Psychology may be defined as the scientific study of mind and behavior. This definition is meant to be quite broad, because many diverse topics are a part of psychology. The purpose of this course is to provide a general survey of the subject matter of psychology. For some of you this may be your only exposure to studying psychology, but for others this course will lay the groundwork for more advanced courses. It is difficult to cover the many topics of psychology in a survey course. If your curiosity is not satisfied with regard to some specific topic -- and often it will not be -- there is usually an advanced course that you can take.

The syllabus and related course materials will be posted on the Blackboard website. This site will allow you to check your grades and will also contain other helpful information pertaining to the course. All PowerPoint slides will be posted on Blackboard after the last lecture before each exam.

Format of the course. The three class meetings each week are usually devoted to lectures on topics listed on the course outline, but may also include demonstrations and films. Your performance will be evaluated on the basis of three tests (and an optional final examination).

Textbook. The textbook for the course is Psychological Science by Gazzaniga, Heatherton, & Halpern (2013, 5th Edition), available at the bookstore. Please make sure you have the correct edition; the textbook underwent a significant revision recently and the 5th edition is the one we will refer to for all reading assignments.

Attendance. You are responsible for everything presented in class, including lectures, films, remarks of guest speakers, and announcements. The class material complements the text material, but does not substitute for it. In some cases, material presented in class will overlap that in the textbook; in other cases, the lecture content will diverge from that of the text. Material covered in class forms a large part of the tests. You are expected to attend. A tentative schedule of events is listed in the course outline below. If you are unable to attend class, it is your responsibility to obtain notes from someone in class. Please note that the TA cannot provide notes for you.

Tests and Final Examination. Your knowledge will be evaluated by three tests and an optional cumulative final examination. The dates, rooms, and times are listed below. The final exam will be on Tuesday, December 15th, 3:30 p.m. Each test will be worth 50 points and will be composed of multiple choice questions. The final exam will be worth 50 points and will be cumulative.
THE OPTIONAL FINAL EXAMINATION

Anyone who misses one of the regularly scheduled examinations for any reason other than a University-sponsored event MUST take the final examination. There are no make-up examinations in this course, other than absence due to attending a University-sponsored event. Because these events are planned well in advance, you must notify one of the professors or the teaching assistant NO LATER THAN September 21st about an absence for ANY EXAM—NO EXCEPTIONS. This notification must be in the form of a written note explaining which exam you must miss and the University event that you will be attending.

You may also elect to take the final examination to improve your score in the course. If you elect to take the final examination and your score on the final is higher than one of the three regularly scheduled exams, we will replace the lowest exam score with your score on the final exam. If your score on the final exam is lower than any of the regularly scheduled exams, then we will base your final grade on the three exam scores. Note that this means that taking the final cannot hurt your grade in any way; it can only improve your score. THE FINAL EXAM WILL BE GIVEN ONLY ON THE SCHEDULED DATE. DO NOT MAKE TRAVEL PLANS FOR WINTER BREAK THAT HAVE YOU LEAVING BEFORE THE SCHEDULED DATE.

Research participation. As part of the requirements for this course, you are to participate in 6 hours of posted experiments. This is akin to a laboratory requirement in other sciences, and serves to acquaint you with the methods and issues of contemporary psychology. Each hour of experimental participation is worth 1 point, for a total of 6 maximum points. Information about registering and signing up for experiments is available on Blackboard. Every activity associated with participating in research, including checking how many experiment credits you have earned over the course of the semester, will be handled through our subject pool website.

Alternatives to research. If you would rather not earn credit through participation in research, you have two main options. First, you may complete your hours of research by writing a short (1 page) paper. Each paper is worth one point and thus each paper can be used to replace one hour of your required experiments. You have the option of writing as few or as many papers as you wish. A list of approved papers for alternative assignments will be posted on the Blackboard website. Students who turn in papers on an article that is not listed as an approved topic on the website WILL NOT RECEIVE CREDIT. All papers are due on the last day of class.

