



# CEDAR CREST COLLEGE

## *Syllabus*

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**Title:** General Psychology (PSY-100)  
(3 credits)

**Class Meeting Times:** Tuesday & Thursdays 9:30-10:45 AM

**Faculty:** Dr. Micah R. Sadigh

**Office:** Curtis 119

**Office Hours:** Mondays 11-12 AM; Mondays 4-5 PM; Tuesdays and Thursdays 11-12 AM; Wednesdays 4-5. Or by appointment (610-606-4666, Ext.: 3715).

**E-mail:** micasa@cedarcrest.edu

**Course Description:** This course explores some of the historical, theoretical and empirical foundations of the discipline of psychology. Additionally, the course introduces students to a scientific approach to understanding behavior, and explores the psychobiological and psychosocial bases of human behavior. Psychology 100 serves as a prerequisite for all other psychology courses.

### **Course Objectives:**

- At the completion of the course, students will be familiar with the various facets of the field of psychology.
- Students will gain an appreciation of the application of psychology to everyday life.
- Students will become knowledgeable consumers of scientific research in the field of psychology.

### **Course Outcomes:**

- Students will demonstrate their breadth and depth of knowledge of the field of psychology.
- Students will show their identification, reasoning, and understanding of psychological concepts and terms.
- Students will utilize critical thinking to apply various principles to solve problems and reach conclusions.
- Students will recognize the interactions between the field of psychology and other disciplines.

**Teaching Format:** The course will consist of lecture, discussion, and in-class activities. Students should read the assigned chapters, papers and articles before coming to class, so that they can be active participants during the class period.

**Student Evaluation:** Three, non-cumulative exams will be administered, which will

include multiple-choice questions designed to measure students' knowledge, understanding, and application of textbook, lecture, and handout material. Each test is worth 100 points. Make-up exams will be given ONLY with documentation of an excused absence (i.e., sickness, college-sponsored event, legal situation)—there will be NO EXCEPTIONS. Advanced notice should be given whenever feasible. Documentation must be presented and the make-up exam scheduled as soon as possible.

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**Grades:** Grades will be assigned on the basis of the following criteria:

Three tests - (each test counts for 1/3 of your final grade)

A	93.0-100%	C	73.0-76.6%
A-	90.0-92.9%	C-	70.0-72.9%
B+	86.7-89.9%	D+	67.0-69.9%
B	83.4-86.6%	D	60-66.9%
B-	80.0-83.3%	F	below 60%
C+	76.7-79.9%		

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#### **ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS:**

1. Deadlines are firm. Extensions will be granted only in cases of extenuating circumstances. All work must be completed by the end of the course or the student will receive an "F" for the course.
2. I do not supply lecture notes. If you have to miss class, arrange for someone to take notes for you. I highly recommend regular attendance, which will aid in comprehending the materials presented in the lectures and in the textbook.
3. Students with documented disabilities who may need academic accommodations should discuss these needs with me during the first two weeks of class. Students with disabilities who wish to request accommodations should contact the Advising Center. Please let me know if there is anything I can do for you to help you with your needs and concerns.
4. Attendance will be taken but not calculated into your final grade. Students are responsible for all reading assignments and material covered in class. Tests will cover the textbook, the lectures and any additional reading assignments.
5. Final grades are final. If you are a percent or two short of the next letter grade, you are a percent or two short. I will not give away free marks at the end of the term unless I give the same amount to everyone.

**Classroom Protocol:** All Cedar Crest College students are expected to be familiar with and fully supportive of the college's policy regarding the honor code and academic integrity. See the Student Guide for more information regarding the enforcement of these policies. Appropriate classroom behavior is defined and guided by complete protection for the rights of all students and faculty to a courteous, respectful classroom environment. That environment is free from distractions such as late arrivals, early departures, inappropriate conversations and any other behaviors that might disrupt instruction and/or compromise students' access to their Cedar Crest College education.

**Honor Code:** Students are expected to abide by the Cedar Crest College Honor Code. The Honor Code policy can be found in the Customs Book. Any violation will be dealt with according to college procedures.

