

**PSY BC 1001, Section 1
Introduction to Psychology
Fall 2001**

Professor Ann Senghas

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Office hours: Wednesdays 1:00-3:00 p.m., or by appointment.

Class meeting: MW 10:35-11:50 a.m., 120 McIntosh

Text:

Psychology, Fifth Edition. Gleitman, Fridlund, & Reisberg, W. W. Norton, 1999 (required)

Study Guide, Psychology, Fifth Edition. Gleitman et al., W. W. Norton, 1999 (optional)

(text available at Labyrinth Bookstore, 526 West 112th St.)

website: <http://www.wwnorton.com/gleitman>

Class Meetings	Lecture Topic	Chapter
Sept 5	Introduction: thinking like a psychologist	
THE BRAIN AND THE BODY		
Sept 10-12	Learning	4
17	Biological bases of behavior	2: pp.15-63
19-24	Regulating the body: heat & hunger	3: pp. 71-92, 107-115
26	Exam 1	
TAKING IT ALL IN		
Oct 1	Arts Therapy	distributed reading
3	Origins of knowledge	5: pp. 169-181
8-10	Sensation & Perception	5: pp. 181-215
15	Vision	6: pp. 217-252
17	Memory	7
22	Exam 2	
NORMAL DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL INTERACTION		
Oct 24-29	Language	9
31	Social cognition	11: pp. 441-470
Nov 5	HOLIDAY	
7	Social interaction	12
12	Cognitive development	13
14	Sexuality and gender	14: pp. 600-613
19	Exam 3	
CLINICAL APPLICATIONS AND RESEARCH METHODS		
Nov 21	Intelligence and its measurement	15
26	The psychodynamic approach	17: pp. 713-736
28	Methods of scientific research	Appendix 1
Dec 3-5	Psychopathology	18
10	Review session	
17	Final Exam, 9:00 am (3 hours)	

Course Objectives and Expectations:

This course is an introduction to the psychological sciences. While we could never cover the entire range of such a broad field in one semester, we will cover a diverse selection of psychological phenomena and discuss them from a scientific perspective. If this course is successful, you will come away with a new, unfamiliar view of what you once thought were familiar aspects of human thought and behavior.

As a text, we will be reading Gleitman's Psychology, along with occasional articles that I will distribute in class. The text is available at Labyrinth bookstore, 526 West 112th Street. Read it. Read the assigned chapter before coming to class. You will understand the lecture better that way, and class discussion will be much more engaging and interesting, especially if your classmates have read it too. If you try to cram all the reading in the night before the exam you will be too tired to think or to write and I won't be able to make out your confused scrawl in the blue books. Don't do this to yourself or to me.

In order to encourage and reward regular reading behavior, there will be a small number (approximately four) very short quizzes consisting of short answer and multiple choice questions. These will be announced beforehand and together will make up 10% of your final grade. Quiz questions will be drawn entirely from the reading.

Students are expected to attend all of the class meetings and participate in class discussion and activities. Class participation will be worth 5% of the grade.

There will be four exams. The first three exams will not be cumulative; they will cover only the material covered in the most recent topic section. The final exam will cover the entire semester, including a few essay questions that will ask you to integrate what you have learned throughout the semester. All of the exams will include a combination of short answer, multiple choice, and short essay questions. Questions will be drawn from the readings and from the class lectures and discussions. The first exam will be worth 15% of the grade, the second and third exams will be worth 20%, and the final exam will be worth 25%. In addition, the department requires students to participate as subjects in ongoing research in psychology. This requirement is worth 5% of the grade, and will be explained further in class, early in the semester.

To compute your final grade:

Exams (15% + 20% + 20% + 25%) + Quizzes (10%) + Participation (5%) + Research Participation (5%)

NB: If I have scheduled a class or exam on a day on which you will be unable to attend because of a religious observance, please speak to me, preferably early in the semester, so we can make alternative arrangements. Also, if anyone requires accommodation for a specific disability, please consult the Office for Disability Services, and speak to me at the close of the first class meeting.