



Saint Louis University Madrid-Campus

Course Syllabus PSY- 101

Prof. Eduardo Fernández-Cruz Sarrate

Spring 2015

**COURSE N° AND TITLE:** PSY- 101 General Psychology  
**LECTURE ROOM:** Padre Rubio Hall, room 4  
**DAYS & TIME :** TR 16:00 - 17:15 hours  
**CREDIT ALLOCATION:** 3.0  
**SEMESTER AND YEAR:** Spring 2015  
**INSTRUCTOR:** Eduardo Fernández-Cruz, Ph.D.  
**OFFICE HOURS:** San Ignacio Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, office 13, MW 11:30 - 12:30 h  
(general procedure for contacting me will be by e-mail)  
**EMAIL:** [efernan6@slu.edu](mailto:efernan6@slu.edu)  
**PHONE:** Phone: (+34) 91 554 5858- etx.:254

**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:**

This is an introductory course to the field of psychology. The main purpose is to give students a general view of the history and concepts of the modern psychology. We will cover main areas of interest in psychology, and we will do this by using the scientific perspective. Psychology is the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. Our objective is to provide students with the knowledge and basic tools to understand the complexity of the human behavior, to develop a critical thinking, and to be able to understand the scientific method, which can be applied to different fields of psychology. The ultimate goal of psychology is to make this world a better place. We will learn the following:

- 1) A brief history of Psychology and therapies
- 2) Scientific Research in Psychology
- 3) Central Nervous System and Behavior
- 4) Heredity and Environment
- 5) Sensation and Perception
- 6) States of Consciousness
- 7) What is Learning
- 8) Stages of Memory
- 9) Motivation and Emotion
- 10) Personality

**COURSE GOALS:** Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to demonstrate the following competencies:

- I. This course will introduce students to general concepts and theoretical models of psychology.
- II. I want students to learn make connections between different psychological concepts and to think critically.
- III. I want students to learn the scientific method and how it is applied in psychology.

All of these theoretical and practical objectives will be oriented toward future professional development.

### **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

After completing this course, students must have acquired and developed the following competencies:

I. Through discussion, readings, and class projects, students will demonstrate their learning by being able to identify and define psychological concepts.

II. Students will demonstrate their learning by being able to compare and connect different concepts related to behavior, sensation and perception, emotions, consciousness, memory, and personality.

III. Upon leaving this course, students will be able to evaluate and debate different psychological research studies.

IV. Upon leaving this course, students will be able to develop a good understanding of how to apply fundamental concepts learned in class to their everyday lives (professionally or personally).

### **Schedule and Reading Assignments:**

Week 1-2: Explain group project. Introduction to psychology and schools of psychology/Therapies.

Week 3: Scientific Research in Psychology

Week 4: Central Nervous System and Behavior

Week 5: Human development

Week 6: Sensation and Perception

Week 7-8: review project + quiz + midterm

Week 9: States of Consciousness & sleep

Week 10: Motivation and Emotion

Week 12: Conditioning and Learning

Week 13: Stages of Memory

Week 14: Personality

Week 15-16: Presentations

**Text:** Coon, D. & Mitterer, J.O. (2008). Psychology A Journey. 4th Edition. Thomson Wadsworth. Belmont, CA, US.

- **Project:** Presentation of one main psychological topic. There are two components (oral presentation and a research paper). Students will choose a topic within the field of psychology. Examples will be given in class. I will discuss this issue in class, and you will have the slides on blackboard.
- **Class participation:** Based on how you contributed to class by offering ideas and asking questions in class. To receive an A you need to: regularly attend class (not more than two unjustified excuses), and almost always participate in class (e.g., ask questions and offer ideas, discuss and contribute with experiences and reflective thoughts, and to listen actively in class). Earning a

grade B will be: often participated in class. Earning a grade C will be: sometimes participated in class. Earning a grade D will be: almost never participated in class. Earning a grade F will be: very rarely participated in class.

