



Psyc 377 Evolutionary Psychology (Online) fall 2022 syllabus

Professor:	Dr. Jody Lewis
Office:	SCI D233
In person availability:	Office hours Tues/Thurs 3:15-4 pm or by appointment
Online availability:	M-F 9am – 5pm (please see schedule posted in Canvas)
Ways to contact me:	my office, after class, e-mail, Canvas message, Zoom
e-mail address:	Jody.Lewis@uwsp.edu

General course learning outcomes:

1. Gain an understanding of how psychologists' study human behavior within the context of evolutionary theory.
2. Be exposed to research in evolutionary psychology and how researchers ask questions about adaptive behaviors.
3. To think critically about findings in evolutionary psychology and to understand the benefits and limitations of this research.

Teaching philosophy and classroom expectations:

- I do not make judgments about a student's character based on their grades/performance in my classes.
- I do care very much about my teaching, how I run a classroom, and will do anything I can to help you get the best possible grade in this course.
- My goal in life is NOT to give busy work, torture students, and make their lives miserable –really, I have better things to do with my time.
- I consider all students adults, which means that I believe that students are able to make decisions for themselves, have a life outside the classroom, and if students need help, they will come to me (I do not chase students around and I don't monitor their attendance closely).
- I think students learn more and get more out of a class when they read the book and participate in class.
- I expect that students will ask questions in class if they need me to repeat something, clarify what I said, and/or are curious about something
- Learning should be fun and relaxing, but difficult. Very few of us have sponge-like brains, so if you want to learn something you have to work hard.

Class Materials

Text: Buss (2015) Evolutionary psychology: The new science of the mind, 5th edition

Internet Sources: This class is a 100% online asynchronous class offered through Canvas. All lectures will be prerecorded so students are able to complete the materials when it is most convenient to them as long as they meet the deadlines.

Course requirements

Quizzes: In order to test students over the lecture and reading material, you will be expected to take 13 quizzes (one quiz per module) over the semester. Each quiz will consist of 10 multiple choice questions (each question is worth 2 points). Students will have 15 minutes to complete each quiz.

Assignments

Critical thinking assignments: The purpose of these assignments is to encourage students to think critically about findings in evolutionary psychology. For these assignments, you will type a short essay (5 pts each) to a posed question related to the material. There is no word minimum or maximum for these assignments. They should be as long as it takes to answer the question.

Research assignments: In order to have exposure to how research is conducted in learning, students will be expected to read 3 research articles over the course of the semester and answer a series of questions about each article. In order to reduce workload and increase performance, students will collaborate with another student on these assignments.

Ungraded practice sheets. There will also be ungraded practice sheets offered throughout the semester. The purpose of these worksheets is to help you practice the concepts before you are quizzed over the material. These worksheets are not meant to be busy work and are not meant to be optional. They are created to help you practice for the quizzes. Answers are provided for every practice sheet. I highly recommend that you complete the practice sheet before you check your answers. Just looking at the answers is not as useful as a study aid.

Late work policies:

- Late assignments will lose 10% of the possible points per day that the assignment is late (these points are automatically deducted in Canvas).
- Blank or incorrect documents uploaded to Canvas assignments will be considered missing and/or is subject to standard late penalties. Whenever you upload a document to Canvas, check to make sure it is the document you intended to upload.
- If you have extenuating circumstances during the semester which make it difficult for you to complete the work on time (e.g. health issues, family emergencies, deployment, etc.) please contact me right away so we can come up with a plan of action for you so you can finish the semester successfully. Do not wait until several weeks or months after an assignment is due to contact me.

Extra credit and redo's: I do not allow students to redo assignments or retake quizzes and I do not offer extra credit assignments. If you are struggling with material, please ask me for help before the assignment is due.

Grading: Your grade is based on the number of points earned in the class.

Point distribution:

Quizzes (20pts x 13)	260pts	74%
Research assignments (20pts x 3)	60pts	17%
<u>Critical thinking assignments (5pts x 6)</u>	<u>30pts</u>	<u>9%</u>
Total	350pts	100%

Letter grade cutoffs:	
A	93%-100%
A-	90%-92%
B+	87%-89%
B	83%-86%
B-	80%-82%
C+	77%-79%
C	73%-76%
C-	70%-72%
D+	67%-69%
D	60%-66%
F	<60%