**Plagiarism:** If plagiarism is suspected, I am bound to follow academic regulations. Plagiarism is the act of presenting the ideas, words or other intellectual property of another as one's own. The use of other people's work must be properly acknowledged and referenced in all written material. The use of material without acknowledgement is an offense.

**Cheating:** Bear in mind that allowing another to copy one's work is an academic offense just as is copying from someone. Furthermore, submitting the same paper for two courses without arrangement is also an academic offense.

**Office Hours:** My office is located in Curtis, Room 119. If you would like to meet with me, I will be happy to make an appointment. My phone number is 610-606-4666, ext. 3715. I am looking forward to meeting and talking with you this semester. My email address is: **micasa@cedarcrest.edu**.

**Textbook:**

Kalat, J. (2008). Introduction to Psychology. New York: Belmont, CA: Wadsworth

Publisher website for textbook: **<http://psychstudywadsworth.com/>**  
(Be sure to check out the website) This site includes bulletin boards, Internet links, hot topics, and interactive activities for students, online student tutorial quizzes, and more.

	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READING</u>
<b>Week of</b>		
8-25	The Story of Psychology: A Historical Overview	Chapter 1
9-1	Introduction to the Scientific Method in Psychology	Chapter 2
9-8	Biological Psychology Part 1	Chapter 3
9-15	Biological Psychology Part 2	Chapter 3
9-22	Sensation and Perception; <b>Test #1(9-25)</b>	Chapter 4
9-29	States of Consciousness Part 1	Chapter 10
10-6	States of Consciousness Part 2; Introduction to Learning	Chapter 10 & 6
10-13	FALL BREAK	
10-20	Theories of Learning	Chapters 6
10-27	Memory and Cognition; <b>Test#2 (10-30)</b>	Chapter 7
11-3	Intelligence	Chapter 9
11-10	Emotions, Stress, and Health	Chapter 12
11-17	Personality & Human Development	Chapters 14 &5
11-24	Abnormal Psychology	Chapter 15
12-1	Specific disorders	Chapters 16
12- 6	<b>Test # 3</b>	

## Psychology Department Attendance Policy

The Psychology Department is committed to the principle that regular and punctual class attendance is essential to the students' optimum learning and successful academic achievement. Regular class attendance is a student obligation, and students are responsible for all work, tests and written assignments. Therefore, students are expected to be present for all class sessions. The Psychology Department's attendance policy recognizes that there will be times when attendance at class is not possible. You may think of the policy as being similar to the type used in the corporate world where each employee is given a certain number of "personal/sick days." Based on the number of regularly scheduled class meetings, you will be allowed a certain number of absences (see below) with no consequences, no questions asked. In other words, there is no distinction between excused and unexcused absences. You are of course responsible for anything covered during those missed classes, and for submitting assignments on time, regardless of whether or not you attend. Beyond the allowable number of absences, there are consequences that will adversely impact your grade, much as missing too many days of work can adversely impact your employment status. Above all else, you should carefully consider each decision to not attend class, as once your allotted absences have been used, they are gone. *It is important that students arrive for class on time. Late arrivals are very distracting, not only to the instructor, but also to fellow students. Repeated late arrivals are not acceptable and will be addressed on an individual basis.* It is each student's responsibility to understand this policy and to keep track of absences throughout the semester.

**Application to this Class:** Formal attendance will be taken during all class sessions. This class meets twice per week (28 class meetings). You may miss 3 classes without penalty. If you miss 4 classes, your final grade (cumulative percentage of points) will be lowered by 5%. That means that if you have earned 84% of the available points in the class, which is a B grade, you would be lowered to 79%, which is a C+. Likewise, if you have earned 77% of the points available, the penalty would take you down to 72%, which is a C-. As a reminder, a C grade (73%) is required in all Psychology courses. If you miss 5 classes, you will be docked an additional 5% points off of your final grade (for a total of 10%). If you miss 6 classes, you will receive a failing grade for the course. If you miss six classes, you have missed approximately 25% of the class meetings.

## UNNECESSARY CONVERSATIONS

Unnecessary conversations during the lectures will be distracting to your fellow students as well as your professor. Those who engage in such conversations will be dismissed from class.