

PSYC 1100

General Psychology I: Fall 2023

Department of Psychological Science

UConn Avery Point

**Excluding materials for purchase, syllabus information may be subject to change. The most up-to-date syllabus is located within the course in HuskyCT.** [**COURSE SCHEDULE HERE**](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_U5NazmcireG8LMyoyIKu0I5aJGQQAz1G5KsijPobyM/edit?usp=sharing)

**Course and Instructor Information**

**Course Title:** PSYC 1100

**Credits:** 3

**Professor:** Jamie Kleinman, PhD (she/her)

**Email:** [Jamie.kleinman@uconn.edu](mailto:Jamie.kleinman@uconn.edu) (preferred contact method)

**Telephone:** 860-405-9216

**Office:** ACD 103C

**Student Hours/Availability:** Posted in [www.nexus.uconn.edu](http://www.nexus.uconn.edu) and hosted both in person and via Webex: https://uconn-cmr.webex.com/meet/jmk01002

**Required** **Course Materials**

1. [TopHat: Introduction to Psychology](https://app.tophat.com/e/277266) (Online textbook and subscription)

Note, this is a required book for the course. If you are ONLY taking PSYC 1100, get the digital textbook and a 4-month subscription which will give you access to the questions we complete in class and your reading assignments. If you know you will be taking PSYC 1101 in Spring 2024 (psych majors, students in education, HDFS, health, pre-med, etc. at Avery Point) then you should get a 12-month subscription as the professor for PSYC 1101 also uses TopHat in that course.

*Course readings and media are available within HuskyCT, through either an Internet link or Library Resources*

**Course Description**

Basic principles that underlie mental processes and behavior; research methodology, biopsychology, sensation, perception, learning, memory and thinking.

**Course Objectives**

By the end of the semester, students should be able to:

1. Explain current theories and practical applications of psychology as a natural science utilizing discipline specific terms and concepts in oral, written, and multimedia formats.
2. Describe the scientific processes psychologists use to obtain knowledge about behaviors and mental processes while maintaining an awareness of social and ethical responsibilities.
3. Utilize the scientific method to explore the underlying genetic and neurological processes that lead to functions such as sensation, perception, consciousness, learning, memory, and thinking.
4. Analyze data collected in class to solve problems that illustrate specific psychological theories, principles, and constructs.
5. Generalize the skills and content acquired in this course to experiences outside of the course.

**Course Objectives Alignment**

# **TOI-6 Scientific and Empirical Inquiry**

Knowledge production stems from an interplay of observation, data, hypotheses, and theory concerning the natural universe, social systems, and theoretical models. Through scientific inquiry in the form of problem-solving and questioning, a greater understanding of observable phenomena develops and facilitates well-reasoned conclusions and predictions. Essential to this inquiry is a comprehension of major principles guiding modern scientific thought and awareness of the roles and limitations of interpreting and predicting observable phenomena.

Courses within this Topic of Inquiry category **must meet two or more** of the following TOI-6 Learning Objectives

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Common Curriculum Objective** | **Course Objective(s)** | **Course Assignment** |
| **Learning Objective 1**: Students will be able to explain and appropriately utilize basic scientific language and concepts. | 1. Explain current theories and practical applications of psychology as a natural science utilizing discipline specific terms and concepts in oral, written, and multimedia formats. | * **TopHat In-Class Questions** * **TopHat Interactive Readings** * **HuskyCT Weekly Prompts** * **HuskyCT Discussion Board ELE** * **HuskyCT Exams** |
| **Learning Objective 2**: Students will be able to design or conduct an experiment or analysis suitable to test a scientific hypothesis and be able to interpret the results. | 1. Describe the scientific processes psychologists use to obtain knowledge about behaviors and mental processes while maintaining an awareness of social and ethical responsibilities. 2. Utilize the scientific method to explore the underlying genetic and neurological processes that lead to functions such as sensation, perception, consciousness, learning, memory, and thinking. | * **HuskyCT Weekly Prompts** * **HuskyCT Discussion Board ELE** * **HuskyCT Exams** |
| **Learning Objective 3**: Students will be able to solve problems described verbally, graphically, symbolically, or numerically. | 1. Analyze data collected in class to solve problems that illustrate specific psychological theories, principles, and constructs. | * **TopHat In-Class Questions** * **TopHat Interactive Readings** * **HuskyCT Weekly Prompts** * **HuskyCT Exams** |

