



**East China Normal University
GEC International Summer School**

PSY11: General Psychology

Term: June 16th to July 18th, 2025

Class Hours: Monday through Friday, 110 minutes each day (2,750 minutes in total)

Instructor: Shali Wu

Home Institution: Kyung Hee University Office

hours: TBD

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Course Description

This course focuses on the methods and findings of modern scientific psychology. Students will be introduced to key concepts, principles, and theories of this empirical science of behavior. Topics include the biological bases of behavior, sensation and perception, human development, learning, memory, cognition and language, intelligence, consciousness, motivation, emotions, social psychology, personality, disorders, and treatment.

Prerequisite: None

Course Overview

PSY11 is an introduction to the study of psychological phenomena. We emphasize the historical and cultural origins of the constructs, methods, and purposes associated with contemporary Psychology. Psychologists differ among themselves about the appropriate goals for Psychology and about what constructs and methods are most likely to help achieve those goals.

Specifically, we consider the difference between a natural science approach to psychological study and a human science approach. Constructs we examine include learning, personality, and psychopathology. The methods we examine include experimentation, surveys, naturalistic observation, and hermeneutic understanding. The competing goals we consider stem from various conceptions of Psychology, including Psychology as a basic science, Psychology as a healing technology, and Psychology as a discipline dedicated to the resolution of social problems (poverty and racism, for example).



Learning Objective

A student who satisfactorily completes this course should:

1. Be able to describe and exemplify the major theoretical approaches to the study of psychological phenomena
2. Show an understanding of, and ability to use appropriately, the basic concepts and principles of the discipline of Psychology
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the methods by which psychological phenomena are studied, including an ability to compare the relative strengths and weaknesses of those methods
4. Demonstrate an ability to discuss how the discipline of Psychology has influenced the conduct of daily life in the past century, both positively and negatively
5. Demonstrate an ability to formulate a psychological research question and design an appropriate means of addressing the question.

Required Text

Introduction to Psychology, 11th edition , by James W. Kalat

ISBN: 9781305271555

Course Hours

The course has 25 class sessions in total. Each class session is 110 minutes in length, for a total of 2750 minutes of in-class time. The course meets from Monday to Friday. ECNU awards 3 credits for this course. Different universities may count course credits differently. Consult officials at your own home institution.

Attendance

Summer school is very intense and to be successful, students need to attend every class. Occasionally, due to illness or other unavoidable circumstance, a student may need to miss a class. ECNU policy requires a medical certificate to be excused. Any absence may impact on the student's grade. Moreover, ECNU policy is that a student who has more than 3 absences will fail the course. Arriving late or leaving early will count as a partial absence.



Grading Policy

ECNU awards grades of A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, D, and F. Most colleges and universities do not award transfer credit for grades of D or F.

In this course, grading will be based on the following:

Attendance & Participation	10%
Essays*2	15%*2=30%
Midterm Exam	30%
Final Exam	40%

General Expectations

Students are expected to:

- Attend all classes and be responsible for all material covered in class and otherwise assigned. Any unexcused absence may impact a student's grade.
- Arrive to class on-time: Late arrivals are disruptive to your fellow students and to the conduct of the class.
- Complete the day's required reading and assignments before class
- Review the previous day's notes before class; make notes about questions you have about the previous class or the day's reading
- Refrain from texting, phoning or engaging in computer activities unrelated to class during class (不要用手机) It is highly disrespectful to the professor and to the class.
- Participate in class discussions and complete required written work on time.

Course Schedule

The planned schedule sketched out below may be modified to suit the interests or abilities of the enrolled students or to take advantage of special opportunities or events that may arise during the term.

