



# PSY101

## General Psychology

Dr. Ciara Kidder

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Admin 301 H

## Why should you take (and be interested) in this class?

The most common question posed to psychologists (and people taking a psychology class) is “Are you analyzing me?” In fact, much of psychology is not about therapy and mental health. Instead, psychology is an incredibly broad field that explores how humans (and other animals) think and behave.

By taking this course, you will encounter information based in other sciences, like biology and chemistry. You will also see how psychology informs countless other fields such as communications, nursing, and education. You will see how you can take what you are learning in class and apply it to your daily life. When

we discuss how psychologists do research, you can learn how to evaluate all the news you see on your social media streams; when we learn about how people learn and remember things, you can apply reliable study techniques to your other coursework; when we discuss social thinking, you can see how people are influenced in group settings and recognize it in the real world. The list goes on and on.

In this class, there will be at least one thing you discover that will excite you, and that will influence how you see the world!!



### About Your Professor

Dr. Kidder is an assistant professor of psychology at Marian University. She completed her Bachelors in Psychology at Lock Haven University in Pennsylvania and her Masters and Ph.D. at the University of Texas at El Paso. There, she taught as a graduate student instructor. Dr. Kidder teaches general psychology, statistics for social science, research methods, social psychology, and history and systems in psychology. She and her family (husband and one child) have lived in Fond du Lac since 2016.

### Contact Information

#### Dr. Kidder's Office Hours:

Monday/Wednesday 1-2; Tuesday 9-10:30; Friday 10:30-12:30 or by appointment.  
Admin 301H.

#### Email:

[ckkidder08@marianuniversity.edu](mailto:ckkidder08@marianuniversity.edu)

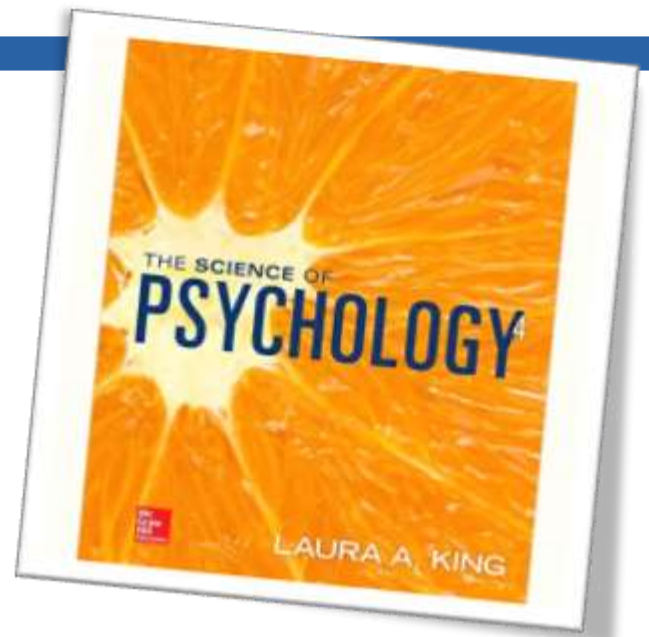
## Textbook

We will be using King, The Science of Psychology: An Appreciative View, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition (McGraw-Hill) for this course.

ISBN: 9781307015454

There are no specific assigned readings from this text; but the book supplements the material covered in the course.

You will also need reliable internet access and a working knowledge of MO2. Homework assignments will be completed and/or submitted online. Because of the nature of technology, you need to anticipate that there are sometimes outages. If you go to submit your assignment at 11:50pm and there is an outage, you may miss the deadline, and the assignment. You will also need to regularly check your university email for course announcements.



### ON RESERVE

A version of our text is available for use in the Library

## Teaching Strategies

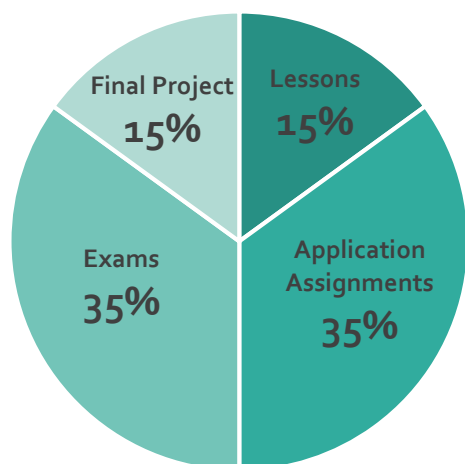
This class will not follow the format of a typical class where a professor lectures during the class time and then you go home and complete homework. In the typical class, the first and easiest stage of learning, knowledge acquisition, is done in the classroom and the second and harder stage,



application, is done at home. In our class, this model is being “flipped”. I will assign lessons to be completed **before** class. This homework

requires you to engage in knowledge acquisition. During each lesson, you will be quizzed as you go to check for understanding. In class, we will focus on the application stage through activities, discussions, etc. By adopting this strategy, I will be there while you work through the harder part of learning, able to easily answer questions and offer guidance. This will also make classes more engaging and enjoyable for you.

