

Introduction to Psychology PS 101 (A)

Boyce College

2825 Lexington Road; Louisville, KY; 40280

Spring, 2009

Tuesdays, Wednesdays: 11:30-12:45

Rankin 208

Course Instructor

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Course Grader

Joey Best

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Course Description

A general introduction of the basic concepts of psychology, with special emphasis given to the various theories of psychology. This course will focus on an introduction to the study of human behavior; sensation and perception; emotions; learning and cognition; human development and personality. These concepts will be evaluated from a biblical perspective.

Course Syllabus

The syllabus covers matters of critical importance for this course. There are five sections including course objectives, course textbooks, course requirements, course calendar, and course etiquette. You should carefully review the contents of this syllabus. As questions arise throughout the semester, students are requested to consult the syllabus before consulting the grader or professor.

Course Objectives

1. To understand some of the crucial issues and phenomena present in the discipline of psychology.
2. To obtain proficiency in applying the Christian worldview to the discipline of psychology.
3. To achieve increased skill in being Christians who think critically about all matters that pertain to life and godliness.
4. To honor God by seeing something of the sufficiency of the resources he has given his church to help people with their problems in living.
5. To serve and minister the local church by gaining increased facility in ministering to both the lost and the saved.

Course Textbooks

Breggin, Peter R. and David Cohen. *Your Drug May Be Your Problem*. Cambridge, MA: Da Capo, 1999.
Caplan, Paula J. *They Say You're Crazy*. Cambridge, MA: Da Capo, 1995.
Ganz, Richard. *Psychobabble*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 1995.

Course Requirements

Presence and Participation: Your presence during all class sessions is critical to mastering the content of the material. Your participation is also important for the structure of the course. Because of this, attendance will be taken at each class session and 15% of your final grade will be based on your overall presence or absence. Each student will be allowed to miss three class sessions without penalty. Every absence after three will result in a four-point deduction from the final participation grade. A total of seven absences will result in a failing grade for the course.

Readings: For every topic we will address in class there is background reading that must be completed. Your understanding of the material as well as your intelligent participation in class is based on the reading for the week. It is expected that students will have accomplished the assigned reading for the week *by the first day of class for that week*. The professor reserves the right to hold students accountable for the reading with spontaneous quizzes.

Exams: Two exams will be given in this course. An exam will be administered in class during the mid point of the semester, and a non-cumulative final will be given at the end of the semester during final exam week. The exams will be a mix of objective and subjective questions and everything covered in the course from readings to class material is subject to examination.

Book Review: Students must read all three required books for this course but will have their choice of two books for a book review that must be submitted. Students may choose *Your Drug May be Your Problem* by Peter Breggin and David Cohen or *They Say You're Crazy* by Paula Caplan. Students who choose to review Caplan must turn in their work on **Tuesday March 24th**. Students choosing the Breggin/Cohen book will have their work due on **Tuesday April 21st**. Book reviews must correspond to standards that will be provided in class.

Basis of Evaluation: Your final grade in the course will be based on the following:

Mid-Term Examination	35%
Final Examination	35%
Presence and Participation	15%
Book Review	15%

Grading Scale: The grading scale for assignments submitted in this course is as follows:

	B+	87-89	C+	77-79	D+	67-69	
A	96-100	B	83-86	C	73-76	D	63-66
A-	90-95	B-	80-82	C-	70-72	D-	60-62

Course Calendar

Week of January 20th

Course Introduction

Week of January 26th
Ganz, Chapters 1-5

Week of February 2nd
Ganz, Chapters 6-11

Week of February 9th
Ganz, Chapters 12-15

Week of February 16th
Caplan, Chapters 1-3

Week of February 23rd
Caplan, Chapters 4-6

Week of March 2nd
Mid-term Exam on March 4th

Week of March 9th
Caplan, Chapters 7-8

Week of March 16th
Caplan, Chapters 9-10

Week of March 23rd
Breggin/Cohen, Introduction-Chapter 5

Week of March 30th
Spring Reading Days

Week of April 6th
Breggin/Cohen, Chapters 6-10

Week of April 13th
Breggin/Cohen, Chapters 11-13

Week of April 20th
No reading assignment

Week of April 27th
Final exam week.

The final exam for this course will be held during final exam week on a date to be announced.

Course Etiquette, Disclaimers, and Other Matters

Plagiarism is the act of stealing the idea of someone else by attempting to pass it off as your own. Cheating is the effort to accomplish the requirements for the course in a dishonest, deceptive, or otherwise fraudulent manner. A student caught doing either will be reported to the dean of

students resulting in disciplinary action up to and including failing the course and dismissal from this institution.

Each individual course requirement must be completed in order to earn a passing grade for the entire course.

Throughout the semester it may be necessary to change this syllabus. The professor reserves the right to make such changes as circumstances warrant.

Cell phones should be set to silent notification during class. If it is absolutely necessary to accept an incoming call, students should excuse themselves from class before doing so.

The professor reserves the right to restrict the use of laptop computers if students are found to be using them for purposes other than note taking.

No extra credit will be offered in this course.

In order to ensure full class participation, any student with a disabling condition requiring special accommodations (e.g., tape recorders, special adaptive equipment, and special note-taking or test-taking needs) is strongly encouraged to contact the professor at the beginning of the course.