



National Taiwan University of Science and Technology

2016 Summer Program

PSY 101 Introduction to Psychology

Course Outline

Course Code: PSY 101

Instructor: David Moreau

Home Institution: Princeton University

Office Hours: TBA and by appointment

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Class Hours: According to the regulations of Minister of Education, R.O.C, 18 class hours could be counted as 1 academic credit in all universities in Taiwan. This course will have 72 class hours, including 40 lecture hours, professor 10 office hours, 10-hour TA discussion sessions, 2-hour review sessions, 10-hour extra classes.

Course Description:

Introduction to Psychology will provide students with an overview of the current trends and body of knowledge in Psychology, including basics of the developmental, cognitive, social and clinical fields.

Course Objectives:

The main course goal is to allow students to reach a comprehensive understanding of the issues and methods in Psychology, in order to decide whether to pursue studies in the field. In the process of reaching this goal, our objectives are that each student will:

Become familiar with current scientific theories and research in the major topic areas of Psychology;



Discover the personal relevance of course material in their everyday and professional lives, in order to make fully-informed decisions;

Develop the skills necessary to evaluate and think critically about information concerning psychological phenomena obtained from research, the general public, and the media;

Be well prepared for advanced courses in Psychology.

Required Textbooks

Several readings will be required throughout the course, either to prepare for class or to complete an assignment. All materials will be posted online to provide a free and easy access to everyone.

Grading & Evaluation:

Assignments (20%) – Midterm exam (30%) – Final exam (50%)

Intermediary assignments will be posted throughout the course, to help students assess their needs and to ensure that all the important topics are well understood. Assignments are also an opportunity for students to ask questions concerning unclear notions, as the main objective is not to grade but to help everyone reach an optimal level of comprehension.

Midterm and final exams will target all topics previously covered in class. Lecture notes and assignments are important to succeed in the midterm and final exams, yet some questions will be specifically intended to stimulate students' critical thinking.

Attendance is extremely important for success in this class. It is expected that each student will commit fully to the assignments and readings required. Exams will cover the required texts as well as material presented or discussed in class.

Course Schedule:

Week 1:

Session 1: Course introduction – Syllabus



Session 2: Developmental stages 1

Session 3: Developmental stages 2

Week 2:

Session 1: Learning processes

Session 2: Memory systems

Session 3: Cognition & reasoning

Week 3:

Session 1: Language & comprehension

Session 2: Midterm exam

Session 3: Defining intelligence

Week 4:

Session 1: Individual differences & the Nature-Nurture debate

Session 2: The social world

Session 3: Psychological disorders 1

Week 5:

Session 1: Psychological disorders 2

Session 2: Review of the content covered

Session 3: Final exam