A second option is to attend one of the departmental colloquia. These are one-hour talks that typically are on Mondays, from 4-5 pm. Space for these talks is limited, and you must sign up for these in advance. Please see the following website for more information: http://psychweb.wustl.edu, click on Events & Announcements.
Grading. Your grade will be based on (a) 3 exams, each worth 50 points (note that one of these may be the optional final), and (b) 6 points for experiments (or papers). Thus, the maximum possible score in the course is 156.

The grading scale is listed below. *If you are taking this class Pass-Fail you must earn a C- or better to earn a passing grade.*

Grading scale:
- **A+** 97-100%
- **A** 93-96%
- **A-** 90-92%
- **B+** 87-89%
- **B** 83-86%
- **B-** 80-82%
- **C+** 77-79%
- **C** 73-76%
- **C-** 70-72%
- **D+** 67-69%
- **D** 63-66%
- **D-** 60-62%
- **F** 59 or lower

**Extra credit.** In addition to the 156 points you can earn through exams and research, you also have the opportunity to earn one additional point extra credit. The extra credit point can be earned by completing the on-line course evaluation at the end of the semester; the procedure for submitting your course evaluations will be explained in detail during the last few weeks of class.

This extra point will be added to your total at the end of the class before we compute your percentages, which will still be based on a maximum of 156. For example, if you end up with a total of 145 points after adding the extra credit point, your percentage will end up being 92% (145/156). PLEASE NOTE: **We will round grades up or down to the NEAREST whole number.** 92.9=93%, 92.5% = 93%, 92.49% = 92%.

**Grade Appeals.** If you feel strongly that your grade on some test was unfair, you have the right to appeal. In such cases, write an email stating (a) what test item you are questioning and (b) your rationale for the appeal. Send your email to the instructor who administered the exam (i.e., Dr. Sommers, Duchek, or Lambert). Such appeals MUST be submitted within ONE WEEK in which grades for that exam are posted.

**Instructors.** Dr. Sommers’ office is Room 417A Psychology Building (telephone 5-6561; email: msommers@wustl.edu). His office hours are M & W 11-12 and by appointment. Dr. Duchek’s office is Room 416F Psychology Building (telephone 5-7445; email: jduchek@wustl.edu) and her office hours are M & F 12-1 pm and by appointment. Dr. Lambert’s office is Room 319B Psychology Building (telephone 5-8212; email: alambert@wustl.edu). His office hours are 11-12 on Friday and by appointment.
Teaching Assistants. You should see a teaching assistant if you have questions about the content of the course, or about your grades, or any other difficulty. They are there to help you. Please see them during office hours whenever possible, or by appointment. The TAs for the course are:

**Shelly Kohlman** (Skohlman@wustl.edu Psychology building 208A) Office Hours: Wed. 11:30-12:30; Thurs. 10-11

**Erika Wesonga** (ewesonga@wustl.edu, Psychology building 303C). Office Hours: Tues. 9-11.

**Lan Zhang** (lan.zhang@wustl.edu, Psychology building 114C). Office Hours: Tues. 2-4

**Victor Sungkhasettee** (sungkhav+psy100b@gmail.com, Psychology building 335B); Office Hours: Wed. 1-3

**Jason Hsieth** (jhsieh@comcast.net); Office hours: Mondays and Tuesdays 9-10 am; location TBA

Final Grades. These will be determined from the final grade distribution and will be posted as soon as we can calculate them. We have never had a need to curve final grades in this class and have no plans to do so. Your grade will be based on the letter-grade scale above.

