

Mary Baldwin College
Psychology 101 WA - Psychology as a Natural Science
Fall 2021 Online Course

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Text: (required) Myers, *Exploring Psychology in Modules*, 10th edition, Worth Publisher, ISBN: 978-1464154072

Course objectives: The goal of this course is to teach you the basic concepts, principles and theories of psychology as a natural science. By the end of this course you should be familiar with how research is conducted in psychology and be able to critically evaluate behavioral research findings as reported in the popular media. It is hoped that students will come to recognize the practical side of the science of psychology and how we can benefit from a greater understanding of both our own behavior and the behavior of others.

This course carries Natural Science credit (N) for the Mary Baldwin General Education requirements.

Special note to education students: We consider psychology an important and useful discipline for aspiring K-12 teachers. However, the Virginia Department of Education does not recognize psychology courses as "laboratory science" for the purposes of teacher certification. *If you are enrolled in this course solely for that reason, you should consult a faculty member in the School of Education immediately for another lab science recommendation.*

Course Requirements:

- 1.) Every week students will be required to respond to a **Discussion Board Question (DBQ)** relating to that week's material. You will make your initial post by Friday of each week and post a response to a classmate post by the end of the day Sunday. These assignments will be worth 30% of your grade.
- 2.) **Quizzes.** Most weeks there will be a short on-line quiz covering the assigned chapters for that particular week. You must take the quiz by the end of the day Sunday. Quizzes will be worth 20% of your grade.

- 3.) **Exams** – There will be a midterm and final exam. Exams may be a combination of multiple choice, short answer and essay questions. The midterm exam will be worth 25% of your final grade and the final will be worth 25% of your grade.

Course Schedule:

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Reading Assignment</u>	<u>Assignments Due</u>
Week 1 8/30	Thinking Critically Modules 1-2	Discussion Board Questions (DBQ)
Week 2 9/6	Biology of Behavior Modules 3-6	DBQ Quiz
Week 3 9/13	Consciousness Modules 7-9	DBQ Quiz
Week 4 9/20	Developing Through the Life Span Modules 10-13	DBQ Quiz
Week 5 9/27	Sex, Gender and Sexuality Modules 14-15	DBQ Quiz
Week 6 10/4	Sensation and Perception Modules 16-18	DBQ Quiz
Week 7 10/11-14	Learning Modules 19-21	DBQ Quiz
Week 8 10/19	Memory Modules 22-24	DBQ Midterm Exam Modules 1-24
Week 9 10/25	Thinking, Language, Intelligence Modules 25-28	DBQ Quiz

Week 10 11/1	Motivation and Emotion Modules 29-32	DBQ Quiz
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Week 11 11/8	Stress and Health Modules 33-34	DBQ Quiz
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Week 12 11/15	Social Psychology Modules 35-37	DBQ Quiz
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Thanksgiving Break 11/23 – 11/28 – No Assignments

Week 13 11/29	Personality Modules 38-39	DBQ Quiz
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Week 14 12/6 – 12/10	Disorders and Therapy Modules 40-45	Final Exam Modules 23 - 45
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Honor Code:

Students are expected to abide by the Mary Baldwin College 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!

Extension Policy:

At the student's request, extensions may be granted to those who have not completed all the course work by the MBC 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 MBC students are required to activate their MBC issued e-mail accounts. These accounts will be the primary source for communication from the instructor and are thus crucial for your success in this course.

Source Documentation and Group Work:

When students reference an outside source in their written work they will be required to state the author's name(s) and the year of publication. Reference pages are only required with the Research Paper.

With the exception of exams students are permitted to help one another on their written assignments. Each student must complete her or his assignment individually (e.g. you can't collaborate on a paper) but peer support and review is often helpful and strongly encouraged.