## GRADING SCHEME



## LETTER GRADES

100-92.5%	A
92.4-89.5	A-
89.4-86.5%	B+
86.4-82.5%	B
82.4-79.5%	B-
79.4-76.5%	C+
76.4-72.5%	C
72.4-69.5%	C-
69.4-66.5%	D+
66.4-62.5%	D
62.4-59.5%	D-
Below 59.5%	F

## Assignments

**Lesson Quizzes.** For many class periods there is an associated lesson posted on MO2. Each lesson begins with a list of the learning objectives for the unit that will be covered over the subsequent pages. The lesson is a sequence of videos, text, or readings that will help you to answer the learning objectives. Within the lesson, there are questions that aim to check your understanding. Depending on how you answer the questions, you may proceed with the lesson, or be directed back to the material for further understanding. Lessons should be completed individually without help from others. Gathering around a computer with friends to answer the questions, taking screen shots or writing down the correct answers and sharing them with others does not help your learning and is collusion (a form of academic dishonesty - see below). All lessons for the week will be made available no later than Sunday at 12am. All lessons must be completed by midnight, the night before class. You will have some ability to work ahead on the lessons. The two lowest lesson grades will be dropped from your overall grade. This will include any lessons you do not complete for any reason.

### Application Assignments.

For each unit, you will complete an application assignment. These assignments will be a way to show the extent to which you understand the topics covered, and how well you can apply them to the real world. We will spend some time in class working on these assignments so it's important to come to class those days prepared to work. Descriptions and grading rubrics for these assignments are available on MO2.

Application assignments are due by midnight on the due date.





**Exams.** As another method of assessing your knowledge, you will complete four exams. These exams will measure the extent to which you have mastered the basic knowledge and how well you can apply those skills in a variety of settings. Exams will consist of five essay questions, of which you will be required to answer three. To prepare for the exams, we will have review sessions in class. You will need to complete the study guide before the review session in order to participate fully in the review session. Your completed study guide may be used during the exam.

**Group Project.** For your final project, you will be assigned a topic from a list of several areas of psychology that were not covered in class (based on

preferences you indicated early in the semester) and design a group project on that topic to share with the class during the final exam period. Groups will be formed and topics will be assigned early in the semester. We will also spend time in class working on the projects so it is important to come to class prepared to work on those days. Although this time in class is helpful for completing the projects, you will need to find time to work together outside of class as well. Our final exam period will be spent presenting these projects.

Everyone in your group will receive two grades for the project. Sixty percent of the grade on your final project will be the same grade for each member, based on the overall quality of the project and presentation. Forty percent of

the grade is for group participation. Group members will rate each other's participation in the project. These ratings will be combined and translated into an individual participation grade.

**Extra Credit.** You can earn up to 3% extra credit on top of your final grade. To earn credit, you must complete a bonus assignment; each bonus assignment you complete is worth 1%. You must complete the bonus assignment during the unit it was assigned. To earn all 3%, you will need to complete three bonus assignments over three out of the four units in the course. You will not be able to go back and complete bonus assignments from previous units to earn extra credit at the end of the course.

## Course Policies

**Attendance Policy.** Attendance will be taken daily and reported to various offices on campus. Although attendance is not a direct portion of your grade, attending class is particularly important for success in this class. Significant class time will be spent completing in-class activities and preparation for outside of class assignments. Since attendance is not part of your grade you do not need to contact me in advance of missing class. **You are expected to review the missed materials on your own time and arrange time to meet with me if you have further questions.**

**Exam Make-up.** Make-up exams will rarely be granted. If you have a conflict with any of the exam days, you need to give me at least three days' notice and arrange to complete the exam in advance. In the case of an emergency, you must notify as soon as possible and make-up opportunities will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

**Late Work.** I understand that things happen in your lives. Because of that, you have ONE, automatic, 48hr extension on any lesson or assignment (not for use on exams or the final project), no questions asked. If you wish to use this extension, simply send me an email before the due date and time, to let me know that you are using your free pass. The free pass is not applicable to

exams or presentations. All other late work will be accepted only on a case-by-case basis.