**Course Outline**

Module 1: Biological Bases of Behavior

Week 1-Introduction

Week 2-Research Methods

Week 3-Roots of Behavior

Week 4&5-Brain and Nervous System

Week 6 Review and Exam

Module 2: Perceiving the World

Week 7-Sensation

Week 8-Perception

Week 9-Consciousness

Week 10-Review and Exam

Module 3: Mental Process and Observable Behaviors

Week 11-Learning

Week 12-Memory

Week 13-Thinking

Week 14-Review and Exam

**Course Requirements and Grading**

**This course is graded using a model called specifications grading. The point of specifications grading is to have you focus on skill development and mastery as opposed to striving for numerical grades.**

* **All work will be judged as “passing” or “does not meet the standard.”**
* **To receive credit (pass), submitted work must meet a minimum standard for professionalism and informational accuracy:** 
  + **Exams: earning a score of 70 or higher**
  + **Assignments: submitting ‘B’ level work or higher**
* **To pass the course, you MUST pass a minimum set of requirements.**
* **To earn a specific course grade, you need to satisfactorily master additional bundles of requirements as described below and on HuskyCT.**

**To be successful in this class:**

* You are expected to attend all class sessions.
* You are expected to complete the assigned chapters and questions BEFORE class and come to class with ideas for discussion. You will be responsible for all assigned materials.
* You are expected to review lecture slides that are posted on HuskyCT prior to class. You can print these out before class or bring them on your laptop so that you can follow along in your note taking. The lecture will include posted material and more in-depth coverage through video clips, discussion, and supplementary material.
* During class, you are expected to answer questions using the classroom polling system, work in small groups or pairs, and utilize online applications to participate in learning activities.
* This is a 3-credit course. The expectation is that you devote approximately nine hours of work to the course, including time spent in class.

**COVID-19 STATEMENT: My policy for Fall 2023 is that, given that we have effective vaccinations and mitigation practices in place, students should plan to attend all classes.** If a student or close contact tests positive for COVID, requiring quarantine, I will work directly with the student to make sure they are able to stay up with the course material. I will be doing everything I can to keep myself healthy and I ask that the members of our community do the same.

**TopHat In-Class Questions:** For this class, you will be required to use the classroom response system within TopHat. This is included with your subscription. We will use these during every class from the second week of class. During class, I will ask questions related to the content, or your feelings about a topic. We will also participate in learning activities during class and use this system to collect data. You will use the TopHat app to respond, either using your phone, tablet, or laptop. Sometimes I will credit you simply for participating, but other times, you will get credit only for correct responses. This will not be announced ahead of time**. For each class that you use your response system, you will receive a score of “1” for Passing work or a score of “0” for work that does not meet the standard.**

**TopHat Interactive Readings:** Research suggests that answering questions in real time enhances learning. Each week you will have the chance to answer questions about the topic presented in class while engaging with your online textbook. Your mastery of the information will be enhanced the more you engage with each topic. To pass this component, you must attain a score of 80% (0.80) or higher within each assigned Chapter in the Tophat textbook which is a weighted grade based on overall participation as well as accuracy. **For each Chapter that you achieve a score of 80% (0.80) or higher, you will receive a score of “1”. If you score below 80%, you will receive a score of “0”.**

**HuskyCT Weekly Prompts:** During class, we will engage in a number of participatory exercises and mini experiments that tie in with lecture topics. Each week you will be required to demonstrate your understanding of the topic via HuskyCT by answering questions about the learning activities or solving problems. You will have a choice in the format you respond to, including writing, creating a visual presentation, recording a video, etc. Examples will be posted and discussed during class. Each response will be graded on its completeness, professionalism, and informational accuracy according to the rubric posted in HuskyCT. **Assignments that meet the standard will receive a score of “1” and items that do not meet the standard will receive a score of “0”. All assignments are due on Saturday by midnight in HuskyCT.**

**HuskyCT Discussion Board ELE Posts:** Students who want to fully master the material in this course will have a chance to participate in enhanced learning exercises in a class discussion forum. For each of the three course modules, you will have a few topics to pick from. These topics will be posted in HuskyCT and are due the Saturday BEFORE the exam corresponding to that module. The questions will require students to take a deeper look at one of the course topics by engaging with several primary sources of information and then participating in an online discussion with their classmates. Specific instructions for each assignment are posted on HuskyCT. A rubric will be provided to denote the quality of work required to pass. The general standard is for questions to be answered professionally and accurately and demonstrates either analysis or creativity. You must post your response to the prompt first and then reply to two posts written by your classmates. **Discussions will receive a score of “1” for Passing work or a score of “0” for work that does not meet the standard.**

