

Sabancı University
Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences
PSY 201: Mind & Behavior
Spring 2023

Please note that we may have to revise the course plan according to the countrywide reassessment to be made regarding higher education. This is expected to happen at the beginning of April. The content to be delivered is certain but the method of course delivery, the number and dates of exams, and some other details are subject to change.

Instructors: SU Psychology Program Faculty

Teaching Assistants: Ecem Erkol, Faruk Tayyip Yalçın, Şahcan Özdemir, Ali Can Özen, İpek Güvensoy, Selma Berfin Tanış, Ayşenur Didem Yılmaz, Sümeyye Karahamza, Duygu Yücel

Course E-mail: psy201.fass@sabanciuniv.edu (Please note that emails sent to other addresses may not be replied).

Course Description: PSY 201 is a general introduction to psychological science. In line with SU psychology faculty's main research expertise, the course provides an overview of social psychology, developmental psychology, cognitive psychology, and neuroscience. After completing this course, you will gain an understanding of basic concepts and theories in psychological science, methodologies used to test the theories, and major findings emerging from the tests. In sum, PSY 201 will introduce you to a scientific way of examining and understanding why people feel, think, and behave the way they do across contexts and time.

Lectures: Each week, a different faculty will deliver a lecture on a topic of their expertise. Thus, you will not only learn each topic from the best possible expert at SU but also get to know and interact with all SU psychology program faculty throughout the semester. The faculty will be lecturing on **Wednesdays 14:40 to 17:30 at FENS G077**. Live broadcast can be accessed via <https://sabanciuniv.zoom.us/j/94961976133?pwd=K3ZUVDNjNHdqOWR2R1N3SctUbzFjQT09> The faculty may utilize the third hour of the week for different activities. Some may deliver additional lectures whereas others may hold in-class demonstrations, discussions, or Top Hat Q & A games (see below). Please check the tentative course outline for the weekly plan.

Important note: Please note that video recordings will be made available upon request to only students who reside in the region affected by the earthquake to compensate missed lectures due to connectivity problems. The list of these students will be provided to the faculty by the FASS Dean's office. Video recordings will not be made available to any other student under any circumstances, including having a health report. (Due to the class size, keeping up with health reports is not feasible for the teaching team.)

Top Hat games: To review lecture material while having some fun you will play Q & A games using Top Hat in some of the weeks (see the schedule for dates). You will earn points by just taking part in the game, but we will also maintain a leaderboard with the top performers earning bonus points at the end of the semester. Please sign up for Top Hat at <https://tophat.com/>. You can use the program for free as long as you sign up with your Sabancı University email address. Please make sure that you have access to the program (through either your computer or phone) during the lectures.

Optional Readings: The Noba project (<https://nobaproject.com>) includes many freely available chapters on the topics we will cover throughout the semester if you are interested in reading more on the topics covered in the course. Faculty may also upload optional readings on SUCourse.

Essay Assignments: You will complete four assignments consisting of short-essay questions. Two of these assignments will help you develop your ability to relate what you learned in class to daily life. You will watch a documentary and listen to a podcast episode and answer a few questions about each using the concepts you learned in the course. The other two assignments are designed to encourage you to learn more about research conducted in psychology labs at SU and the faculty's views on the role of psychological science in our daily lives. You will attend two panel discussions and after each panel, you will complete a few questions based on the discussion.

Exams: There are two exams to be held during class time. Both exams will consist of multiple-choice questions. See the schedule for exam dates. Note that the university currently plans to hold all exams in-person on campus. If there are changes in the plan, the university will notify all of us.

Attendance: Regularly attending lectures is the best way to keep up with this course. As a side benefit, you will also earn course points by attending the lectures (see the Course Assessment section for details. Note that health reports are not taken into account in calculating the attendance grade but you will not lose points for missing up to two lectures).

Course Assessment:

Final: 60%

Assignments: Assignment 1 -> 5%; Panel 1, Panel 2, and Podcast -> 10% each (35% total)

Attendance: 5% (+ 1% bonus for the best 20 Top Hat performers across all sessions)

Grades: The following grading scheme is used to assign the final grade for the course. No changes can be made to your final grade unless there has been an arithmetical error.

A	100-93	B	79.99-75	C	64.99-60	D	49.99-45
A-	92.99-88	B-	74.99-70	C-	59.99-55	F	44.99-0
B+	87.99-80	C+	69.99-65	D+	54.99-50		

Make-up for missed exams: In order to be eligible to take a make-up exam, you should have a valid and documented excuse.

Research Participation: Students can optionally serve as participants in research that is run by Sabancı University researchers. By participating in research, you can get extra points. For this course, you will be able to earn up to 5 bonus points. 10 research points (1 research point equals ~ 30 minutes of research participation) will be converted to 5 bonus points added to your overall total at the end of the semester. More information on the available research projects will be provided during the semester. You will be able to sign up for the studies and get your research participation points through the online SONA system at <http://sabanciuniv.sona-systems.com>.

Academic Integrity: Every student in this course is expected to abide by the Sabancı University Academic Integrity Statement. Please see <https://www.sabanciuniv.edu/en/academic-integrity-statement>

Course Outline

Week 1 (March 1st)

Instructor: Emre Selçuk

Topic: Introduction & Overview

Week 2 (March 8th)

Instructor: Rob Booth

Topic: Research Logic

Week 3 (March 15th)

Instructor: Nihan Alp

Topic: Neuroscience

Top Hat Q & A 1

Week 4 (March 22nd)

Instructor: Eren Günseli

Topic: Attention & Memory

Week 5 (March 29th)

Instructor: Çiğdem Bağcı

Topic: Developmental Psychology

Week 6 (April 5th)

Instructor: Junko Kanero

Topic: Language

Documentary Assignment due

Week 7 (April 12th)

Panel 1

Week 8 (April 19th)

No Class

Week 9 (April 26th)

Instructor: Gül Günaydın

Topic: Social Psychology

Top Hat Q & A 2

Panel Assignment 1 due

Week 10 (May 3rd)

Instructor: Nebi Sümer

Topic: Culture

Top Hat Q & A 3

Week 11 (May 10th)

Instructor: Çağla Aydın

Topic: Applications of Psychology: Memory in Everyday Life

Week 12 (May 17th)

Instructor: Emre Selçuk

Topic: Happiness & Well-Being

Podcast Assignment

Week 13 (May 24th)

Panel 2

May 26th: Podcast Assignment Due

Week 14 (May 31st)

Panel Assignment 2 due.

Final Exam Period

Comprehensive Final -> Date TBD