

# PSYC 405 THEORIES OF EMOTION

Summer Session II, 2025

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<b>Course Meeting Days and Time</b>	M/W, 1PM-4PM	<b>Student Drop-In Office Hours</b>	By Appointment
<b>Course Mode</b>	In Person		

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## Course Information

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### Catalog Description:

PSYC-405 Special Topics in Psychology (3 credits) Examines specific topics in psychology through a seminar or workshop format. Prerequisite: Psychology 121 or permission of instructor.

**Course Description:** Emotions provide meaning and information about some of the most significant events in our lives. In this course, students will study current theories of emotion and the role of emotion in motivating our behavior and providing information about our varied contexts such as relationships and places. Students will have the opportunity to learn about emotions which warrant theoretical explanation. Throughout the class, students will have the opportunity to apply the theories and principles explored in the classroom in various, significant locations in the United Kingdom. We will focus on increasing psychological understanding while participating in curated experiences that allow students to generate, modify, explore, and understand emotional responses. For example, students can explore the feeling of awe while viewing exhibits in places such as the Museum of Natural History. They can put feelings of dissonance in context while viewing controversial artifacts in spaces such as The British Museum, and explore concepts of fear, in "haunted" locations. Students completing this course will be better equipped to explain the affectively motivated behaviors of self and others.

### Credit Hour Policy Statement:

This class meets the federal credit hour policy through a combination of lecture + laboratory (or lecture + practicum) for a total of 45-75 hours of supervised learning activities for each credit.

### Course Learning Outcomes:

Specific Learning Outcome	Course Assignments and Evaluation Methods		
	Exams	Discussions and Assignments	Readings and Quizzes
<b><i>By the end of this course, students should be able to:</i></b>			
Describe general theories of emotion.	X	X	X
Describe the functions of some specific emotions.	X	X	X
Set personal experience in context;	X	X	X
Think more critically.	X	X	X
Recognize interdependence.		X	X
Increase metacognitive skills.		X	X
Demonstrate an understanding of different perspectives.		X	X

### Required Materials:

Reading will be posted in Blackboard. No Textbook is required.

### Methods of Instructions:

Along with lectures, this will be an interactive, seminar style class. That is, you are expected to ask questions and make comments. There will be occasions when you are asked to gather into small groups during class to discuss material, etc. There will also be four days of experiential activities and guided activities.

### Withdrawal and Attendance policies:

Given the paucity of times we meet, you are expected to attend all classes and participate in experiential activities. Exceptions will be made for exceptional circumstances. Please see the following for withdrawal policies: <https://www.evansville.edu/registrar/calendars.cfm>

### Grading Criteria:

**Each Class Quizzes: (Up to 20 points each).** These quizzes, at the beginning of each class, will be based on your readings for the class. These short quizzes are intended to encourage you to be prepared for class, to be current in your readings, and to be current in your studying.

**Retrospective Learning Journal (up to 20 points per entry):** Writing assignment connecting course content with lived experience.

### Final Exam (Up to 100 points each): Essay Exam

**Assignments (points vary):** Periodic assignments will be given to aid your critical thinking and critical writing skills.

**Grade Breakdown:** Grades will be determined and assigned based on the following percentages of points earned.

A = 92-100% B+ = 88-89% C+ = 78-79% D+ = 68-69% F= 0-59%

A- = 90-91% B = 82-87% C = 72-77% D = 62-67%

B- = 80-81% C- = 70-71% D- = 60-61%

### Honor Code:

All students at the University of Evansville agree to the University honor code: *I will neither give nor receive unauthorized aid, nor will I tolerate an environment that condones the use of unauthorized aid.*

### Course AI Policy:

In this course, submission of any work that is not entirely your own is considered academic dishonesty unless otherwise specified. This means that the use of generative AI tools is prohibited, except for certain assignments for which you are given specific guidelines and examples of appropriate AI use. When permitted, you must clearly identify and cite the AI tools used. Submitting AI-generated work as your own constitutes a violation of academic integrity as an example of unauthorized aid.

