; Smith & Glass
12/6 - 12/8	Catch-up/Review		
<b>12/10 @ 1pm</b>	<b>Exam III</b>		

**RESEARCH PARTICIPATION:** All introductory psychology students are obligated to participate in 3 hours of campus research. You must fulfill this requirement in order to pass this class. Instructions and further information are included on a separate handout. You must return to me the signed sheets that acknowledge your research participation. A cautionary note: there will be a window of opportunity for signing-up for research.