**Classroom and Campus Expectations.** Students are encouraged to maximize their learning experience at Marian University. Ideal learning takes place in an environment where trust, mutual respect and active engagement are valued and observed by all participants. Students at Marian University are expected to conduct themselves in a manner appropriate to a professional setting. Students are expected to be respectful of the learning environment established by the instructor. No student has the right to be disruptive, disrespectful or uncivil in their conduct – including language – in any setting at Marian

University, including online, Facebook, and other web-based venues. A student who the instructor believes is acting inappropriately in the classroom may be asked to leave the class for a session or longer, or may be administratively withdrawn by University officials.

**Academic Honesty.** The rules and procedures dealing with academic honesty set forth in the Marian University Academic Bulletin will be followed in this class. Students are expected to have familiarized themselves with these rules and procedures. This applies to cheating, plagiarism and intentional misrepresentation of the truth. If a paper is prepared by a student for this class, it is expected that the paper will be the student's own work and that any use of the work of

another in a student's paper be properly quoted and cited.

**Statement Regarding Persons with Disabilities.** Marian University will provide reasonable accommodations to qualified people with disabilities. If you feel you need accommodations to fully participate in this class, please contact Lisa Olig, Coordinator of Disability Services and Academic Support, at 920-923-8951.

**Statement Regarding Students with Temporary Impairments/Injuries.** Students with temporary impairments due to injury, surgery, or recovery from surgery, may request short-term accommodations from Lisa Olig, Coordinator for Disability Services and Academic Support at 920-923-8951.

**Marian University Credit Hour Policy Statement.** According to commonly-accepted collegiate academic practices, success in this 3-credit course requires work equivalent to a minimum of 135 hours of work: approximately 45, one-hour class periods and 90 hours of work outside of class. With about 15 weeks of classes, that's about six hours of homework each week. Usually, you won't have this much work outside of class, but you should keep these guidelines in mind throughout the semester. Coursework includes: lessons, in-class activities, application assignments, exams, and the final project.

# Course Schedule

Date	Homework due by 11:59 before	Class Period
1/22		Introduction to the Course
1/24	Syllabus Lesson	Activity: Course Expectations, Tips, and Tricks
1/26	<b>No Class:</b> See MO2 for Online Activity	
1/29	Introduction to Psychology	Activity: What is Psychology and Why is it Important?
1/31	Scientific Method	Activity: Thinking Like a Scientist
2/2	Ethics	Activity: Thinking Like a Scientist Cont.
2/5	Read Assignment Sheet	Annotated Bibliography Work Day
2/7	Thinking	Activity: Biases in Thinking
2/9	Complete Study Guide	Exam 1 Review
2/12	Research Proposal + Bonus Assignment 1	<b>Exam 1</b>
2/14		Introduction to Learning
2/16	Operant Conditioning	Activity: Operant Conditioning
2/19	Classical Conditioning	Activity: Classical Conditioning
2/21	Read Assignment Sheet	Study Plan Work Day
2/23	Memory 1	Activity: Memory Games
2/26	Memory 2	Activity: Memory Games Cont.
2/28		Final Project Work Day 1
3/2	Cognitive Development	
3/5	Social Development	
3/7	Complete Study Guide	Exam 2 Review
3/9	Study Plan + Bonus Assignment 2	<b>Exam 2</b>
3/12 -14	<b>No Class; Spring Break</b>	
3/19	Neuronal Communication	Activity: Building Neurons and Neural Networks
3/21	Brain Areas	Activity: Brain Stories
3/23	Read Assignment Sheet	Infographic Work Day
3/26	Sensation and Perception;	Activity: Exploring the Senses
3/28	Consciousness	Activity: This is How We Think
3/30 -4/2	<b>NO CLASS; Easter Break</b>	
4/4	Complete Study Guide	Exam 3 Review
4/6	Infographic + Bonus Assignment 3	<b>Exam 3</b>
4/9		Final Project Work Day 2
4/11	<b>NO CLASS; Attend Academic Symposium:</b> See MO2 Assignment	
4/13	Personality	Activity: Personality in Song
4/16	Read Assignment Sheet	Therapies Assignment Work Day
4/18	Social Psychology;	Activity: Social Psychology
4/20	Stereotypes, Prejudice, and Bias	Activity: Social Psychology Part 2.
4/23	Abnormal Psychology	Activity: Is it abnormal?
4/25	Therapies	Activity: Therapies at Work

4/27		Final Project Work Day 3
4/30	Complete Study Guide	Exam 4 Review
5/2		Wild Work Day
5/4	Therapies + Bonus Assignment 3	<b>Exam 4</b>
5/7-11	<b>Final Exam:</b> Group Presentations	

*The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus during the semester to reflect the learning objectives and needs of the students in this course.*