- **Attendance policy:** Students are expected to attend class regularly and to be in class before class starts. The student is responsible for all announcements made (that I usually do at the beginning of the class) and for the material covered in class. Please keep in mind that your class participation is important, and if you do not come regularly, your grade for class participation will be affected negatively. Late arrival to class is highly discouraged, since it is disruptive for the class. Arriving 15 late or longer will count as an absence.
- **Absences:** You are allowed only 2 unexcused absences. More than two unexcused absences will significantly lower your grade for class participation minus 5 points per unexcused absence). If you missed class due to a special circumstance, please bring a justification (e.g., a doctor's note).

**Evaluation:**

Final Exam: 35%  
 Midterm Exam: 20%  
 Class project (oral presentation + written paper): 25%  
 Quizzes: 15 %  
 Class Participation: 5%

**SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY GRADE POLICY**

A	94-100	4.0	High achievement and intellectual initiative
A-	90-93	3.7	Approaching high achievement
B+	87-89	3.3	Slightly higher than above average achievement
B	84-86	3.0	Above average achievement
B-	80-83	2.7	Approaching above average achievement
C+	77-79	2.3	Slightly higher than average achievement
C	74-76	2.0	Average achievement
C-	70-73	1.7	Below average achievement.
D	60-69	1.0	Inferior but passing achievement
F	<60	0.0	Failure
I			Incomplete
P/NP			Pass/No Pass
W			Withdrawal

## **IMPORTANT DATES SPRING 2015**

### **JANUARY**

Sunday	11	Spring 2015 New Student Arrival and University Housing Move-In Date
Monday-Tuesday	12-13	Spring 2015 New Student Welcome Sessions
Wednesday	14	Spring 2015 First Day of Classes
Friday	23	Application Deadline for Spring and Summer Semester Degree Candidates
Tuesday	27	Last Day to Drop a Class Without a Grade of W and /or Add a Class Last Day to Choose Audit (AU) or Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory (S/U) Options
Friday	30	No Classes

### **FEBRUARY**

Friday	13	Exams for MATH
Wednesday	18	Registration for Summer 2015 Sessions begins
Friday-Monday	20-23	No Classes (Winter Break)

### **MARCH**

Tuesday	3	Professors' Deadline to Submit Midterm Grades
Friday	13	Last Day to Drop a Class and Receive a Grade of W Exams for MATH
Monday	16	Last Day to Submit Transfer application for Fall Semester
Thursday	19	<b>San José Holiday (University Closed)</b>
Saturday	28	Pre- <i>Semana Santa</i> University Housing Move-Out Date
Monday-Tuesday	30-31	<b>Semana Santa (University Closed)</b>

### **APRIL**

Wednesday	1	<b>Semana Santa (University Closed)</b>
Thursday	2	<b>Jueves Santo Holiday (University Closed)</b>
Friday	3	<b>Viernes Santo Holiday (University Closed)</b>
Sunday	5	Easter Post- <i>Semana Santa</i> University Move-In Date
Monday	6	Easter Monday - Classes resume (full day)
Wednesday	8	Registration for Fall 2015 Semester begins

### **MAY**

Friday	1	<b>Día del Trabajo Holiday (University Closed)</b>
Wednesday	6	Spring 2015 Final Day of Classes

Thursday-Friday	7-8	Spring 2015 Final Exams
Monday-Wednesday	11-13	Spring 2015 Final Exams
Thursday	14	University Housing Move-Out Date Commencement
Friday	15	<b>San Isidro Holiday (University Closed)</b>
Saturday	16	Professors' Deadline to Submit Spring 2015 Final Grades

**QUIZZES:**

- February 12, 2015
- April 16, 2015

**MIDTERM:**

- February 24, 2015

**Presentation Dates:**

- April 23, 28, & 30
- May 5

**FINAL EXAM**

- May 7, 2015 at 15:30 hours

**Midterm and the Final Examination:** There will be **one midterm** and **one final examination**. The material on the midterm and final examination may be taken from your textbook, lecture notes and/or handouts in class, problems worked in class, quizzes and/or homework assignments.

Students who do not show up for a midterm or final exam will receive a grade 0, or F. If a student needs a change date/time of the final exam (due to an extraordinary circumstance) you must contact the Academic Dean.

