**Wayland Mission Statement**

Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused, and distinctively Christian environment for professional success, and service to God and humankind.

**Contact Information**

**Course**

: PSYC 1301 VC01 – General Psychology

**Campus**

: WBUonline

**Term/Session**

**:** Fall 1 2025

**Instructor**

**:** Cari Wood, M.S.

**Office Phone Number**

**:** 808-226-4142 (cell). If I am unable to answer my phone, please leave a message with your name, class, phone number, and reason for calling and I will return your call. **I live in Virginia (EDT) so please check your time zone when calling. If you would like to send a text, feel free as well!**

**WBU Email Address**

**:** [cari.wood@wayland.wbu.edu](mailto:cari.wood@wayland.wbu.edu) - I check my email throughout the day; therefore, if you email me, I will respond fairly quickly but please give me at least 24 hours to respond.

**Office Hours, Building, and Location**

**:** Available Upon Request

**Class Meeting Time and Location**

**:** WBUonline

**Course Information**

**Catalog Description**

**:**  History of psychology, physiology, learning perception, social psychology, personality, abnormal behavior, and therapy.

**There is no prerequisite for this course.**

**Textbook Information**

**Required Textbook(s) and/or Required Materials**

**:**

## ***Essentials of Psychology***

## **Author:** Franzoi, Stephen L. **ISBN:** 9781517811525 (soft cover) **ISBN:** 9781517811518 (loose leaf) **eBook ISBN:** 9781517811501

**Edition / Copyright:** 7TH 2022   
**Publisher:** BVT Publishing

*The textbook for this course is part of the* ***Wayland’s Automatic eBook*** *program. You will have access to an eBook and interactive learning material on the first day of class through your Blackboard course site. The cost of this Automatic eBook will be billed directly to your student account when you register for the course. You will be notified via email with access instructions and additional information. If you do not wish to participate in the Automatic eBook program, you will have the first 12 days of class to opt-out of the program (additional details will be outlined in your email instructions). For more information on the Automatic eBook program, visit the Wayland Bookstore* [*Automatic eBook FAQ*](https://bookstore.wbu.edu/site_inclusive.asp) *page.*

**Course Outcome Competencies**

**:** Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

* Describe key concepts, principles, and over-arching themes in psychology
* Recognize major historical events, theoretical perspectives and figures in psychology and their link to trends in contemporary research
* Use scientific reasoning to interpret psychological phenomena
* Demonstrate psychology information literacy
* Ask relevant questions to gather more information about behavioral claims
* Interpret behavior and mental processes at an appropriate level of complexity
* Describe common fallacies in thinking that impair conclusions and predictions
* Explain how individual differences, social identity and worldview may connect to beliefs, values and interaction with others
* Identify aspects of individual and cultural diversity and the interpersonal challenges that often result from diversity and context
* Apply psychological content and skills to real-world situations

**Attendance Requirements**

WBUonline

Students are expected to participate in all required instructional activities in their courses. Online courses are no different in this regard; however, participation must be defined in a different manner. Student “attendance” in an online course is defined as active participation in the course as described in the course syllabus. Instructors in online courses are responsible for providing students with clear instructions for how they are required to participate in the course. Additionally, instructors are responsible for incorporating specific instructional activities within their course and will, at a minimum, have weekly mechanisms for documenting student participation. These mechanisms may include, but are not limited to, participating in a weekly discussion board, submitting/completing assignments in Blackboard, or communicating with the instructor. Students aware of necessary absences must inform the professor with as much advance notice as possible in order to make appropriate arrangements. Any student absent 25 percent or more of the online course, i.e., non-participatory during 2 or more weeks of an 8-week session, may receive an F for that course. Instructors may also file a Report of Unsatisfactory Progress for students with excessive non-participation. Any student who has not actively participated in an online class prior to the census date for any given session is considered a “no-show” and will be administratively withdrawn from the class without record. To be counted as actively participating, it is not sufficient to log in and view the course. The student must be submitting work as described in the course syllabus. Additional attendance and participation policies for each course, as defined by the instructor in the course syllabus, are considered a part of the university’s attendance policy.

