

Introduction to Psychology--PSY 1001-03

Fall 2013

Dr. Kim MacLin

Class Time: Tues/Thurs 11-12:15

OnLine Time: On your own

Class Location: SAB 2

This Syllabus and the Course Calendar are subject to change!

Last updated 8/25/13

Me:

You can go here if you care to learn something about me or my qualifications:

www.psychologicalscience.com/kim_maclin .

My office is in Baker Hall room 348.

The best way to reach me is through email: kim.maclin@uni.edu. I don't recommend leaving me a voicemail.

My office hours are Thursdays from 1230-2, and by appointment (email for appointment).

Course Description:

Psychology is the scientific study of mind, brain and behavior. Some of what you will learn may seem like "common sense," or at the very least familiar to you because you will be learning about topics that you can relate to. However, one of the most important things you will learn is that some of what we believe to be "common sense" is not true at all, and that even "common sense" principles should be evaluated scientifically. You will learn about psychology from several different viewpoints: psychology as an academic science, psychology in life (yours!), and psychology in the broader world. All course assignments and materials are designed to bring psychology to you from these different areas. There is not such thing as an "easy" course. If you are learning, you will experience frustration. It's part of the process ☺

Hybrid Class Format:

This is a hybrid class that mixes traditional classroom learning with individualized online/out of class learning. It follows an autonomous learner approach. The class will consist of a little more than half of the semester devoted to in class meetings, and a little under half in online and out of class activities. Because we are cutting the in class meeting time, you should expect that there is MORE out of class time than would normally be required to be successful in the course above and beyond the normal reading and preparing that are expected with any course. The course calendar (available under the Course Resources tab on the website) provides you with the in class meeting dates and all assignment due dates. Reliable access to the internet is required. The format of this class is not for everyone. Feel free to make the decision to stay after the first week of class (we will thoroughly go over the class content and format on the first Tuesday and Thursday). There are other Intro sections that may be more to your liking.

Class Participation:

Regular attendance is expected during in-class meetings and attendance in the form of meeting online schedules. Signs of good participation include: Attendance, punctuality, eagerness to participate, showing respect to others' contributions, facilitating discussion/asking questions, paying careful attention to lectures and presentations, and offering constructive feedback, questions, and comments. Attendance however, is not required. Occasionally, I will take roll and give points for attendance. These cannot be made up.

Experiment Participation:

The majority of psychological scientists around the world rely on human subjects to participate in their research (those who use animals, obviously don't!). Some scientists use what are called special populations to conduct their research given the research questions they have (people over the age of 55, babies, police officers, people with schizophrenia, etc). But many (maybe even most) rely on the participation from people who are in college (that means YOU). As part of your introduction to what Psychology is all about, you are required to participate in 4 hours worth of research throughout the semester. There is a website that you will register for and be able to

browse for and sign up for experiments (<https://unipsych.sona-systems.com>). There are some alternatives (writing papers, attending presentations, but the easiest option by far is doing the experiments). Most are 30 minutes to an hour long and you do as many as you need to get up to 4 (there are some restrictions on how many online studies you can do compared to laboratory studies). You will be sent an email to your university email address with your login information. More information about the participation requirement is provided here: <http://www.uni.edu/csbs/psych/research-requirements>. **Experiment completion deadline is December 6, 2013.** This is a requirement. You will receive an incomplete in the course if you do not satisfy this requirement.

Required Materials:

- Davis, Palladino, Christopherson's 7th Edition, *Psychology*.
- 1 book for your book analysis: check blog for options.
- Access to This American Life episodes via the TAL app (for your smartphone or tablet), or their website www.thisamericanlife.org.

Blogging:

You will blog (in the form of providing comments to blog posts at <http://www.psychologicalscience.com/intropsy/>). Some of the assignments are reading assignments (where you provide commentary on what you read), and others are activity assignments where you provide commentary on what you experienced or learned from the activity. Many of the activity assignments require you to listen to episodes of the radio show This American Life. If you have a smartphone or tablet, the easiest way to listen to these, is to download the This American Life app. Once you have the app you can quickly find shows (by title or episode number) and listen right then and there. You can also go to the website www.thisamericanlife.org and search on episode number. In the assignments that require listening to these shows I will provide these instructions again, including a link to the web address for the specific episode.

Grading your Blogging:

Blogs are due at 11am on Tuesday or Thursday (see course calendar). There is NO late work accepted.

