



University of
Pittsburgh

College in the High School

Bradford

Introduction to Psychology
PSY 0101
3 credits

Description: An introduction to psychology and its major subfields. Topics include experimental psychology; research methodology and statistics; learning; memory; brain and behavior; perception; human development; assessment techniques; personality theories; social psychology; and psychological disorders and treatment.

Prerequisite: None

Textbook: The recommended text for the course is Spielman, R.M., Jenkins, W.J. & Lovett, M.D. (2020). *Psychology*. OpenStax
<https://openstax.org/details/books/psychology-2e>

Other textbooks will be considered by the faculty liaison on case-by-case basis.

The following topics should be covered in this course (additional relevant topics can be included):

1. Psychological Research
2. Biological Bases of Behavior
3. Consciousness
4. Psychological Learning
5. Cognitive Processes and Intelligence
6. Memory
7. Emotion & Motivation
8. Human Development
9. Personality
10. Social Psychology
11. Psychological Disorders

Course objectives:

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

- Demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, research methods, core empirical findings, and historic trends in psychology.
- Explain (including advantages and disadvantages) and compare major theoretical perspectives of psychology (e.g., behavioral, biological, cognitive, evolutionary, humanistic, psychodynamic and socio-cultural);
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the following eleven general domains: (1) psychological research, (2) biological bases of behavior and mental processes, (3) consciousness, (4) psychological learning, (5) cognitive processes

and intelligence, (6) memory processes, (7) emotion and motivation, (8) developmental changes in behavior and mental processes that occur across the lifespan, (9) individual differences, psychometrics/measurement, personality, (10) social processes (including those related to socio-cultural and international dimensions), and (11) psychological disorders;

- Describe and demonstrate an understanding of applied areas of psychology (e.g., clinical, counseling, forensic, community, organizational, school, health);
- Draw the distinction between scientific and non-scientific methods of understanding and analysis.
- Recognize and understand the impact of diversity on psychological research, theory and application, including (but not limited to): age, race, ethnicity, culture, gender, socio-economic status, disability, and sexual orientation.
- Understand and apply psychological principles to personal experience and social and organizational settings.
- Demonstrate critical thinking skills and information competence as applied to psychological topics.

Grading: The final grade will be determined using a variety of assessment methods including quizzes, exams, projects, papers, presentations, etc.

Pitt Grading System:

All courses required to satisfy associate and baccalaureate degree requirements-including all courses required for a major, a minor, or general education-must be taken for letter grades, with the exception of those courses designated as graded S and NC only. Pitt-Bradford uses 13 earned letter grades. They are listed below with their equivalent quality point values.

A+	4.00
A	4.00 superior achievement
A-	3.75
B+	3.25
B	3.00 meritorious achievement
B-	2.75
C+	2.25
C	2.00 adequate achievement
C-	1.75
D+	1.25
D	1.00 minimal achievement
F	0.00 failure

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: Members of a university community, both faculty and students, bear a serious responsibility to uphold personal and professional integrity and to maintain complete honesty in all academic work. Violations of the code of academic integrity are not tolerated. Students who cheat or plagiarize or who otherwise take improper advantage of the work of others face harsh penalties, including permanent dismissal. The academic integrity guidelines set forth student and faculty obligations and the means of enforcing regulations and addressing grievances.

Grades: Grade criteria in the high school course may be different from the University standards. A CHS student could receive two course grades, one for high school and one for the University transcript. In most cases, the grades are the same. Grading standards should be explained at the beginning of the course.

Transfer Credits: Grades earned in CHS courses appear on an official University of Pittsburgh transcript and the course credits may be eligible for transfer to other colleges and universities. Students should contact potential colleges and universities in advance to be sure their CHS credits will be accepted. If students will attend any University of Pittsburgh campus, grade earned in the course will count toward the student grade point average at the University. At the University of Pittsburgh, the CHS course supersedes any equivalent AP credit.

Drops and Withdrawals: Students should monitor their progress in a course. A CHS teacher can contact the program administrators to request a drop or withdrawal. Dropping or withdrawing from the CHS course has no effect on enrollment in the high school credits.