



Introduction to Psychology 24-25



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***When trying to contact me, please email first.**

About me: I was raised 'all over' Nevada County, and therefore attended many elementary schools, maybe even yours. I moved to Santa Barbara, where I attended UC Santa Barbara and graduated with a degree in Sociology. I later attended CSU Sacramento where I earned my Masters degree in Sociology with an emphasis in Psychological/Social Psychology. Since then I went on to earn several teaching credentials and a Masters in Education too. I have been in Education for 13 years and teaching at Nevada Union for 9 years.

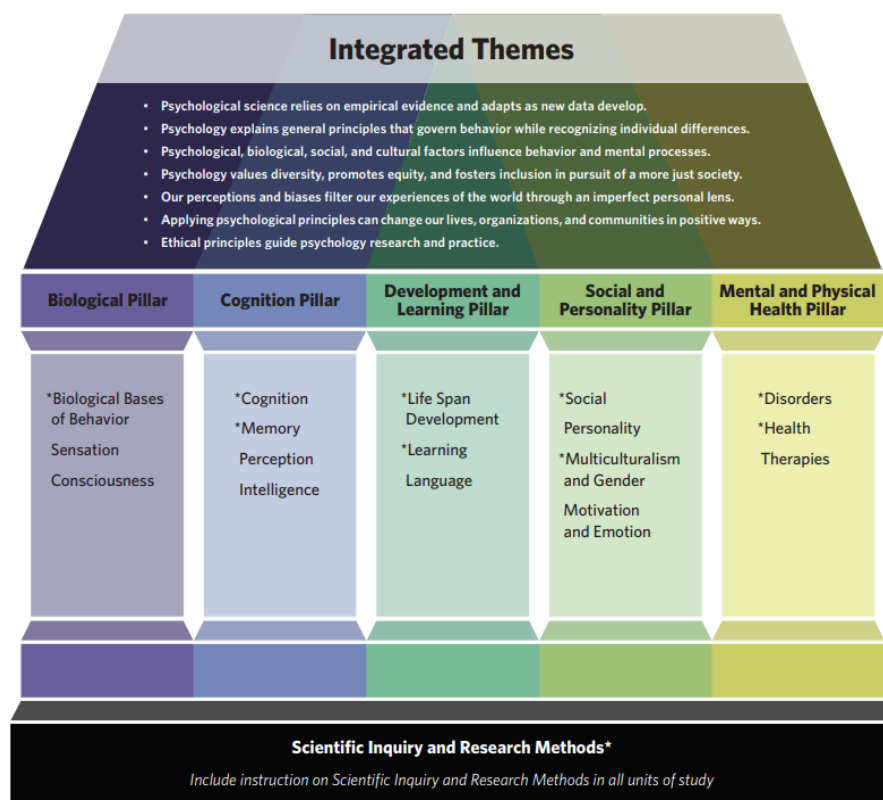
I have worked in various Health related fields over the years, including as a Surgical Assistant, a Mental Health Case Manager for Nev. Co. Behavioral Health, and as the County Health Educator for Nev. Co. Public Health, but teaching High School is what I was absolutely meant to do! It is my passion and I love it! I look forward to teaching you, and learning from you, over the course of the semester.

Course Description

The purpose of Psychology is to introduce the students to the systematic and scientific study of behaviors and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with the major subfields within psychology. They also learn about methods psychologists use in their science and practice.

Essential Learning Outcomes (ELOs)

The picture below provides an overview of the major topics and themes covered as outlined in the National Standards for high School Psychology Curricula ([link to standards here.](#))



Additionally, upon course completion:

- Students will understand and be able to apply the major core concepts and theories of psychology.
- Students will learn and be able to apply the basic skills of psychological research and statistical analysis.
- Students will be able to apply basic psychological concepts and theories to their own lives in practical, productive, and beneficial ways.
- Students will develop their critical thinking skills.
- Students will build their reading, writing, and discussion skills.

Participation Expectations

Please note that your participation in class is mandatory and will make up a portion of your final grade. Excused absences will not affect your participation grade; unexcused absences will. To get an absence excused please contact the attendance office at (530)273-4431 within two days of your absence.

What constitutes “participation” is detailed below.

- Respond to daily Warm-Up: this will take place during the first 5 minutes of class and cannot be made up if you are absent or tardy. Excused absences = excused Warm-up; unexcused absences and/or tardies = zero points for Warm-up.
- Respond to writing prompts throughout class.
- Actively engage in class instruction via reading along, taking notes, asking and answering teacher and student questions, etc.
- Participate in classroom activities and projects as assigned.

I expect students to participate in all other assignments as outlined below:

- Complete all homework reading and note taking PRIOR to class.
- Follow assignment instructions when completing assignments.
- Submit assignments by their due dates; if you need an extension, ask for one prior to the due date.

You can expect me to:

- Provide consistent and (hopefully) engaging instruction relevant to YOU!
- Be prepared, present, and engaged.
- Be available for additional support should you need it.
- Respond to emails and/or calls within two school days.
- Update grades no less than bi-weekly.

Grading Policy

Your overall grade will be based on demonstration of mastering the Essential Learning Outcomes (ELO) posted below. Students will accomplish this in a variety of ways, including but not limited to participation in class, completion of daily and weekly assignments, completion of homework assignments, and completion of a variety of summative and formative assessments in the form of discussions, writing assignments, projects, quizzes and exams.

Final grade scale will be based on the following percentages:

Grade	Percentage	ELO correlation
A	90-100%	Excellent mastery of nearly all of ELOs
B	80-89%	Mastery of majority of ELOs
C	70-79%	Average mastery of a large portion of ELOs
D	60-69%	Sufficient mastery of a a large portion of ELOs

F	Below 60%	Insufficient mastery of majority of ELOs
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Grades in this class are weighted as follows:

- All Classwork (Including Homework): 60% of total grade
- Assessments: 40% of total grade

Late Work Policy

Assignments are tools to assess student progress towards mastering ELOs and to provide feedback prior to assessments. As the assessments reflect overall mastery of ELO's, it is imperative that students complete assignments on time.

Due dates will be included in the assignment details and students are expected to turn work in on time **OR** ask me for an extension **PRIOR** to the due date in the event that you are struggling with content comprehension and need additional support.

Late assignments turned in during the unit, but late, and without an extension, may be docked 20%. Unless prior arrangements have been made with me, late work may not be accepted after the end of each unit.

Electronic Devices

The District policy for electronic devices is outlined in the Student Handbook. Classrooms have been provided with cell phone holders, which will be used as a way to alleviate distractions and enhance student learning. Students must turn in cell phones as a part of daily attendance. If a student does not have a cell phone or will not be participating, please make a note below. Students who do not put their cell phone in the pouch and have it out during class will have their phone taken to the office on the first offense. Headphones, which serve as a distraction to student learning, are also prohibited in class unless otherwise stated by teacher or educational plan.

Resources

Below is a list of resources that may be helpful to you.

- Nevada Union High School Mental Health Services:
<https://nevadaunion.njuhsd.com/Counseling/Mental-Health/index.html>
- Need Food? Click here for information on Nevada Union's curbside food pickup:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1NHFB0hgHDQwXk0-McIbrYPBeeNjmAniU/view>