**HuskyCT Exams:** These will consist of fill-in the blank, short answer, and multiple-choice questions. Exams will cover information covered in class during lectures and any videos, handouts, or supplementary materials discussed. If you do not pass an exam on the first try, you may redeem a token to re-do the exam. Exam re-dos must be completed within one week of taking the exam. **To pass an exam, you must score 70 points or higher. EXAMS WILL TAKE PLACE DURING WEEK 6, WEEK 10, AND FINAL EXAM WEEK. ALL EXAMS WILL BE GIVEN VIA HUSKYCT AND WILL BE OPEN SOURCE (Slides, textbook, notes, google, etc. are all approved sources. Chegg, classmates, and students who previously took the course ARE NOT ALLOWED to be used as sources).**

**Grading Scale:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Grade**  **Level** | **TopHat In-Class**  **Questions**  **(Each class)** | **TopHat**  **Interactive Readings**  **(Check TopHat for dates)** | **HuskyCT Weekly Prompts**  **(Saturdays)** | **HuskyCT Discussion Board ELE**  **(Due Saturday BEFORE exam days)** | **HuskyCT Exams**  **(Check schedule)** | **Total Points** |
|  | 22 Possible | 9 Possible | 14 Possible | 5 Possible | 6 Total | 55 Possible |
| **A** | 18 | 7 | 12 | 3 | Pass 3 First Attempt | >44 |
| **B** | 14 | 6 | 10 | 2 | Pass 2 First Attempt, 1 Second Attempt | 33-43 |
| **C** | 10 | 5 | 8 | 1 | Pass 1 First Attempt, 2 Second Attempt | 23-32 |
| **D** | 6 | 4 | 6 | 0 | Pass 3 Second Attempt | 12-22 |

To obtain a specific grade level in the course, you must complete all requirements as specified in the above table. For example, you will obtain an A-level grade if you pass all three exams the first time, earn 18 question points, pass 12 assignments, 7 readings and participate in 3 discussions. You may receive a minus grade level if you complete all requirements except one at the next lower level. You *may* receive a plus level grade if you complete some requirements at one level and some requirements at a higher level. Exam requirements *must* be completed to achieve a given grade level.

**Tokens:** You will start the course with two tokens and will be able to earn up to three more, for a total of five possible tokens. Tokens may be used to resubmit an assignment that you have not passed (including exams) or for an extension on an assignment. For an extension, the token MUST be used BEFORE the due date to qualify. The three additional tokens may be earned by completing exam pretests by the date specified in HuskyCT. You may NOT use tokens to make up clicker questions on days you missed class. The extension will be for a maximum of one week. More than one token cannot be used for the same assignment.

**Due Dates and Late Policy**

All course due dates are identified in the syllabus and on HuskyCT. **Late work will be scored for half credit.** Deadlines are based on Eastern Standard Time. The instructor reserves the right to change dates accordingly as the semester progresses. All changes will be communicated appropriately. If there are extenuating circumstances that will prevent you from completing your assignment on time, please discuss this issue with me well in advance of the due date. If you want to keep this private, please meet with the Director of Avery Point Student Services (860-405-9024).

**Feedback and Grades**

I will make every effort to provide feedback and grades within one week of the due date**.** To keep track of your performance in the course, refer to My Grades in HuskyCT.

**Cancelation Policy**

If the Avery Point campus closes due to weather or other emergencies, you will hear an announcement on local radio and television stations.  Otherwise, you may call the Avery Point campus at 860-405-9020; a recorded message will tell you the status of campus activities.  A video monitor on the first floor of the academic building and on the first floor in the Branford House also posts the announcements.  Do not call any campus office for cancellation information, since when classes are canceled due to inclement weather, they are likewise closed. If I need to cancel class, I will notify all students via both the SAS (Student Accessibility Services) and HuskyCT by sending an email to their official uconn.edu email address. I will try to do so no later than 9am of that day.

**Student Responsibilities and Resources**

As a member of the University of Connecticut student community, you are held to certain standards and academic policies. In addition, there are numerous resources available to help you succeed in your academic work. This section provides a brief overview of important standards, policies, and resources.

