

GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY I
PSYC 1100 sec 035, Spring 2026
Lecture: MCHU 102
sec 035 Mon Wed 4:40-5:30
Lab sec 036L-046L: as scheduled (see reverse)
in SHH 438 or ARJ 139

Instructor: Eric Lundquist
Office: BOUS 136
Phone: 486-4084
Office Hours: Mon Wed 5:30-6:30
and by appointment
E-mail: Eric.Lundquist@uconn.edu

Supplemental Instructor: Katherine Larson
E-mail: Katherine.Larson@uconn.edu



This course is an introduction to psychology as a natural science. The Lecture part of the course examines conceptual issues and the biological, behavioral, and cognitive approaches to some central topics, e.g., neuropsychology, learning theory, human memory, sensory processes, and perception. The Lab introduces concepts in research methodology and science literacy as they pertain to psychology and is independent of the Lecture material; it has its own assignments and quizzes as determined by the Lab Teaching Assistant.

Academic misconduct (plagiarism, cheating, etc.) is a violation of the University of Connecticut Student Conduct Code at <https://community.uconn.edu/the-student-code-preamble/>; policies on such are at <https://community.uconn.edu/student-undergraduate-faq/>. General University policies at <https://provost.uconn.edu/faculty-and-staff-resources/syllabi-references/> should be considered part of every course's policies.

OPTIONAL TEXTBOOK

OpenStax *Psychology* (2nd edition): Open Educational Resource (OER), free to read online, free downloadable pdf available:
<https://openstax.org/details/books/psychology-2e>

GRADING (Note: Exams are In-Person, In-Class, using HuskyCT and Respondus LockDown Browser)

Exam 1:	WEDNESDAY 3/4/26 in seventh week of class	30 points
Exam 2:	WEDNESDAY 4/8/26 in eleventh week of class	30 points
Exam 3 (Final Exam):	MONDAY 5/4/26, subject to change (TBA BY THE REGISTRAR)	30 points
Lab (see next page):		30 points
Research / Science Literacy Component (see next page):	5 extra credit points allowed, after initial 5 credits completed	
TOTAL:		120 points

COURSE OUTLINE: Topics & readings in OpenStax *Psychology* (2nd edition)

INTRODUCTION

The Science of Psychology: History, Philosophy, and Definitions of Psychology [Chapter 1 Introduction to Psychology]

BIOLOGY

Neural Bases of Behavior [Chapter 3 Biopsychology]

- A) neural basis: reflex, nerve impulse, action potential, communication by neurotransmitters
- B) brain basis: nervous system structure, localization of function, disorders, lateralization

BEHAVIOR

Learning: The Changing Organism's Adaptation to the Changing World [Chapter 6 Learning]

- A) classical and operant conditioning: concepts, procedures, and experimental phenomena
- B) biological constraints: belongingness
- C) cognitive learning: contingency in classical conditioning, learned helplessness, latent learning

MIND

Memory: Preserving the Past [Chapter 8 Memory]

- A) types of memory: short-term/long-term, episodic/generic, explicit/implicit, declarative/procedural
- B) encoding and retrieval

Sensory Processes: Experiencing the World [Chapter 5 Sensation and Perception]

- A) light and sensory mechanisms in the eye
- B) psychophysics

Perception: Knowing the World [Chapter 5 Sensation and Perception]

- A) empiricist approach to depth perception: Helmholtz
- B) nativist approach to form perception: Gestalt Psychology
- C) ecological approach: Gibson

LECTURE is in MCHU 102, Mon Wed 4:40-5:30 (sec 035).

LAB: ATTENDANCE AT LAB SECTIONS IS MANDATORY FOR EVERY PSYC 1100 STUDENT. PSYC 1100 is a 3 credit class, meeting hours per week; two of those hours are Lecture and the third is Lab. THE LAB GRADE COUNTS FOR 25% OF THE COURSE GRADE. This means that if you skip the Lab you could score perfectly on all three exams and still only receive 75% of the points for the course. Lab meetings for PSYC 1100 sections 036L-046L are in SHH 438 or ARJ 139 at the times stated in the course schedule. All students should know their Lab section number, meeting time, and teaching assistant's name. LABS BEGIN MON 2/2/26.

