

**PY 101: General Psychology**  
**Fall 2020 M, W, F**

**Professor: Dana Battison**

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**COURSE INFORMATION**

**PY101: GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY**

**FALL 2020**

**FINAL EXAM DATE: 12/14/2020**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

3 hours. A survey of many factors that influence behavior and the techniques that psychologists use to study these factors. Major topics include heredity and physiology; development; learning and thinking; motivation and emotion; personality; and psychological adjustment, disorders, and treatment.

**REQUIRED TEXT:** Lahey, Benjamin B. *Psychology: An introduction* (10th edition). New York, NY: McGraw Hill.

**COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

Students will examine the historical development and the various theories associated with psychology. Some theories of learning, cognition and intelligence will be examined and applied to a variety of real-life situations. Students will study the complex processes of the brain as they relate to cognition, memory, intelligence, and impaired function. Students will learn to think critically about human behavior and apply those skills to the behavior of others and themselves. Students will learn the basics of physical, cognitive, social/emotional, and personality development. Influences of genetics, family, culture, and society will be explored as they shape personality and behavior. Students will examine themselves in the context of motivation, emotion, stress, coping mechanisms, and personality. Students will be introduced to abnormal behaviors as described in the DSM-IV and common therapies to treat disorders. Students will complete the semester with a study of social psychology.

**PREREQUISITES:** There are no prerequisite courses for PY101.

**STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

Students can learn and evaluate presented theories as they learn subject material. Students can discover, explore, and seek solutions based on accumulated knowledge and current research.

## **CMU MISSION STATEMENT:**

Central Methodist University prepares students to make a difference in the world by emphasizing academic and professional excellence, ethical leadership, and social responsibility.

## **CMU COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

### **Communication (articulate, multimodal)**

1. Students are articulate, able to speak and write clearly and effectively.
2. Students are multimodal, able to interpret and express ideas through multiple modes of communication

### **Curiosity (discover, analyze)**

3. Students can discover, explore, and seek solutions based on accumulated knowledge and current research.
4. Students can analyze, evaluate, interpret, and summarize data.

### **Community (serve, respect)**

5. Students will serve others and be ethical and informed citizens.
6. Students will understand and respect diversity, including other's viewpoints, positions, and beliefs

## **FACE MASK POLICY**

Wearing a face mask is about protecting others, our Central Methodist Community and the communities we work in. The primary purpose of wearing a face mask is to reduce the probability of virus spreading from the wearer (who may not know they are spreading the virus) into the environment and to others. The secondary purpose of the face covering is to reduce the likelihood that large droplets containing virus that are spread by others may enter the nose and mouth of the wearer. The use of a face mask does not replace the continued need to maintain physical distances from others, at least 6 feet, but instead augments physical distancing and helps us further reduce the likelihood of virus transmission.

A face mask is a cloth, bandana, or other type of material that covers an individual's mouth and nose. The CDC lists five criteria for "cloth face coverings," which should:

- Fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face
- Be secured with ties or ear loops
- Include multiple layers of fabric
- Allow for breathing without restriction
- Be able to be cleaned or laundered and machine-dried without damage or change to shape.

The complete CMU Face Mask Policy is available at:

[https://www.centralmethodist.edu/about/offices/human-resources/\\_docs/FaceCoveringPolicy.pdf](https://www.centralmethodist.edu/about/offices/human-resources/_docs/FaceCoveringPolicy.pdf)

## **ABSENCE POLICY**

*Attendance may not be tied to grades in any way in Fall 2020. However, faculty will determine their own policy for behaviors expected after an absence. Expectations should be clearly listed. For example:*

- *Email me within 24 hours of missing a quiz or assignment to schedule a time to complete it.*

- *Being absent does not excuse you from turning in homework on myCMU on time. If there are extenuating circumstances, contact me within 24 hours of the missed deadline*
- *If you have COVID-19, accommodations will be determined in partnership with the Center for Learning and Teaching.*
- *To earn points for in-class activities in which you cannot participate, you must watch the recording of the Zoom session and complete an alternative assignment. Contact me within 24 hours of your absence to learn more about this assignment*
- *As a responsible student, you will only miss classes if you are sick, are displaying symptoms of COVID-19, or are participating in a University Sanctioned Event. Missing class to finish homework or to take a friend to the doctor is not a wise decision.*

*COVID-19 symptoms include fever, dry cough, unusual tiredness, gastro-intestinal distress, change in sense of smell or taste. If you are experiencing symptoms, please attend class on Zoom. For a more thorough list of symptoms visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>.*

#### **CLASS CANCELCATION**

On occasion it will be necessary to cancel a class expectedly due to weather, illness, or other life situation. How students will be notified should be listed here. Facilitators will be notified if there is a class cancellation by email.

#### **EXAMS, ASSIGNMENTS, and ATTENDANCE:**

- We will have three exams in addition to a Final. The three highest scores of these will be used.
- There will be quizzes every week or two, in addition to pop quizzes about current reading assignments. .
- This is a COLLEGE LEVEL CLASS so you will be expected to be in **attendance**, be attentive during class, take lecture notes, and keep up with the reading. If you are absent for any reason, you are responsible for the information missed. You will have three days to turn in late assignments.
- You will have a variety written projects assigned throughout this semester; each will be discussed in class and a due date will be given. APA format will be used for references on papers. Papers must be Word documents and will be submitted to the professor via email at: [dbattiso@centralmethodist.edu](mailto:dbattiso@centralmethodist.edu).
- All assignments will be emailed to facilitators who will distribute to students.
- Quizzes and exams will be monitored by facilitators and submitted to the Professor.
- This is an interactive course. Students are expected to be prepared for assignments and discussions. Readings and discussion questions will be posted on the myCMU website for the class.