**Course Schedule:**

16 July: Introduction to Emotion Theories and Modern Historical Perspectives (see Blackboard for Readings)

17 July: Biological Building Blocks of Emotion (see Blackboard for Readings)

19 July: Experiential Learning in London—Awe

21 July: Cognitive Foundation of Emotion (see Blackboard for Readings)

22 July: Experiential Learning in York-Fear

23 July: Social and Cultural Approaches (see Blackboard for Readings)

28 July: Emotion Regulation (see Blackboard for Readings)

30 July: Moods and the Constructionist Approach (see Blackboard for Readings)

31 July: Experiential Learning in Eyam—Contamination and Disgust

04 August: Specific Emotions (see Blackboard for Readings)

05 August Experiential Learning in London—Joy and Happiness.

06 August: Review for Exam and Conclusions

11 August: Final Exam

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**University Policy Statements**

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**Disability Policy:**

The University of Evansville is committed to providing an accessible and supportive environment for students with disabilities. It is the policy and practice of the University of Evansville to make reasonable accommodations for students with properly documented disabilities. Students should contact Disability Services at 812-488-2663 to seek services or accommodations for disabilities. Written notification to faculty from Disability Services is required for academic accommodations.

**Institutional Equity and Title IX**

UE is committed to fostering an atmosphere free from harassment and creating an inclusive campus for all members of the University community regardless of their sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, race, religion, ethnicity, country of origin, ability, or veteran status. All Faculty members are considered Responsible Employees and required to report instances of discrimination, harassment, or sexual violence to the Office of Institutional Equity

You may also choose to speak to a Confidential Resource about your experience. Confidential Resources at the University include:

Counseling Services: 812-488-2663, [counselingservices@evansville.edu](mailto:counselingservices@evansville.edu)

Crayton E. and Ellen Mann Health Center: 812-488-2033, [healthcenter@evansville.edu](mailto:healthcenter@evansville.edu)

Spiritual Formation Coordinator: 812- 488-5265, [spiritualformation@evansville.edu](mailto:spiritualformation@evansville.edu)

If you or someone you know has been harassed, assaulted, or discriminated against you can find the appropriate resources by contacting the Assistant Director of Institutional Equity and Title IX Coordinator: email [titleix@evansville.edu](mailto:titleix@evansville.edu) ; phone (812) 488-5261. For more information visit <https://www.evansville.edu/offices/titleix/policy.cfm> .

### **Non-discrimination Statement**

The University of Evansville expects all members of its community to treat each other with respect and civility. Harassing behaviors directed towards any member of our community will not be tolerated. As part of its commitment to non-discrimination, the University specifically prohibits harassment based on any other characteristics set forth in its nondiscrimination statement as follows: including race, color, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, creed or religion, national origin, age, disability, veteran status and all federally protected groups/classes. Any form of harassment undermines the mission of the University and negatively impacts the University community as a whole. For more information contact the [Center for Inclusive Excellence](#).

### **Campus Safety**

All members of the UE community are automatically enrolled in the Ace Alerts Emergency Alert System. When the system is activated, emergency notification information is sent in the following manner: calls to campus IP phones, text messages, emails, campus housing speaker system, active threat sirens (non-weather related), digital signage, and AlertUS desktop on campus-owned computers.

**To contact the Office of Public Safety:**

**Emergencies:** 812-488-6911

**Non-emergencies:** 812-488-2051

### **Complaints, Grievances, and Appeals**

The University of Evansville seeks to resolve all student concerns in a timely and effective manner through policies and processes documented in the University [Course Catalog](#) and [Student Handbook](#).

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## **Student Resources**

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Access the links below to connect with departments and resources that are here to support all UE students.

**Academic Services:** Contact the Center for Academic Advising to connect with academic support services including supplemental instruction, tutoring, and time management and study skills help.

**Blackboard Guides:** Blackboard is the University of Evansville's course management system for online courses. Guides on using Blackboard can be found within [MyUE](#).

**Writing Center :** The Writing Center provides access to writing resources, appointments for one-on-one writing help, and assistance with any stage of the writing process.

**Counseling Services:** Counseling Services provides general, short-term counseling that assists students in identifying barriers and setting goals while improving coping strategies to achieve personal and academic goals.

**University Libraries:** Conduct research, access resources, and contact librarians for any research related help.