



Introductory Psychology: University of Dayton

(For a list of materials used in the course, please see http://www.theNCAT.org/R2R/AcadPrac/CM/UD_IntroPsy_Mat.pdf.)

Introductory Psychology is a one-semester, three-credit course that covers the following topics:

Introduction

- History of psychology
- Theoretical perspectives
- Sub-disciplines

Research Methods

- Experimental design
- Quasi-experimental design
- Correlational research
- Naturalistic observation
- Case studies
- Surveys
- Meta-analysis

Psychobiology

- Neurons
- Neural transmission
- Peripheral nervous system
- Central nervous system
- Brain
- Cerebral cortex structure and function
- Sub-cortical structure and function
- Endocrine system
- Behavioral genetics

Sensory Processes

- Sensitivity and transduction
- Psychophysics
- Vision
- Hearing
- Gustation and olfaction
- Somesthetic senses

Perception

- Selective perception and attention
- Theoretical approaches
- Form and pattern recognition
- Depth and space
- Motion
- Time

States of Consciousness

- Nature of consciousness
- Biological rhythms
- Sleep and dreams
- Hypnosis
- Meditation
- Drugs

Learning

- Classical conditioning
- Operant conditioning
- Cognitive learning
- Social learning

Memory

- Models of memory
- Encoding and retrieval
- Forgetting
- Improving memory
- Biological factors

Motivation

- Drive, incentive, reward
- Theoretical perspectives
- Temperature regulation
- Hunger and thirst
- Sex
- Psychosocial motives

Emotion

- Physiological processes
- Expressive processes
- Cognitive processes
- Theories
- Cultural differences

Development

- Perspectives on development
- Biological and environmental factors
- Prenatal development
- Cognitive development
- Attachment
- Socialization and peer relationships
- Development across the lifespan
- Death and dying

Personality

- Assessment
- Psychodynamic theories
- Cognitive-behavioral approach
- Trait theories
- Humanistic theories
- Sociocultural approach

Psychological Disorders

- Approaches to psychopathology
- Schizophrenia
- Mood disorders
- Anxiety disorders
- Dissociative disorders
- Somatiform and psychophysiological disorders
- Personality disorders

Treatment

- Biomedical therapies
- Psychodynamic therapies
- Cognitive and behavioral therapies
- Humanistic therapies
- Group and family therapies
- Treatment effectiveness

Social Psychology

- Biological factors
- Attitudes
- Person perception
- Self-perception
- Attribution
- Relationships
- Altruism
- Social influence
- Cultural differences