#### **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:**

<http://www.centralmethodist.edu/academics/catalog/clas-catalog/policies/index.php>

“Central Methodist University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or federally defined disability/state defined handicap ("disability"). This includes but is not limited to recruitment and admission of students, educational programs, services, activities, financial aid, and scholarship programs. The University complies with all federal and state non-discrimination requirements.”

The procedures, described in the university’s catalog, are intended to guide and assist faculty, staff, and students in complying with this policy and in determining reasonable accommodations to be made for the federally defined disability claimed. All materials and information regarding disabilities will be governed by the University’s normal policies regarding privacy.

To request reasonable accommodations for a disability, students must fill out and submit the application and information forms and provide professional documentation of the disability. (These forms can be found at <http://www.centralmethodist.edu/academics/learning-teaching/disability-accommodations.php>).

**Dual credit students wishing to request reasonable accommodations for a disability, must also fill out the forms, even if they already have an IEP or other paperwork on file with the high school.**

## **Academic Misconduct**

Any student found guilty of academic misconduct on any assignment, quiz or exam in this class will earn a zero for that assignment, quiz or exam. Furthermore, that student will come under the auspices of the Academic Conduct Policy of CMU. It is the student's responsibility to review and understand the CMU Academic Conduct Policy.

Plagiarism is one form of academic misconduct. According to the CMU Catalogue, “Any conduct that unprofessionally represents a student’s academic performance violates CMU’s Academic Conduct Policy” (41). The Catalogue defines plagiarism this way:

Plagiarism includes but is not limited to [1] representing as one’s own work a paper, speech, or report written in whole or in part by someone else (from the un-credited use of significant phrases to the un-credited use of larger portions of material), including material found on the internet, [2] failing to provide appropriate recognition of the sources of borrowed material through the proper use of quotation marks, proper attribution of paraphrases, and proper reference citations. Always provide appropriate recognition of all borrowed materials and sources.

Whether it is intentional or not, plagiarism is unacceptable in a college classroom. Failure to cite sources or misrepresent someone else’s work as your own (in both cases either intentionally or unintentionally) may result in any or all of the following: a) a zero (0) on the assignment, b) a failure of the course, and/or c) a referral to the Dean’s office for further disciplinary action (see page 42 of the course catalogue for the range of

actions the Dean's office may take). For more information on CMU's academic conduct policies, please see the Course Catalogue pg 41-42.

### **ACADEMIC PROPERTY**

All work (original or copy) submitted by the student to satisfy the requirements of the course may be retained at the discretion of the instructor. Such work is generally used for assessing the course and providing evidence of student accomplishment for review by accrediting agencies. Any student wishing to prohibit such use of their work may do so by notifying the instructor in writing.

### **ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY**

The University will discipline students for infractions of the Academic Honesty Policy with various sanctions which it deems appropriate, up to and including suspension or expulsion from the University. *Penalties internal to a course, including grades and expulsion from*

### **Grievance Policy:**

**GRIEVANCE POLICY** Central Methodist University has established a grievance policy and process designed to provide students and others with a process to resolve potential issues. This policy and process is established to provide persons with an avenue to file a written concern and to establish a process to track and implement changes as a result of said concern. For more detailed information consult the CLAS catalog at:  
<http://www.centralmethodist.edu/academics/catalog/clas-catalog/policies/index.php>.  
If an issue cannot be solved through consultation with the faculty or division chair, students can report an incident/issue within 30 days of the event via the online web form (<https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?CentralMethodistUniv>).

### **Central Methodist University Mission and Creed**

Central Methodist University prepares students to make a difference in the world by emphasizing academic and professional excellence, ethical leadership, and social responsibility.

The Central Methodist University community, consistent with its United Methodist heritage, strives for academic excellence, individual achievement, and social responsibility. As members of that community we believe in: seeking knowledge, truth, and wisdom; valuing freedom, honesty, civility, and diversity; living lives of service and leadership; and taking responsibility for ourselves and the communities in which we live.

Grading Criterion:

**Assignments and grades:**

**Written assignments = 20 pts. each.**

**Quizzes = 20 pts. each.**

**Exams = 50 pts. Total of 150 points maximum from the best three exams.**

**The pace of the class will determine the number of quizzes and written assignments which will ultimately determine point total.**

**Grade Scale:**

**90 - 100% = A**

**89 - 80 % = B**

**79 - 70 % = C**

**69 - 60 % = D**

**Below 60% = F**

**If at any time, you feel you need further instruction/clarification or simply want to discuss anything related to the class, please email me at [dbattiso@centralmethodist.edu](mailto:dbattiso@centralmethodist.edu). I will respond as quickly as possible.**

**Thank you and have a great semester!**

**"The greatest discovery of my generation is that human beings can alter their lives by altering their attitudes of mind." William James (1842-1910)**