**COURSE POLICIES:**

- If you absolutely must miss a class, it is your responsibility to get all information and material covered from your fellow students. I highly recommend that you make sure that you can get class notes from at least two fellow students. If you miss class for an illness, you must a) notify the professor as soon as physically possible; b) show the professor a doctor's note that covers the dates of the absences; and c) make up any missed work.
- Written assignments are due as specified.
- Students who legitimately miss an exam, due to a doctor's visit or family emergency must provide written documentation of the circumstances, and will be allowed to take a make-up exam. Exams that are missed illegitimately result in a score of F. Grades for these students will be based on the remaining exams. Missing more than one exam will result in an F final grade.

## **Accommodation Statement**

---

In recognition that people learn in a variety of ways and that learning is influenced by multiple factors (e.g., prior experience, study skills, learning disability), resources to support student success are available on campus. Students who think they might benefit from these resources can find out more about:

Course-level support (e.g., faculty member, departmental resources, etc.) by asking your course instructor.

University-level support (e.g., tutoring/writing services, Disability Services) by visiting the Academic Dean's Office (San Ignacio Hall) or by going to [http://spain.slu.edu/academics/learning\\_resources.html](http://spain.slu.edu/academics/learning_resources.html).

Students who believe that, due to a disability, they could benefit from academic accommodations are encouraged to contact Disability Services at [+34 915 54 58 58, ext. 230](tel:+34915545858), send an e-mail to [counselingcenter-madrid@slu.edu](mailto:counselingcenter-madrid@slu.edu), or to visit the Counseling Office (San Ignacio Hall). Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries. Course instructors support student accommodation requests when an approved letter from Disability Services has been received and when students discuss these accommodations with the instructor after receipt of the approved letter.

## **Academic Honesty and Plagiarism**

---

The University is a community of learning, whose effectiveness requires an environment of mutual trust and integrity, such as would be expected at a Jesuit, Catholic institution. As members of this community, students, faculty, and staff members share the responsibility to maintain this environment. Academic dishonesty violates it. Although not all forms of academic dishonesty can be listed here, it can be said in general that soliciting, receiving, or providing any unauthorized assistance in the completion of any work submitted toward academic credit is dishonest. It not only violates the mutual trust necessary between faculty and students but also undermines the validity of the University's evaluation of students and takes unfair advantage of fellow students. Further, it is the responsibility of any student who observes such dishonest conduct to call it to the attention of a faculty member or administrator.

Examples of academic dishonesty would be copying from another student, copying from a book or class notes during a closed-book exam, submitting materials authored by or editorially revised by another person but presented as the student's own work, copying a passage or text directly from a published source without appropriately citing or recognizing that source, taking a test or doing an assignment or other academic work for another student, tampering with another student's work, securing or supplying in advance a copy of an examination without the knowledge or consent of the instructor, and colluding with another student or students to engage in an act of academic dishonesty.

Where there is clear indication of such dishonesty, a faculty member or administrator has the responsibility to apply appropriate sanctions. Investigations of violations will be conducted in accord with standards and procedures of the school or college through

which the course or research is offered. Recommendations of sanctions to be imposed will be made to the dean of the school or college in which the student is enrolled. Possible sanctions for a violation of academic integrity include, but are not limited to, disciplinary probation, suspension, and dismissal from the University. The complete SLU Academic Honesty Policy can be found at the following link:  
[http://spain.slu.edu/academics/academic\\_advising/docs/Academic\\_integrity.pdf](http://spain.slu.edu/academics/academic_advising/docs/Academic_integrity.pdf)

### **Information regarding the collection of student work for assessment**

Saint Louis University - Madrid Campus is committed to excellent and innovative educational practices. In order to maintain quality academic offerings and to conform to relevant accreditation requirements, we regularly assess our teaching, services, and programs for evidence of student learning outcomes achievement. For this purpose we keep on file anonymized representative examples of student work from all courses and programs such as: assignments, papers, exams, portfolios, and results from student surveys, focus groups, and reflective exercises. *Thus, copies of your work for this course, (e.g. any exams, oral presentations, assignments, submitted papers and/or portfolios) may be kept on file for institutional research, assessment and accreditation purposes.* If you prefer that Saint Louis University-Madrid Campus does not keep your work on file, you will need to communicate your decision in writing to your professor.