Outline of scheduled material

Dates	Topic	Graded material	Points	When the module opens	Due dates
Unit 1: Understanding evolution					
Sept 6-9	Introductions and syllabus				
Sept 12-16	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 1: History of evolutionary psychology	Quiz 1	20	Sept 6	Fri Sept 16 by 5pm
Sept 19-23	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 2: Natural selection and basic anthropology	CT 1 Quiz 2	5 20	Sept 9	Fri Sept 23 by 5pm
Sept 26-30	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 3: Adaptive vs. non-adaptive explanations	CT 2 Quiz 3	5 20	Sept 16	Fri Sept 30 by 5pm
Oct 3-7	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 4: Misunderstandings of evolution	RA 1 Quiz 4	20 20	Sept 23	Fri Oct 7 by 5pm
Unit 2: Sex and mating					
Oct 10-14	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 5: Sexual selection and short-term mating strategies	Quiz 5	20	Sept 30	Fri Oct 14 by 5pm
Oct 17-21	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 6: Sexual selection and long-term mating strategies	RA 2 Quiz 6	20 20	Oct 7	Fri Oct 21 by 5pm
Oct 24-28	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 7: Human sexual behavior	CT 3 Quiz 7	5 20	Oct 14	Fri Oct 28 by 5pm
Oct 31-Nov 4	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 8: Homosexuality and Conflict between the sexes	CT 4 Quiz 8	5 20	Oct 21	Fri Nov 4 by 5pm
Nov 7-11	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 9: Parental investment	Quiz 9	20	Oct 28	Fri Nov 11 by 5pm
Unit 3: Parenting and living in groups					
Nov 14-18	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 10: Kinship and inclusive fitness	Quiz 10	20	Nov 4	Fri Nov 18 by 5pm
Nov 21-25	Thanksgiving break				
Nov 28-Dec 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 11: Cooperation and Altruism	CT 5 Quiz 11	5 20	Nov 11	Fri Dec 2 by 5pm
Dec 5-9	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 12: Social contract theory and cheater detection	CT 6 Quiz 12	5 20	Nov 18	Fri Dec 9 by 5pm
Dec 12-16	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 13: Evolution of human cognition	RA 3 Quiz 13	5 20	Nov 18	Fri Dec 16 by 5pm

Additional course information

Attendance: Attendance is expected in this class. For an online class, attendance means logging into Canvas on a regular basis and completing assignments on time. If you have extenuating circumstances during the semester which make it difficult for you to complete the work on time (e.g. health issues, family emergencies, deployment, etc.) please contact me right away so we can come up with a plan of action for you so you can finish the semester successfully. Do not wait until several weeks or months after an assignment is due to contact me.

Academic honesty: I do not tolerate violations of academic honesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and copying/buying papers off the internet. You are responsible for understanding and abiding by the university academic standards. Instances of academic dishonesty may result in the failure of the course. Please see Chapter 14, *Student Academic Standards and Disciplinary Procedures* of the *UWSP Community Rights and Responsibilities*. This can be found at <http://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Documents/CommunityRights.pdf>. And the Academic Misconduct Webpage can be found at <http://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Pages/Academic-Misconduct.aspx>

Disability accommodation: Please contact me and Disability Services during the first two weeks of the semester if you are in need of any additional accommodations at 346-3365 or <http://www.uwp.edu/disability>

Religious accommodation: Religious beliefs will be accommodated according to UWS 22.03 as long as you notify me within the first three weeks of the beginning of class of the specific dates on which you will request relief.

Tutoring-Learning Center: The center provides assistance such as group and individual tutoring, help with computer skills, and help with writing papers. They are located in 018 LRC (346-3568). They can also be found at <http://www.uwsp.edu/tlc/>

Withdrawal policy: If you decide you no longer want to take the course you must follow the university procedures for officially dropping the course. If you stop attending and do not officially drop the course you will receive an F in the course. See the Registration and Records webpage for information about when the last day is to drop a course (click on Registration Dates and Information). <http://www.uwsp.edu/reg-rec/>

Legal actions I am required to report: According to federal and state laws, and university guidelines I am required to report acts of criminal or offensive nature that occur both within and outside of class. This includes acts of sexual harassment and assault, bias and hate crimes, illicit drug use, and acts of violence. Any disclosure or description of these incidents – both current and in the past – may be reported to the Dean of Students office (<http://www.uwsp.edu/dos/>) or the local authorities.

Equality, fairness, and respect: I do everything in my power to treat everyone equally, fairly, and with respect regardless of their race, ethnic group, socioeconomic status, gender, sexual preference, sexual identity, religion, age, weight, political ideology and opinions, profession, and anything else under the sun.

Lecture copyright. Lecture materials and recordings are protected intellectual property at UW-Stevens Point. Students in this course may use the materials and recordings for their personal use related to participation in this class. Students may also take notes solely for their personal use. Students may not copy or share lecture materials and recordings outside of class, including posting on internet sites or selling to commercial entities. Unauthorized use of these copyrighted lecture materials and recordings constitutes copyright infringement and may be addressed under the university's policies, UWS Chapters 14 and 17, governing student academic and non-academic misconduct.