

**Psych 102: General Topics in Psychology**  
**TOBB University of Economics and Technology**  
**Spring 2015**

Class times: Tuesdays 13:30-15:20, Thursdays 10:30-12:20  
Location: Tues @ B11, Thurs @ B12  
Instructor: Asst. Prof. Irem Uz  
Office hours: Thurs 14:30-16:00 or by appointment  
Email: psych102tobb@gmail.com (for questions about exams, HW, and class material)  
iuz@etu.edu.tr (for all other questions)

**Required text:**

Gerrig, R. J. (2014). *Psychology and life* (19<sup>th</sup> / 20<sup>th</sup> edition). UK: Pearson.

**Recommended book:**

Hock, R. R. (2013). *Forty studies that changed psychology*. US: Pearson.

**Course description:**

The purpose of the course is to introduce you to the theories and methods of psychology to lay the groundwork for more specialized courses that you will be taking in your studies. The topics of this semester are intelligence, development, emotion, motivation, personality, social psychology, psychological disorders and therapies.

**Course requirements:**

**Exam.** There will be two midterms and a final examination (total 60 %). The exams will be closed book and may include short-essay questions. The exams are based on the readings, and the material presented in class, including lectures, discussions, handouts, demonstrations, and audio-visual materials. Of the two midterms, the one with the lower grade will be dropped from the calculation of your final grade. In case you miss one of the midterms due to a documented emergency, your exam grade will be based on the other midterm plus the final exam. Missing two or more exams will result in an F grade.

**Quizzes.** There will be pop quizzes which will account for 10% of your final grade. There cannot be any make-up for pop quizzes.

**Study presentation.** In groups of 4, you are asked to select a chapter from Hock, R. R. (2013). *Forty studies that changed psychology*. UK: Pearson. A chapter can be selected by at most two groups. If two groups choose the same chapter, the particular readings to be presented cannot be the same.

The book is on the reserve of the library. Pick one or two the readings from your selected chapter. You will find the photocopy of the table of contents within the book. Please mark the chapter and the particular readings your group have selected on that photocopy-not on the book itself. Also write down the names of all the people in your group underneath the readings you have selected.

For the presentation, find the original article(s) that the reading(s) is referring to, and give a presentation to class (30-35 min.s presentation, 15 mins Q & A).The presentation should summarize the content of the reading(s) as well as any pertinent information from the original

article(s). The presentation can also include real life applications of concepts, discussions, videos, demonstrations etc.

The first presentation will start on 22<sup>nd</sup> of January. Study presentation will account for 30 % of your final grade.

Please note that your contribution to the group work will be rated by your teammates. If, for instance, your group receives the full %30 percent, but your contribution is determined to be 80%, you will receive %24 (30 x .80) from the study presentation

**Bonus activity.** In groups of 4, you can earn up to 15% bonus by creating a short video (~ 3 mins) about persuasion, or conformity and obedience. The video will be graded for accuracy, originality, and clarity. It will be graded out of 10 points and will be added to your final grade. The deadline for submitting the link to your finished video to psych102tobb@gmail.com is March, 16<sup>th</sup>. The group with the best video will receive an additional 5 points. You are strongly encouraged to submit your video to <http://nobaproject.com/student-video-award>.

**Reading assignments.** You are expected to read the material assigned before coming to class.

**Attendance.** Although attendance will not “affect” your grade in terms of points, coming to class has an indirect and strong effect on how well most students do in the course.

### **Grading:**

You must complete all course requirements in order to pass this course. The course as a whole will be graded according to the [Lisans Eğitim Öğretim ve Sınav Yönetmeliği](#) of TOBB ETÜ.

### **Course policies:**

1. Academic dishonesty (e.g., cheating on exams, plagiarism) is a serious offense. All work that you submit in this class must be your own. Each student is responsible for being familiar with my policy on academic dishonesty, available at <http://iuz.etu.edu.tr/courses/PolicyonAcademicDishonesty.pdf>. Any student engaging in academic dishonesty will receive automatically a course grade of FF.
2. If you need to leave early, you should let me know in advance.
3. Please keep your cell phones turned-off during class.
4. If you have a disability that requires special accommodations, please let me know early in the semester.
5. Please seek assistance when you are having difficulty understanding the course material. I am here to help you understand the material, and I encourage you to contact me when you have concerns about the course.

**Tentative course schedule:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Readings</b>
Week 1	Intelligence and intelligence assessment	Chapter 10
Week 2	Human development across life span	Chapter 11
Week 3	Motivation	Chapter 12
Week 4	Review of Chapters 10 through 12	
<b>***EXAM 1 on Jan 29<sup>th</sup>: Chapters 10-12***</b>		
Week 5	Emotion, stress, and health	Chapter 13
Week 6	Understanding human personality	Chapter 14
Week 7	Social Psychology	Chapter 15
Week 8	Review of Chapters 13 through 15	
<b>***EXAM 2 on March 5<sup>th</sup>: Chapters 6-1***</b>		
Week 9	Psychological disorders	Chapter 16
Week 10	Therapies for psychological disorders	Chapter 17
Week 11	Review of Chapters 10 through 17	
Week 12	Video presentations	
<b>***Final examination on a date scheduled by the university***</b>		