



## General Psychology: University of New Mexico

(For a list of materials used in this course, please see [http://www.theNCAT.org/R2R/AcadPrac/CM/UNM\\_GenPsy\\_Mat.pdf](http://www.theNCAT.org/R2R/AcadPrac/CM/UNM_GenPsy_Mat.pdf).)

General Psychology is a one-semester, three-credit course that covers the following topics:

### Introduction

- History of psychology
- Theoretical perspectives
- Sub-disciplines

### Research Methods

- Experimental design
- Quasi-experimental design
- Correlational research
- Naturalistic observation
- Case studies
- Surveys
- Meta-analysis

### Psychobiology

- Neurons
- Neural transmission
- Peripheral nervous system
- Central nervous system
- Brain
- Cerebral cortex structure and function
- Sub-cortical structure and function
- Endocrine system
- Behavioral genetics

### Sensory Processes

- Sensitivity and transduction
- Psychophysics
- Vision
- Hearing
- Gustation and olfaction
- Somesthetic senses

### Perception

- Selective perception and attention
- Theoretical approaches
- Form and pattern recognition
- Depth and space
- Motion
- Time

### States of Consciousness

- Nature of consciousness
- Biological rhythms
- Sleep and dreams
- Hypnosis
- Meditation
- Drugs

### Learning

- Classical conditioning
- Operant conditioning
- Cognitive learning
- Social learning

### Memory

- Models of memory
- Encoding and retrieval
- Forgetting
- Improving memory
- Biological factors

### Motivation

- Drive, incentive, reward
- Theoretical perspectives
- Temperature regulation
- Hunger and thirst
- Sex
- Psychosocial motives

### Emotion

- Physiological processes
- Expressive processes
- Cognitive processes
- Theories
- Cultural differences

### Thought and Language

- Reasoning
- Problem solving
- Decision-making
- Language structure
- Language and thought
- Language development

### Intelligence

- Nature of intelligence
- Intelligence tests
- Heredity, environment, IQ

### Development

- Perspectives on development
- Biological and environmental factors
- Prenatal development
- Cognitive development
- Attachment
- Socialization and peer relationships
- Development across the lifespan
- Death and dying

Personality

- Assessment
- Psychodynamic theories
- Cognitive-behavioral approach
- Trait theories
- Humanistic theories
- Socio-cultural approach

Psychological Disorders

- Approaches to psychopathology
- Schizophrenia
- Mood disorders
- Anxiety disorders
- Dissociative disorders
- Somatoform and psycho-physiological disorders
- Personality disorders

Treatment

- Biomedical therapies
- Psychodynamic therapies
- Cognitive and behavioral therapies
- Humanistic therapies
- Group and family therapies
- Treatment effectiveness

Health Psychology

- Nature of stress
- Stress and disease
- Coping strategies
- Effects of culture and gender

Social Psychology

- Biological factors
- Attitudes
- Person perception
- Self-perception
- Attribution
- Relationships
- Altruism
- Social influence
- Cultural differences