

Indiana State University
PSY 101 section 001
General Psychology

UPDATED: AUGUST 2026

Catalog Course Description

A selective study of how heredity and the environment affect human thought, emotion, and actions. The course focuses on the scientific study of human and non-human animal behavior, and the topics of how humans respond and adapt to change, the nature and limits of memory, the development of human beliefs, the impact of social influences on human behavior, the contribution of genetics to individual differences, the nature of psychological illnesses, and more. The course emphasizes “thinking psychologically” as it applies to everyday life.

Faculty Information

Name: Rachel Rasley
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Department: Psychology
Office hours: MWF | 9:30 – 11:30 AM

Course Learning Objectives

- Describe how individual factors, cultures, and/or social institutions affect human behavior or decision-making.
- Utilize discipline-specific content and/or methodology to explain or predict individual or social outcomes.
- Explain how the specific course content can be applied to your life.
- Examine the impact of social and economic inequalities on yourself and others.
- Demonstrate knowledge of breadth and depth in the psychology field.
- Explain major perspectives of psychology.
- Demonstrate knowledge of academic integrity.

Required Textbooks and Materials

King, L. (2024). *The science of psychology* (6th ed.). McGraw Hill.

Graded Elements of the Course

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| 1. Chapter quizzes | 6. Influences on behavior paper |
| 2. SmartBook reading assignments | 7. Psychology of you assignment |
| 3. In-class activities | 8. Final exam |
| 4. Predictive modeling assignment | 9. Research participation |
| 5. Video response assignment | |