**University Policies**

[Link to Statement on Academic Integrity , and reference one of the following in regard to how generative artificial intelligence (GAI) such as ChatGPT may or may not be used in this course:](https://www.wbu.edu/academics/writing-center/Academic%20Integrity%20Statement%20Pol%208.4.1%20Attch%20Oct%2020222.pdf)

1. No use of any generative AI tools permitted.
   1. Students are required to create and produce all work themselves or with assigned group members. Any work submitted that has used an AI generative tool like Chat GPT will be in immediate violation of the academic integrity policies for the course and WBU.
   2. All assignments must be fully created, designed, and prepared by the student(s).
   3. Any work that uses generative AI will be treated as plagiarism.

**Disability Statement**

**:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university. The Disability Services Coordinator and Academic Coach serves as the coordinator of students with disabilities and must be contacted concerning accommodation requests (office (806) 291-1057. Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.

Accessibility issues with content in WBUonline courses or in Blackboard should be addressed to the WBU accessibility coordinator, Dr. Rick Hammer, [hammerr@wbu.edu](mailto:hammerr@wbu.edu) or call (806) 292-9150.

**Course Requirements and Grading Criteria**

**Evaluation of student performance:**

**1. Participation:** Please see WBUonline “**Attendance Requirements."** Student “attendance” in an online course is defined as active participation in the course. Active participation in PSYC 1301 includes submitting and completing all assignments/exams by the due date stipulated in the course.

**2. Discussion Questions:** *You must create a response (your answers) in the "Discussions" forum to view and respond to other classmates' discussion questions. If you post a “blank” response more than one time, your grade will be a zero for that assignment.* **Make** sure that you have read the chapter and the lecture before completing the assignment and understand terms from the book and the lectures. You will not be able to answer the questions correctly if you have not done the reading beforehand.

**Requirements for the discussion questions:**

(a)Each discussion question answer must be at least 350 words of text. So, if there are 2 discussion questions for the week, that totals 700 words (does not include re-writing the question and your reference list).

(b) *Each* d**iscussion question answer must have in-text citations throughout your writing and include a reference list using your textbook or other credible Internet websites, books, journals, etc. that support the textbook.** APA (American Psychological Association) format is required for all writing assignments. Just because you provide a reference list at the end does not mean you fulfilled the requirement. If a source is provided in your reference list, an in-text citation must be provided in your writing (they go together).

(c) *Each* discussion question answer must be scholarly (use research to support your answers) and include correct grammar, punctuation, spelling, etc. If you want to add your opinions, stories, or life experiences to help support your scholarly answer, I encourage you to do so. This will keep the discussions fun and intriguing. If we were in a traditional classroom, we would have the opportunity to share our thoughts, ideas, opinions, etc. It is completely optional to do this (unless stated otherwise) - it just keeps the class interesting.

**3. Interaction with Classmates:** In addition to posting answers to the discussion questions, **you are also required to respond to *at least* one other student's posting,** either agreeing with the comments or expressing an alternate opinion in ***at least 2 paragraphs*.**

Try to respond to postings which haven’t already been responded to, or which have fewer responses. Please do not respond to a classmate by only saying, “I agree with your post, great job!” You need to elaborate as to “why” you agree or disagree and try to support your response/feedback with references as well. The discussions are designed to help you clarify your thinking and compare your opinions to those of others. Any opinion, backed by solid research, lends itself to a stronger position. When posting your answer and your responses to other students’ answers, be sure to use correct grammar, punctuation, and syntax. All posts should be checked for spelling and grammatical errors before posting them. Remember that you are communicating with others and correct English usage is critical because you are expecting others to understand what you are saying. It would be helpful to type out your answer/response, spell and grammar check, then proofread once more before posting. Improper grammar, punctuation, and/or syntax will reduce your grade. *Also be aware that derogatory comments, bad language, and rudeness will not be tolerated.* Disagreement is fine and open discussion is encouraged, if it is done with respect and tact. **Postings which are derogatory in nature will be immediately removed and your grade will be significantly reduced**.