**Schedule of Topics**

*This schedule and/or topics to be covered are subject to change. Any changes along with specific reading assignments will be announced in advance in class.*

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
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| M 8/24 -  W 9/30 | **UNIT I**
Course Introduction (Chapter 1)
Research Methodology (Chapter 2)
Biology & Behavior (Chapter 3)
The Mind & Consciousness (Chapter 4)
Sensation & Perception (Chapter 5) | Dr. Sommers |
|            | No class – Labor Day 9/7                                   |             |
| F 10/2     | **EXAM I:**
Covers all lecture material and chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5     |             |
| M 10/5- W 10/28 | **UNIT II**
Learning (Chapter 6)
Attention & Memory (Chapter 7)
Thinking & Intelligence (Chapter 8)
Motivation & Emotion (Chapter 10)
Social Psychology (Chapter 12) | Dr. Lambert |
|            | No Class – Fall Break 10/17                                |             |
| F 10/30    | **EXAM II:**
Covers all lecture material and chapters 6, 7, 8, 10, 12 |             |
| M 11/3- W 12/2 | **UNIT III**
Human Development (Chapter 9)
Health & Well-Being (Chapter 11)
Personality (Chapter 13) | Dr. Duchek  |
Commonsense etiquette during class

This course is based on a simple principle of mutual respect and politeness. Just as it is important for your instructor to act in a courteous and respectful way toward you, it is equally important for you to extend the same courtesy to your fellow students and also, the instructor. Empirical research shows that the following behaviors are judged to be equally disruptive to students and faculty:

a. **Students talking with their neighbor after the instructor has begun lecturing.** Students rate this as extremely annoying because it interferes with their ability to take notes. It is also distracting to your instructor and will inevitably prevent him or her from presenting the class material. Dr. Sommers, Duchek, and Lambert will not repeat portions of their lecture that could not be heard because of others talking or because of other similar disruptions (see below). Thus, when you talk to your neighbor you may well be hurting the grades of others around you (and your grade, too!). Thus, once the instructor steps to the podium, as a courtesy to your fellow students and to your instructor, this is a signal to stop talking with your neighbor.

b. **Use of laptops in class.** Laptop use is permitted in class for note-taking purposes only. Any other non-course related use of laptops is prohibited, such as emailing, social-networking, surfing the internet, playing games, etc. Non-course related laptop activities are distracting to both you and your peers and hinder engagement and learning in the classroom. Several research studies (e.g., Fried, 2008) have found that (a) students report laptop use by their peers, as well as their own laptop use, as the most distracting aspects of class; and (b) there is a negative relationship between laptop use and course grade, student attentiveness, lecture clarity and understanding of course material. Please be considerate when using your laptop in class.

c. **Ringing/beeping/using cell phones and pagers.** Please turn off all phones and beepers before class begins.

d. **Coming in late.** Class starts promptly at 10 minutes after the hour. If you come to class late, please select a seat in the back row; do not clamber over other students to find your usual “favorite” seat.

e. **Audio/video recording of class.** You must have the instructors’ permission to record during class.

In order to make the classroom experience enjoyable for all, students are expected to comply with the above commonsense guidelines.
Student Resources:
Students who are seeking support for a disability or a suspected disability should contact Disability Resources (935-4153) at Cornerstone (http://cornerstone.wustl.edu), located on the South 40 at Gregg Hall. Disability Resources is responsible for approving all disability-related accommodations for WU students, and students are responsible for providing faculty members with formal documentation of their approved accommodations at least two weeks prior to using those accommodations. If you have already been approved for accommodations, we request that you provide us with a copy of your VISA within the first two weeks of the semester.

Course Evaluations:
The final course evaluation for Psychology 100B will be administered on-line. The evaluations will be available on-line at the end of the semester at the following website: http://evals.wustl.edu

Course evaluations provide an important mechanism for you to express your opinions about course content and instruction. The information received from your evaluations is taken very seriously by your instructors and serves to enhance the future quality of instruction in this course. Thus, it is critical that we receive everyone’s evaluations to get a representative sampling of opinions. **In an effort to achieve near 100% participation in this evaluation process, you will be given 1 extra point added to your final grade, if you fill out the on-line evaluation for this course. Thank you in advance!**