



**Nanchang University**  
**PSY101: Introduction to Psychology**  
(Last Updated in Jan. 2025)

**Credit:** 4

***Contact Hours***

This course is composed of 24 lecture sessions, 3 tutorial sessions and 9 office contact hours. Each lecture session takes 2 contact hours in length; each tutorial session takes 3 contact hours in length; There will be a Q-A review session (3 contact hours) and Final Exam (3 contact hours) at the end of this term. This course has 72 contact hours in total.

***Course Description***

Through this introductory course, students will have the opportunity to understand the science of psychology and how psychologists measure mental function and behavior and how the results are reported. They will better understand perception and consciousness and the mysteries of sleep and dreams. Through child development, they will understand how the brain is ready for learning and pre-wired for language. Motivation, cognition and personality will be analyzed through the lens of past and current psychological thought. Students will understand the statistical reality of the normal distribution and how that is relevant to most traits. They will review new research on the plasticity of the brain and consider whether intelligence is fixed or flexible. Lastly, the array of disorders and dysfunction will be analyzed and discussed and the line between normal and abnormal will be considered.

*Note: This Syllabus is subject to change based on the needs of the class.*

***Required Textbook***

**Textbook:** *Mastering the World of Psychology* (custom pkg), Author: Wood, Publisher: Pearson, 4th edition

***Grading***

|                |     |
|----------------|-----|
| •Participation | 10% |
| •3 Papers      | 30% |
| •Midterm       | 30% |
| •Final Exam    | 30% |



|           |         |          |
|-----------|---------|----------|
| A+ 96-100 | A 90-95 | A- 85-89 |
| B+ 82-84  | B 78-81 | B- 75-77 |
| C+ 71-74  | C 66-70 | C- 62-65 |
| D 60-61   | F < 60  |          |

### ***Course Schedule***

The course has 24 class sessions in total. All sessions are 2 contact hours in length. At the end of this term, there will be a Q-A review session(3 contact hours) and Final Exam (3 contact hours).

Note: the course outline and required readings are subject to change.

Class 1:  
Overview and Research

Class 2:  
Introduction

Class 3:  
Methods

Class 4:  
Brain

Class 5:  
Sensation & Perception

Class 6:  
Consciousness

Class 7:  
Learning

Class 8:  
Memory

Class 9:  
Language

Class 10:  
Review

Class 11:  
Midterm Exam



Class 12:

Memory (Watch *momento*)

Class 13:

Language

Class 14:

Human Development

Class 15:

Motivation and Emotion

Class 16:

Motivation and Emotion (Cont.)

Class 17:

Health and Stress

Class 18:

Health and Stress (Cont.)

Class 19:

Chapter 11: Personality Theory and Assessment

Class 20:

Chapter 11: Personality Theory and Assessment (Cont.)

Class 21:

Chapter 12: Psychological Disorders

Class 22:

Chapter 13: Therapies

Class 23:

Moral Psychology

Class 24:

Overall Review

### ***Attending Policy***

Regular and prompt attendance is required. Under ordinary circumstances, you may miss two times without penalty. Each absence over this number will lower your course grade by a third



of a letter and missing more than five classes may lead to a failing grade in the course. Arriving late and/or leaving before the end of the class period are equivalent to absences.

### ***Policy on “Late Withdrawals”***

In accordance with university policy, appeals for late withdrawal will be approved ONLY in case of medical emergency and similar crises.

### ***Academic Honesty***

Nanchang University expects all students to do their own work. Instructors will fail assignments that show evidence of plagiarism or other forms of cheating, and will also report the student's name to the University administration. A student reported to the University for cheating is placed on disciplinary probation; a student reported twice is suspended or expelled.

### ***General Expectations:***

Students are expected to:

- Attend all classes and be responsible for all materials covered in class and otherwise assigned;
- Complete the day's required reading and assignments before class;
- Review the previous day's notes before class and make notes about questions you have about the previous class or the day's reading;
- Participate in class discussions and complete required written work on time;
- Refrain from texting, phoning or engaging in computer activities unrelated to class during the class period;
- While class participation is welcome, even required, you are expected to refrain from private conversations during the class period.

### ***Special Needs or Assistance***

Please contact the Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material. Our goal is to help you learn, not to penalize you for issues which mask your learning.