

**Mary Baldwin University**  
**PSYC101 – Introduction to Psychology as a Natural Science**  
Online Tutorial  
Spring 2021

**Instructor:** Patricia L. Murphy  
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**Required Text:** Myers, David (2016) Exploring Psychology - Tenth Edition  
ISBN-13:978-1-4641-5437-9

**Course Description:** This course introduces students to topics in the field of psychology that focus primarily on the biological influences on our behavior and cognitions. In addition to the biology of behavior this course will cover consciousness, sleep and dreaming, sensation and perception, learning and memory, the biological aspects sex, gender and sexuality, thinking and intelligence, motivation and emotion and lastly we will discuss the impact stress has on our bodies and how to deal with it.

**Course Requirements:**

- 1.) **Discussion Board Forums** – Every week students will be asked to respond to a discussion board forum. The forums will be on Canvas. You should respond to the original forum and then comment on at least two of your classmates postings. Worth 20% of your grade.
- 2.) **Exams** - There will be two tests and a final exam in this class. Tests and exams will be taken on time and under conditions consistent with the Mary Baldwin College Honor Code. The first exam is worth 15% of your final grade. The second exam is worth 15% and the final exam is worth 20% of your final grade.
- 3.) **Laboratory Reports** – There will be eight lab assignments in this course. Lab assignments have been designed to demonstrate the major concepts covered in this course. Each lab will involve an activity or an exercise that you can do at home in a relatively short amount of time. Then a short lab report will be required. Worth 30% of your grade.

**Course Schedule: (DB stands for Discussion Board)**

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Reading Assignment</u>	<u>Assignments Due</u>
Week 1	<u>Module One</u> – Thinking critically with Psychological Science	DB1 Quiz 1
Week 2	<u>Module Two</u> -The Biology of Behavior	DB2 Quiz 2 Lab One

<b>Week 3</b>	<b><u>Module Three</u></b> -Consciousness and the two-track mind	<b>DB3 Quiz 3 Lab Two</b>
<b>Week 4</b>	<b><u>Module Four</u></b> – Sex, Gender and Sexuality	<b>DB4 Quiz 4 Lab Three</b>
<b>Week 5</b>	<b>No new material Assigned</b>	<b>Exam One</b>
<b>Week 6</b>	<b><u>Module Six</u></b> – Sensation and Perception	<b>DB5 Quiz 5</b>
<b>Week 7</b>	<b><u>Module Seven</u></b> – Learning	<b>DB6 Quiz 6 Lab Four</b>
<b>Week 8</b>	<b><u>Module Eight</u></b> - Memory	<b>DB7 Quiz 7</b>
<b>Week 9</b>	<b><u>Module Nine</u></b> – Thinking and Intelligence	<b>DB8 Quiz 8 Lab Five</b>
<b>Week 10</b>	<b>No new material assigned</b>	<b>Exam Two Lab Six</b>
<b>Week 11</b>	<b><u>Module Eleven</u></b> – Motivation	<b>DB9 Quiz 9</b>
<b>Week 12</b>	<b><u>Module Twelve</u></b> - Emotion	<b>DB10 Quiz 10 Lab Seven</b>
<b>Week 13</b>	<b><u>Module Fourteen</u></b> -Stress and Health	<b>DB11 Quiz 11 Lab Eight</b>

**April 19 - Final due date for all work- Final exam and any remaining work must be submitted by this date to be considered.**

**Honor Code:**

Students are expected to abide by the Mary Baldwin University honor code and conduct themselves accordingly. Any form of plagiarism, cheating, or dishonesty will be reported to the Dean.

**Late Policy:**

Without prior notification and a valid excuse, late assignments will be marked down half a letter grade for every week they are late. Keeping your instructor informed is critically important! Because the material in this class builds upon itself, handing in assignments late or missing assignments altogether will severely impair your ability to successfully master the material. It is better to hand in assignments on time, even if you know there are mistakes. Assignments that are more than two weeks late will not be accepted unless the student contacts me by the original due date and has extenuating circumstances.

**Extension Policy:**

At the student's request, extensions may be granted to those who have not completed all the course work by the MBU declared deadline for the given semester. However, students must have completed at least half of the required work in a good faith effort and/or have extenuating circumstances in order to be approved for an ET.

**E-mail Activation:**

All MBU students are required to activate their MBU issued e-mail accounts. These accounts will be one of the primary sources for communication from the instructor and are thus crucial for your success in this course.

**Group Work:**

With the exception of quizzes and exams students are permitted to help one another with their assignments. For instance, consulting a classmate about the correct way to work out a problem is perfectly acceptable. However, each student must complete her or his assignment individually (e.g. you can't simply copy someone else's answers).