**Student Code**

You are responsible for acting in accordance with the [University of Connecticut's Student Code](http://community.uconn.edu/the-student-code-preamble/) Review and become familiar with these expectations. Make sure you have read the section that applies to you on Academic Integrity:

* [Academic Integrity in Undergraduate Education and Research](http://community.uconn.edu/the-student-code-appendix-a/)

Cheating and plagiarism are taken very seriously at the University of Connecticut. As a student, it is your responsibility to avoid plagiarism. If you need more information about the subject of plagiarism, use the following resources:

* [Plagiarism: How to Recognize it and How to Avoid It](http://lib.uconn.edu/instruction/tutorials/plagiarism.htm)
* [University of Connecticut Libraries’ Student Instruction](http://lib.uconn.edu/instruction/students.htm) (includes research, citing and writing resources)

**Copyright**

Copyrighted materials within the course are only for the use of students enrolled in the course for purposes associated with this course and may not be retained or further disseminated.

**Netiquette and Communication**

At all times, course communication with fellow students and the instructor are to be professional and courteous. It is expected that you proofread all your written communication, including discussion posts, assignment submissions, and mail messages. If you are new to online learning or need a netiquette refresher, please look at this guide titled, [The Core Rules of Netiquette](http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html).

**Adding or Dropping a Course**

If you should decide to add or drop a course, there are official procedures to follow:

* Matriculated students should add or drop a course through the [Student Administration System](https://student.studentadmin.uconn.edu/).
* Non-degree students should refer to [Non-Degree Add/Drop Information](http://nondegree.uconn.edu/non-degree-registration/) located on the registrar’s website.

You must officially drop a course to avoid receiving an "F" on your permanent transcript. Simply discontinuing class or informing the instructor you want to drop does not constitute an official drop of the course. For more information, refer to the:

* [Undergraduate Catalog](http://catalog.uconn.edu/)
* [Graduate Catalog](http://graduatecatalog.uconn.edu/)

**Academic Calendar**

The University's [Academic Calendar](http://registrar.uconn.edu/academic-calendar/) contains important semester dates.

**Academic Support Resources**

[Technology and Academic Help](http://ecampus.uconn.edu/help.html) provides a guide to technical and academic assistance.

**Final Exam Rescheduling Policy**

Students must be available for their exam and/or complete any assessment during the time stated in the Registrar's Office schedule. If you have a conflict with this time, you must visit the Avery Point Student Services Office to discuss the possibility of rescheduling this final.

The Office of Student Services REQUIRES advance notice from students who have prior knowledge of a conflict (i.e., bunched finals, religious obligation, legal/medical appointments, etc.)  Students must come to Student Services to seek permission to reschedule their final.

Please note that vacations, previously purchased tickets or reservations, graduations, social events, misreading the assessment schedule and over-sleeping are not viable reasons for rescheduling a final. If you think that your situation warrants permission to reschedule, please contact the Office of Student Services (Branford House 306) to make an appointment with the Director of Student Services (860) 405-9024 or [www.advapp.uconn.edu](http://www.advapp.uconn.edu/) (choose Avery Point from the drop-down menu).

**Students with Disabilities**

Students needing special accommodations should work with the University's [Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD (Center for Students with Disabilities))](http://www.csd.uconn.edu/index.html). You may contact CSD by calling (860) 486-2020 or by emailing csd@uconn.edu. If your request for accommodation is approved, CSD will send an accommodation letter directly to your instructor(s) so that special arrangements can be made. (Note: Student requests for accommodation must be filed each semester.) You may also contact Trudy Flanery, the Director of Avery Point Student Services (860-405-9024).

Blackboard measures and evaluates accessibility using two sets of standards: the WCAG 2.0 standards issued by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) and Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act issued in the United States federal government.” (Retrieved March 24, 2013, from [Blackboard's website](http://www.blackboard.com/platforms/learn/resources/accessibility.aspx))

**Policy Against Discrimination, Harassment, and Inappropriate Romantic Relationships**

The University is committed to maintaining an environment free of discrimination or discriminatory harassment directed toward any person or group within its community – students, employees, or visitors.  Academic and professional excellence can flourish only when each member of our community is assured an atmosphere of mutual respect.  All members of the University community are responsible for the maintenance of an academic and work environment in which people are free to learn and work without fear of discrimination or discriminatory harassment.  In addition, inappropriate Romantic relationships can undermine the University’s mission when those in positions of authority abuse or appear to abuse their authority.  To that end, and in accordance with federal and state law, the University prohibits discrimination and discriminatory harassment, as well as inappropriate Romantic relationships, and such behavior will be met with appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal from the University.