SEC	DAY	TIME	ROOM	T.A.
036L	Mo	9:05AM-9:55AM	ARJ139	
037L	Mo	10:10AM-11:00AM	SHH438	
038L	Mo	11:15AM-12:05PM	SHH438	
039L	Tu	9:30AM-10:20AM	ARJ139	
040L	Tu	11:00AM-11:50AM	SHH438	
041L	We	10:10AM-11:00AM	ARJ139	
042L	We	11:15AM-12:05PM	ARJ139	
043L	We	12:20PM-1:10PM	ARJ139	
044L	Th	9:30AM-10:20AM	SHH438	
045L	Th	11:00AM-11:50AM	SHH438	
046L	Th	12:30PM-1:20PM	ARJ139	

RESEARCH / SCIENCE LITERACY COMPONENT and EXPERIMENT PARTICIPANT POOL:

There is a large amount of ongoing psychological research in the department which depends largely upon General Psychology students as participants. Researchers include faculty, graduate students, and other undergraduate students. The traditional mechanism that has been in place for many decades nationwide is to allow introductory psychology students to earn part of their course credit through participation in experiments. Benefits to the science of Psychology are obvious; benefits to the student include exposure to research in specific areas of Psychology and insight into the general nature of psychological research. Information about experiments (time, place, duration, description, experimenter's name, etc.) is posted on the Sona Participant Pool experiment sign-up page, <https://uconnpsych.sona-systems.com>, which is also where you make appointments to participate in the studies you choose. Refer to <https://psychology.uconn.edu/participant-pool/> for details of participation procedures and instructions for how to log in to the Sona page. Experiments this semester run from Tuesday 1/20/26 through Wednesday 4/29/26. All experiment participation must be completed during that time, and any credit accounting errors must be detected and corrected absolutely no later than Friday 5/1/26. Credit totals will be posted on the Sona web site on Monday 5/4/26. Specific policies for PSYC 1100 sec 035 are as follows:

Each 1/2 hour of experiment participation counts for 1 experiment participation credit. All experiments are at least 1 credit; some are only 1 but some may be more depending on the amount of time required to participate.

5 experiment participation credits (2.5 hours) must be completed in order to QUALIFY for additional points toward your total points accumulated for the course from exams and Lab. Those initial 5 credits do not earn additional points toward your course total. If they are not completed, your grade is not affected at all, but no additional points are earned. For example, a student who earns 20 points on exam 1, 20 points on exam 2, 20 points on exam 3, and 20 points in Lab (each out of 30 possible) has a total of 80 points out of 120 possible points; with 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 experiment credits, the student maintains that score of 80 out of 120.

Up to 5 additional experiment participation credits (2.5 hours) may be earned as EXTRA POINTS, once the initial 5 credits have been completed; this is the only form of extra credit offered in this course. These extra credits count ONLY as points to be ADDED to the total points accumulated for the course; they are not required, and failing to do them will not affect your grade. For example, a student who earns 20 points on exam 1, 20 points on exam 2, 20 points on exam 3, and 20 points in Lab and has completed the initial 5 experiment participation credits has a total of 80 points; with 1 extra credit the total becomes 81, and with the maximum of 5 extra credits (i.e. 10 credits total, including the initial 5) it becomes 85. Note that the difference between 80 points and 85 points out of 120 could be the difference between, say, a D+ and a C- as a course grade. (Actual course letter grade cutoffs will be determined before adding any extra credits, so that no one is penalized for not earning extra credit.)

Participation in experiments is strictly voluntary. For students not wishing to participate in experiments, alternate assignments will be available, requiring about the same amount of time as the experiment credits and playing the same role in grade calculation as described above for the 5 initial credits and 5 extra credits. The alternate assignment options will be posted on a HuskyCT site called "Spring 26 Psyc 1100 Research Literacy Alternate Assignment", which will appear among your other HuskyCT sites in week 10 of the semester on Monday 3/30/26, and is separate from the HuskyCT sites for the Lecture and the Lab. ANY COMBINATION of experiment participation credits and alternate assignment credits is allowed, with their combined total being used to assess points to be added as described above.

Once you make an experiment appointment you MUST keep it, or cancel with at least 24 hours notice; the Participant Pool web page allows cancellations only until the 24-hour point is reached! If you miss TWO appointments with less than 24 hours notice, the system will automatically disqualify you from further participation in experiments and won't allow you to sign up for any more. Then the alternate assignments will be the only option for earning credits. (But really, keeping appointments is a fairly basic responsibility that you can probably manage okay!)

All questions about experiment participation procedures and issues should be addressed to uconnpsychologyparticipantpool@gmail.com (scroll down to "Contact Us" for email link)—NOT to the instructor who will not have the answer you seek. Be sure to first consult the web page <https://psychology.uconn.edu/participant-pool/> where you'll find most questions have already been answered!

PORTIONS OF THIS SYLLABUS MAY BE UPDATED