

Psych 1101 Prelim Exam 1 Review Sheet

Friday Sep. 22 10:10-11:00 Bailey Hall

The exam will be in class (good idea to get there a little early), and will consist of ~45 multiple choice questions, roughly 1/2 based on readings and 1/2 based on lectures. **Please remember that this is not intended to be an exhaustive list.** That means you shouldn't NOT study something just because you don't see it here. This is a general guide to the themes and concepts likely to make it on the exam. It is intended as guidance, not as a contract, and is put together purely out of my desire to see you do well!

MATERIAL COVERED

Lectures 1-12:

- Intro to Intro to Psych
- Methods, Pt. 1-3
- The Brain, Pt. 1-4
- Sensation and Perception Pt. 1-4

Textbook Chapters:

- 1-5

LECTURES

- What do psychologists study?
- What do scientists mean by scientific explanation?
- What, according to the physicist Richard Feynman, is at the heart of the scientific method?
- What are some common problems with the way science is done?
- What are the three primary methods used by psychologists to acquire data?
- What is meant by the common phrase "correlation isn't causation"? Think of some examples of how this is problematic when we interpret a correlational finding (I gave the airplane example in lecture).
- What is considered the "gold standard" in science?
- What is meant by, and what is the importance of, an "operational definition"?
- What is an independent variable? Dependent variable?
- Be familiar with each of the methods discussed in lecture Day 3-4.
- Know about the top-down influences on perception discussed in lecture (including influences of motivation, language, etc.)
- What is psychological dualism?

- There is lots of overlap with the textbook on the brain. Remember that areas of direct overlap are twice as likely to appear on the exam! So know the basics about the structure of a neuron, the way neurotransmitters work (including the specific functions associated with each, and the drugs I listed that illustrate their role), and the areas of the brain (e.g., the amygdala) and the processes with which they are associated.
- Know the split-brain patient experiments and the differences between hemispheres
- Know the basics of neural plasticity
- Know the basic difference between sensation and perception, the definition of transduction, and other basics of perceptual phenomena
- Know monocular and binocular depth cues

TEXTBOOK

The best advice I can give about the textbook is to pay attention to the outlines (which highlight the main points), and any terms that are highlighted. Basically, what the book highlights as the main points, are the sorts of things that I will highlight on the exam. But you still should know details that support main points will be asked—for example, knowing about the studies used to demonstrate inattention blindness would be a good thing, because they illustrate the idea well.