PSY 101.01: INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY

Summer 2026

Tuesday 13:00-16:00
Thursday 13:00-16:00

Instructor: Dr. Oytun AYGÜN
Office hour: By appointment

Contact: **oytun.aygun@pt.bogazici.edu.tr**

ATTENTION: IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM THE TEACHER

Due to ongoing visa renewal procedures related to my residence in France, unfortunately my arrival in Istanbul has been delayed. As a result, all classes of PSY101.01 given by Oytun AYGUN including the **first class on 25 June, will be conducted only online via Zoom, until at least 10th of July.** I will email you as soon as I know when and if the classes can be resumed on Campus. However, please note that the course may exceptionally continue in an online format for more or all of the Summer 2026 term.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will be a brief and selective introduction to topics in psychology with a focus on development and neuroscience. As can be seen in the schedule below, the topics to be covered are diverse, including research methods in psychology, stress and well-being, consciousness, learning, language, cognition, intelligence, development, social relations, and psychological disorders.

There can be some changes in class schedule and topics compared to the Syllabus.

RESOURCES: Resources (e.g., scientific articles that will be linked during class, presentations, videos, other reading articles) will be posted on the course website (Moodle). No textbook.

COURSE RULES

- READ THE ENTIRE COURSE SYLLABUS.
- For any course-related inquiries (e.g., problems accessing course materials, technical issues with live lectures, questions about the exams, etc), please contact us via: bounpsych101@gmail.com
- No form of academic dishonesty (e.g., cheating, plagiarism) will be tolerated. See "Psychology Department Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism Policy" document for details.

Classes may be accessed from this link :

Zoom Meeting Link:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89393289632?pwd=dllzVmY1Z0ZTVnRuR2I4K2VPUVRQQT09

Meeting ID: 893 9328 9632
Passcode: 860084

Students are expected to attend all scheduled sessions regardless of the mode of instruction and should regularly check course announcements for any updates regarding course delivery.

Attendance is strongly recommended but not mandatory.

For the Online classes, recordings of most of the class material (at least 70% of the course content) will be made available on Moodle. However, recordings are intended as a supplementary resource and will not replace live attendance online. Students are therefore strongly encouraged to attend classes in real time even if it is online in order to maximize learning and participation in discussions during class.

In case classes resume on Campus, I will upload my slides for the classes on campus on Moodle but will not register the class on video.

Any changes to the schedule or teaching format will be communicated through official course announcements.

EXAMS

Exams will be only ON CAMPUS.

There will be one midterm (30%) and one final exam (70%). Exams will be in multiple-choice format and will cover material from the lectures, videos and the articles. Students are responsible for all the information contained in all of these. The final exam will be cumulative (i.e., it will cover material from the lectures and readings from the entire class).

Midterm can be excused only with appropriate documentation (e.g., doctor's note) AND if you let the course instructor know within two days after missing the exam. The exam must be made up within a week of administration date or a grade of "0" will be entered for the exam. It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor and schedule a make-up time. Make-up exam for the final will be given to those whose excuses are approved by the excuse committee: http://www.boun.edu.tr/tr_TR/Content/Ogrenciler/Ogrenci_Isleri/Yonetmelik_ve_Ic_Tuzukler/Mazeret_Sin avi_Uygulama_Esaslari

Make-up/excuse exams might consist of multiple choice AND/OR short essay questions. Your final grade may be determined by your rank in the distribution of Total Scores. This practice (sometimes called "curving") ensures that grades are based on realistic standards for student performance.

Students with disabilities that require special arrangements for the lectures or the exams should inform the course assistant at the beginning of the semester by sending a notification email to the course assistant or teacher

PSY101.01 CONTENT

INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY

Course logistics
Introduction to Psychological science
History of Psychology & Branches of Psychology
How can studying psychology help us in life?

METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Methods in Psychology Intro and Examples
Project hands on (observation)
Reading Scientific Articles in Psychology

DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

Developmental Psychology Intro
Topics in Developmental Psychology: Language Development
Social Development
Communication & Language development
Bilingualism

COGNITIVE NEUROSCIENCE & DEVELOPMENT

Cognition / Cognitive Biases / Cognitive Development/ Decision Making
Cognitive Development : Piaget to neuroscience
Executive Functions & Inhibition Model of Decision Making (Type 1 vs Type 2)
Adolescent Decision Making: Neuroscience & Social Influence

MULTIPLE TOPICS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Social Psychology
Influence of others on decision making
Some canonic examples of experiments in Social Psychology

Clinical Psychology & Personality
Clinical Psychology – DSM
Personality Theory and Tests

Handicap & Society: example: Autism Spectrum Disorder
Handicap and Society
Autism

Stress management & coping mechanisms:
Stress, well-being
Coping mechanisms
Contemplative Sciences

Adult relationships & Attachment
Attachment Theory
Science of Love and Romantic Relationships

Dr. Oytun Aygun