More information is available at <http://policy.uconn.edu/?p=2884>.

**Sexual Assault Reporting Policy**

To protect the campus community, all non-confidential University employees (including faculty) are required to report assaults they witness or are told about to the [Office of Diversity & Equity](http://www.ode.uconn.edu/) under the [Sexual Assault Response Policy](http://policy.uconn.edu/?p=2139).  The University takes all reports with the utmost seriousness.  Please be aware that while the information you provide will remain private, it will not be confidential and will be shared with University officials who can help.

More information is available at <http://sexualviolence.uconn.edu/>.

**Personal Concerns**

This course covers a range of difficult mental health topics that many of us may have experienced personally, or that a friend or family member has experienced. If you are troubled by the course's content or if there are other psychological concerns on your mind, please ask for help. There are many low-cost or free resources available, all of which are confidential at both the Avery Point and Storrs campuses:

**Mental Health Resource Center:** Branford House-Third Floor: Jessica Musgrove, LMFT 860-405-904

**The Center for Students with Disabilities** - Campus and community resources and study skills programs. Branford House-Third Floor: Katie Halbruner 860-486-2020

**Software Requirements and Technical Help**

* Word processing software
* [Adobe Acrobat Reader](http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html)
* Internet access
* Social media accounts (optional)

This course is completely facilitated online using the learning management platform, [HuskyCT](http://huskyct.uconn.edu/). If you have difficulty accessing HuskyCT, students have access to the in person/live person support options available during regular business hours in the [Digital Learning Center](http://www.dlc.uconn.edu/). Students also have [24x7 Support](http://www.ecampus24x7.uconn.edu/) with access to live chat, phone, and support documents.

**Minimum Technical Skills**

To be successful in this course, you will need the following technical skills:

* Use electronic mail with attachments.
* Save files in commonly used word processing program formats.
* Copy and paste text, graphics, or hyperlinks.
* Work within two or more browser windows simultaneously.
* Open and access PDF files.

University students are expected to demonstrate competency in Computer Technology. Explore the [Computer Technology Competencies](http://ctcs.uconn.edu/) page for more information.

**Evaluation of the Course**

Students will be provided an opportunity to evaluate instruction in this course using the University's standard procedures, which are administered by the[Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness](http://www.oire.uconn.edu/) (OIRE).

Additional informal formative surveys may also be administered within the course as an optional evaluation tool.

**COURSE SCHEDULE FALL 2023**

**Course Calendar**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Week #** | **Date** | **Topic** | **Readings** | **Assignment** |
| 1 | 8/27-9/02 | Psychology and Scientific Thinking | Module 1 |  |
|  | 9/04 | **LABOR DAY-NO CLASS** | | |
| 2 | 9/03-9/09 | Research Methods | Module 2 | **\*\*\*Have TopHat\*\*\*** |
| 3 | 9/10-9/16 | Roots of Behavior | Module 2 |  |
| 4 | 9/17-9/23 | Brain and Nervous System | Module 3 |  |
| 5 | 9/24-9/30 | Brain and Nervous System | Module 3 |  |
| 6 | 10/1-10/07 | Review and Exam | Modules 1-3 | **Exam 1: 10/4 via HuskyCT** |
| 7 | 10/08-10/14 | Sensation | Module 5 |  |
| 8 | 10/15-10/21 | Perception | Module 5 |  |
| 9 | 10/22-10/28 | Consciousness | Module 6 |  |
| 10 | 10/29-11/04 | Review and Exam | Modules 5-6 | **Exam 2: 11/1 via HuskyCT** |
| 11 | 11/05-11/11 | Learning | Module 7 |  |
| 12 | 11/12-11/18 | Memory | Module 8 |  |
| 11/19-11/25 | | **THANKSGIVING BREAK-NO CLASS** | | |
| 13 | 11/26-12/02 | Thinking and Reasoning | Module 9 |  |
| 14 | 12/03-12/09 | Review | Modules 7-9 | **ALL ASSIGNMENTS DUE BY 12/08/23 at 11:59PM** |
|  | 12/10-12/16 | **Exam 3: 12/13/23 7AM-11:59PM via HuskyCT** | | |