Comments to Chapter Readings or other activities are worth 10 points

10: Answered all questions, gave in depth summary with examples, provided terms, and wowed us with your writing and intellectual prowess!

9: Answered all questions, gave in depth summary w/examples, provided terms

8: Answered most of the questions, provided summary, gave terms

7: Gave summary, not as much detail

6: did not provide enough information, or inaccurate information.

5 and below: probably too brief, or inaccurate.

0: not turned in; or late

Book Analysis:

You are required to write a book analysis for this course. Information about the book options and guidelines for the paper are available on the blog. You will be submitting your book analysis to www.turnitin.com where I will verify that your work has not been plagiarized. You will also turn in an identical hard copy to me on the day that it is due. There are important guidelines for writing the book report on the blog site under the course resources tab. Given that you choose your own deadline, no late book reports are accepted. You may change your book report deadline with 2 weeks notice.

Quizzes:

There will be 4 25-point quizzes (see Course Calendar for dates). They will be multiple choice and short answer.

Final:

There will be a cumulative final worth 100 points. See Course Calendar for dates. It will be multiple choice and short answer.

Grades:

No plusses or minuses; no curve. You get the grade according to the points you earn. 89.5% is an A, etc.

Reading/Activity Blogs 28 @ 10 pts each = 280 pts

1 book analysis @ 100 pts=100 pts

4 quizzes @ 25 points each = 100pts

Final= 100 pts

Attendance 5pts, on days taken.

4 hours of experiments (or equivalent)—must be satisfied otherwise you get an Incomplete in the course

TOTAL points = 580 + attendance

The Fine Print

Make Ups and Late Work:

Homework: Generally, there is no late work accepted. This is in part due to the expectations of you at the University level. This is also in part to the practical issue of grading so much work. We cannot continually be double checking previous assignments to see if late work has come in. “Late” means after the 11am deadline. Sure, if it’s in by 11:05 we will probably take it. But don’t push it. There will be some leniency the first 2 weeks of the course while people are getting registered and familiarizing themselves with the blog system.

Book Analysis: No late book analyses are accepted. YOU picked your deadline, so no fussing about it later. However, if you know at least 2 weeks in advance of your deadline that you want to change your deadline, you may email me your request. Once/If approved, I will write you back. You will include that email when you turn in your hard copy report.

Quizzes: Generally, there are no makeups given for missed quizzes. If you have a university sponsored event, military duty, or documented health emergency, there are possibilities for a makeup. Please refer to University policy (with some information presented below regarding university sanctioned events) to see if your situation applies: <http://www.uni.edu/policies/306> .

The Final: Don’t miss it. Don’t ask for an early one. It’s just such a hassle. But if you must miss it for one of the above reasons, talk to me.

Cheating & Plagiarism: DON’T CHEAT! Cheating is any sort of activity that results in you turning in work where you are not the SOLE contributor and developer of the ideas. Writing blog posts or homework assignments based on summaries of articles or radio shows (instead of actually reading chapters and listening to the shows) is cheating. Copying and pasting ANY content from other people’s blog posts (from this semester or any others) IS cheating. You are bound to the University's [ethics policies](#). I will be using Turnitin.com to screen book reports for plagiarism.

If you have a disability that could affect your performance in this class: UNI is committed to equal opportunity in education for all students, including those with documented physical disabilities or documented learning disabilities. *Please address any special needs or special accommodations with me at the beginning of the semester or as soon as you become aware of your needs. Those seeking accommodations based on disabilities should obtain a Student Academic Accommodation Request (SAAR) form from Student Disability Services (SDS) (phone 319-273-2677). SDS is located on the top floor of the Student Health Center, Room 103.*

If you have University sponsored obligations that require you to miss class: It is your responsibility to contact me during the first week of class to let me know of your obligations throughout the semester. As soon as you receive your paperwork detailing out the days you will miss class, please provide me with a copy for my files. It is STILL your responsibility, however, to remind me by email at least a day before you are going to miss a class due to your approved obligations, so that we can arrange for any work you might miss. It is your

responsibility to ensure that you get makeup assignments from me immediately upon your return. You will need to get class notes from a fellow student.

Student Services: I encourage you to utilize the Academic Learning Center's assistance with writing, math, science, reading, and learning strategies. There is no charge for currently-enrolled UNI students. UNI's Academic Learning Center is located in 007/008 ITTC. Visit the website at <http://www.uni.edu/unialc/> or phone 319-273-2361 for more information.