**4. Exams:** There will be 3 exams given and you will have 90 minutes to complete each test. Some questions will be from the book only, some from the lessons only, and some from both - you need to be familiar with the information contained in all required readings. Just because we do not cover something in the class, does not mean it will not be on the test. Once again, it is up to you to read and study all the chapters assigned. Questions may consist of multiple choice, true/false, short answer, and/or essay. The exams will be open book and open notes (not open friends or spouse). You should take the test as if you were in a classroom and allowed to use your books and notes. Even in a classroom, you still would not discuss the questions with someone else before or during the test.Even though the test is open book and notes, you will not be able to answer the questions correctly if you have not read the assigned material - both the lessons and the chapters. You will not have any problems with these as long as you have read the assigned material. If you encounter technology problems, contact me immediately.

**Breakdown of determining course grade:**

1. Discussion Questions: 160 points (16 discussions at 10 points each)

2. Interaction with Classmates: 24 points **(3 points each week)**   
3. Exams: 300 points (3 examinations at 100 points each)

**Total Possible Points: 484**

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| --- |
| **Grading:** |
| 484 - 436 = A 435 - 388 = B 387 - 339 = C 338 - 291 = D 290 or less = F |

***NOTE:* Discussion questions and interaction with classmates will be graded on Monday and Tuesday from the previous week. Grades can be found by clicking "Gradebook" from the menu option in class.**

**LATE COURSE WORK:**

Students are expected to submit all work (assignments/exams) by the due date stipulated in the course. Students experiencing life circumstances that impact their studies significantly, such as hospitalization, death in the family, or other types of critical life circumstances, should contact the instructor prior to the due date to request an extension for the work. If it is not possible to contact the instructor prior to the due date, you should do so as soon after the due date as possible. ***The instructor may require supporting documentation*.** If an extension is approved, the instructor will communicate a new due date to the student.

**LATE COURSE WORK PENALTY**:

Late work will be accepted up to 3 days after the due date, with a 1-point deduction for each day it is late. After the 3rd day, the assignment/exam will be considered missing and receive a zero. Instructors have the discretion to offer an extension or to accept late course work without penalty based on their assessment of a student’s circumstances. **Once the class ends, no late work or extra credit will be accepted.**

**EXTRA CREDIT:**

Students will have an opportunity to earn 5 bonus points after completing the course evaluation. Course evaluations are typically available during Week 7. Once the course evaluation is completed, you MUST show proof by providing a screenshot or forwarding the “survey certificate of completion.” It is very important that you email me proof of completion since your name remains anonymous. If you complete it and don’t email me, I will not be able to give you the bonus points because I can’t see your name on the evaluation. The 5 bonus points will then be added to your overall grade.

**The University has a standard grade scale:**

A = 90-100, B = 80-89, C = 70-79, D = 60-69, F= below 60, W = Withdrawal, WP = withdrew passing, WF = withdrew failing, I = incomplete. An incomplete may be given within the last two weeks of a long term, within the last week of an 8-week session, or within the last two days of a microterm to a student who is passing, but has not completed a term paper, examination, or other required work for reasons beyond the student’s control. A grade of “incomplete” is changed if the work required is completed prior to the last day of the next long 16-week term or 8-week session, unless the instructor designates an earlier date for completion.  If the work is not completed by the appropriate date, the I is converted to an F.

**Student Grade Appeals**

**:** Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations. Appeals are limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the Vice President of Academic Affairs to the Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation.

**Tentative Schedule**

***\*Discussion questions are to be posted by 11:59pm CDT on Saturday of each week. Your response to another student’s posting is to be posted by 11:59pm CDT on Sunday of each week (except for Week 8).***

**Week #1: August 11 – 17**

\*Read Syllabus

\*Send email confirmation, from your WBU email address, to cari.wood@wayland.wbu.edu that syllabus was read and understood.

\*Introduce yourself through the “Discussions” tab under the forum "Welcome." Post a photo if you would like!