Week 1



- Day 1
 - Course outline
 - What is Psychology (Chapter 1)
 - Psychologist's Goals (1.1)
 - Psychology Then and Now (1.2)
- Day 2
 - Scientific Methods in Psychology (Chapter 2)
 - Evaluating Evidence and Thinking Critically (2.1)
 - Conducting Psychological Research (2.2)
- Day 3
 - Biological Psychology (Chapter 3)
 - Neurons and Behavior (3.1)
 - Drugs and their Effects (3.2)
- Day 4
 - Biological Psychology (Chapter 3 continued)
 - Brain and Behavior (3.3)
 - Genetics and Evolutionary Psychology (3.4)
- Day 5
 - Sensation and Perception (Chapter 4)
 - Vision (4.1)
 - In-class Exercises

Week 2

- Day 1
 - Sensation and Perception (Chapter 4 continued)
 - The Nonvisual Senses (4.2)
 - Interpreting Sensory Information (4.3)
- Day 2
 - Development (Chapter 5)
 - Cognitive Development in Infancy and Childhood (5.1)
 - Social and Emotional Development (5.2)
 - Diversity: Gender, Culture, and Family (5.3)
- Day 3
 - Learning (Chapter 6)
 - Classical Conditioning (6.1)
 - Operant Conditioning (6.2)
- Day 4
 - Learning (Chapter 6, continued)
 - Operant Conditioning (6.2 revisited)



- *Variations of Learning*
- *Day 5*
 - *Memory (Chapter 7)*
 - *Types of Memory (7.1)*
 - *In-class Exercises*
 - *Essay 1 workday*

Week 3

- *Day 1*
 - *Memory (Chapter 7 continued)*
 - *Encoding, Storage, and Retrieval (7.2)*
 - *Forgetting (7.3)*
 - *Essay 1 due*
- *Day 2*
 - *Cognition and Language (Chapter 8)*
 - *Attention and Categorization (8.1)*
 - *Solving Problems and Making Decisions*
 - *Language (8.3)*
- *Day 3*
 - *Intelligence (Chapter 9)*
 - *Intelligence and Intelligence Tests (9.1)*
 - *Evaluation of Intelligence Tests (9.2)*
- *Day 4*
 - *Midterm review session*
- *Day 5*
 - *Midterm exam, covering chapters 1-7*

Week 4

- *Day 1*
 - *Consciousness (Chapter 10)*
 - *Conscious and Unconscious Processes (10.1)*
 - *Sleep and Dreams (10.2)*
 - *Hypnosis (10.3)*
- *Day 2*
 - *Motivated Behaviors (Chapter 11)*
 - *Work Motivation (11.1)*
 - *Hunger Motivation (11.2)*
 - *Sexual Motivation (11.3)*
- *Day 3*



- *Emotions, Stress, and Health (Chapter 12)*
 - *The Nature of Emotion (12.1)*
 - *A Survey of Emotions (12.2)*
 - *Stress, Health, and Coping (12.3)*
- *Day 4*
 - *Social Psychology (Chapter 13)*
 - *Prosocial and Antisocial Behavior (13.1)*
 - *Social Perception and Cognition (13.2)*
 - *Attitudes and Persuasion*
- *Day 5*
 - *Social Psychology (Chapter 13, continued)*
 - *Interpersonal Attraction (13.4)*
 - *Interpersonal Influence (13.5)*
 - *Essay 2 due*

Week 5

- *Day 1*
 - *Personality (Chapter 14)*
 - *Personality Theories (14.1)*
 - *Personality Traits (14.2)*
 - *Personality Assessment (14.3)*
- *Day 2*
 - *Abnormal Psychology: Disorders and Treatment (Chapter 15)*
 - *An Overview of Abnormal Behavior (15.1)*
 - *Anxiety Disorders and Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (15.2)*
 - *Substance-Related Disorders (15.3)*
- *Day 3*
 - *Abnormal Psychology: Disorders and Treatment (Chapter 15, continued)*
 - *Mood Disorders, Schizophrenia, and Autism (15.4)*
 - *Treatment of Mental Illness (15.5)*
- *Day 4*
 - *Final review session*
- *Day 5*
 - *Final exam, covering chapters 8-15*



Academic Honesty

Students are expected to maintain high standards of academic honesty. Specifically, unless otherwise directed by the professor, students may not consult other students, books, notes, electronic devices or any other source, on examinations. Failure to abide by this may result in a zero on the examination, or even failure in the course.