\***Complete attendance – Required first assignment in class**

\*Read Chapter 1 – *Psychology as a Science*

\*Read Chapter 2 – *Neurological and Genetic Bases of Behavior*

\*Discussion Assignment #1 (two discussion questions and respond to a classmate)

**Week #2: August 18 – 24**

\*Read Chapter 3 – *Human Development*

\*Read Chapter 4 – *Sensation and Perception*

\*Discussion Assignment #2 (two discussion questions and respond to a classmate)

**Week #3: August 25 – 31**

\*Read Chapter 5 – *Consciousness*

\*Discussion Assignment #3 (two discussion questions and respond to a classmate)

\***Exam #1** **(chapters 1-5; due Sunday, August 31st, by 11:59pm CDT)**

**Week #4: September 1 – 7**

\*Read Chapter 6 – *Learning*

\*Read Chapter 7 - *Memory*

\*Discussion Assignment #4 (two discussion questions and respond to a classmate)

**Week #5: September 8 - 14**

\*Read Chapter 8 – *Language, Thinking, and Intelligence*

\*Read Chapter 9 – *Motivation*

\*Discussion Assignment #5 (two discussion questions and respond to a classmate)

**Week #6: September 15 – 21**

\*Read Chapter 10 - *Personality*

\*Discussion Assignment #6 (two discussion questions and respond to a classmate)

**\*Exam #2 (chapters 6-10; due Sunday, September 21st, by 11:59pm CDT)**

**Week #7: September 22 – 28**

\*Read Chapter 11 – *Psychological Disorders*

\*Read Chapter 12 - *Therapy*

\*Discussion Assignment #7 (two discussion questions and respond to a classmate)

**Week #8: September 29 – October 4**

\*Read Chapter 13 – *Emotion, Stress, and Health*

\*Read Chapter 14 – *Understanding Social Behavior*

\*Discussion Assignment #8 (two discussion questions and respond to a classmate)

**\*Exam #3 (chapters 11-14; due SATURDAY, October 4th, by 11:59pm CDT)**

**Additional Information**

A syllabus is not a contract between instructor and student, but rather a guide to course procedures on attendance, requirements, grading, objectives, and class topic and reading schedule. The instructor reserves the right to amend the syllabus when circumstances dictate or unusual opportunities for student learning arise. Students will be notified.

**Wayland Baptist University**

**Statement on Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty**

“Wayland proudly adheres to high standards of intellectual, moral, ethical, and spiritual values. Convinced that self-discipline is more desirable than outside force and that the truly educated

person must pursue what is right under all circumstances, Wayland entrusts each student

with the solemn obligation of preserving these standards.”

- Wayland Baptist University Student Handbook

In light of Wayland’s strong Christian heritage, students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty, ethical behavior, and personal integrity. Therefore, the following--and any related acts of academic dishonesty--are to be avoided at all times:

* Submitting as your own work any assignment completed by another person or an online bot.
* Copying another’s work or assignment and submitting it as your own.
* Allowing or paying another to complete and submit an assignment on your behalf.
* Providing others access to courses or assignments so that they may complete or submit work on your behalf.
* Copying any amount of text directly from a website, book, document, video, or other source without appropriately noting the original source of that information.
* Paraphrasing or rewording unique ideas originally presented by another (whether written, visual, or auditory), either on your own or with paraphrasing tool/software, without appropriately noting the source of the idea or information.
* Purchasing or otherwise downloading a paper from a website and then submitting any portion of it as your own work.
* Using or submitting work from a previous or current course, whether your own work or another student’s work.

Though the above is not comprehensive, it offers examples of academic dishonesty that may result in one or more of the following repercussions:

* the requirement to redo an assignment or submit an additional assignment
* the lowering of a grade on the assignment
* the awarding of a grade of “F” on the assignment
* the awarding of a grade of “F” for the course
* academic suspension from the University
* permanent academic suspension (expulsion) from the University

To avoid plagiarism (taking the written or spoken words of another and presenting them as your own without acknowledging the original):

* Place “quotations marks” around any words or texts that you directly borrow from another.
* Acknowledge the original author or speaker of the words using MLA, Chicago, APA, or other citation style as required by the instructor.
* Offer a clear distinction between your own ideas and those of any outside authors or speakers.
* Speak with a professional librarian in Wayland’s Library/Learning Resources Center for instruction on best research practices.
* Visit Wayland’s Multidisciplinary Tutorial Services for further explanation and free tutoring.

See the Student Handbook or Policy 8.4.1/Academic Integrity for additional information related to the consequences of academic dishonesty at Wayland Baptist University.

Policy 8.4.1 Attachment Inception 10/08/2014; revised 10/19/22