



***Clearly established goals***

***Focused instruction***

***Effective learning***

## ***The MyPsychLab Difference***

**A**cross the country, from small, community colleges to large, public universities, a trend is emerging: foundation course enrollments are increasing at an exponential rate. And available resources can't keep pace: in some instances, they are even decreasing. The result is instructor time stretched to its limit like never before, increased costs, and graduates without proven mastery of the skills in their field. Not surprisingly, as funding and other resources wane and as we as a nation watch our once tremendous educational advantage recede into the past, technological literacy is emerging as a crucial component to an individual's economic future. Technological literacy is now included, alongside reading, writing, and arithmetic, in the U.S. Commerce Department's expanded list of indicators of a student's future economic success.

There's no doubt about it: higher education is evolving—and demanding innovation and flexibility from our institutions, instructors, and students.

According to *A Test in Leadership*,<sup>1</sup> a 2006 report by the commission appointed by Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings, the solution lies in teaching and learning programs that are “more nimble, more efficient, and more effective.” Programs that “embrace new pedagogies, curricula, and technologies to improve student learning.” Programs that “foster access, increase productivity, and cut costs while maintaining or enhancing educational quality.” The authors urge our nation's institutions to look forward. They need look no further than Pearson Education's MyPsychLab.

## Student Praise for MyPsychLab

*"MyPsychLab helped me to prepare for upcoming tests by showing me exactly what material I needed to study further and what material I already had mastered."*

*"I love technology and I love the fact that I could get ahead because all the chapters were online from the get-go. I can do MyPsychLab whenever I want to do it—even at 3 a.m!"*

*"The Web site is very user-friendly. The layout of the modules is easy to read and simple to use. And the questions in the diagnostic and exit exams helped me remember the information presented in the book—resulting in a better grade on lecture exams."*

**Accurate assessment • Convenient reporting • Individualized training**

### What Is MyPsychLab?

MyPsychLab is a learning and assessment tool that enables instructors to assess student performance and adapt course content—without investing additional time or resources. Students benefit from an easy-to-use site on which they can test themselves on key content, track their progress, and utilize individually tailored study plan activities, including eBook, simulations, and application exercises.

#### **Minimum operating system and browser requirements:**

- **Windows XP, 2000, 2003, Vista with Internet Explorer 6.0, 7.0**
- **Mac OS X v.10.4 with Safari 2.0**

### Assess and Adapt

**Accurate assessment.** MyPsychLab offers robust self-assessment tests to determine each student's mastery of key content areas. With numerous question types—such as text match and hot spot multiple response—MyPsychLab encourages multiple pathways to learning the material and enables instructors to accurately measure student progress.

**Convenient reporting.** MyPsychLab's automatic reporting system delivers immediate feedback to students and provides instructors with reports of both aggregate class and individual student performance—without wasting valuable instructor time.

**The means to adapt.** MyPsychLab eliminates the teaching-to-the-middle syndrome by enabling instructors to offer focused instruction based on actual student and class performance. MyPsychLab automatically analyzes individual diagnostic test results, assigns specific targeted exercises, and reports these assignments to the instructor via the Gradebook. What's more, MyPsychLab provides

instructors with a wealth of supplemental teaching materials specific to content areas, including additional lecture material, video clips, and classroom activities.

### How Does MyPsychLab Work?

The premise is simple and student focused: studies show (1) that effective learning takes place when students know what their goals are and feel challenged to work toward them, (2) that students are better motivated to achieve when their differences are acknowledged and respected, and (3) that students consistently score higher when assessment of their progress is an integral part of the learning process.

MyPsychLab is how Pearson Education puts that premise into practice. MyPsychLab clearly outlines learning expectations. To accommodate the full continuum of learning styles, MyPsychLab offers a variety of self-assessment tools: a pool of more than 2,500 questions tied directly to the text are presented in randomized pre- and posttests, and personalized study plans offer a variety of engaging study materials, including simulations, video clips and eBook activities. Its online format means that learning is self-paced and takes place where and when the student learns best. Finally, MyPsychLab spreads assessment modes throughout the semester and provides the kind of immediate, detailed feedback that would take most instructors days to compile.

At bottom, it's a proven system combining ease of use and time savings—for both instructors and students.

### MyPsychLab Works for Students

MyPsychLab enhances course delivery by actively engaging students in the experiential process of learning. The vehicle for that learning is MyPsychLab's easy-to-use, intuitive Web interface. Students use four tabs on the tool bar to navigate the site: Today's View, Study Plan, Grades, and Course Mail.

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Does MyPsychLab offer the flexibility to customize my course?**

**Yes, you may choose to organize material by chapter or by sections within chapters, or you may choose to hide any content areas that you do not teach in your course.**

**I'm using WebCT or Blackboard. Can I integrate MyPsychLab into my course?**

**Yes, MyPsychLab is easily integrated into course management systems. Students will access their course in WebCT or Blackboard as they normally would by using their university username and password. They then connect to MyPsychLab by using their MyPsychLab access code.**

[www.mypsychlab.com](http://www.mypsychlab.com)

### Today's View

The student course opens with a Today's View page. From Today's View, students can access assignments, read unread messages, and review their recent grades.

### Course Content

The Course Content section is where students access section and chapter quizzes in addition to other resources such as flash cards with audio pronunciation, a database of research articles, a glossary of key terms, and a link to chapter simulations.

Once in the section, students are provided with a diagnostic test. Those who don't pass the test the first time are offered a personalized study plan.

A student's personalized study plan consists of three types of activities: eBook, Apply It, and Simulation exercises. At any time after the diagnostic test is completed, students can take another test to determine whether or not they've mastered the material. This posttest is randomized from a large bank of questions and can be taken as many times as the student would like.

**Instructors control pass criteria and whether or not tests are timed.**

### Grades

Through the Grades section, students can access their own grades for the course and for the pre- and post-tests, as well as the record of their study plan. With its emphasis on self-motivation and personal accountability,

MyPsychLab teaches students how to learn and empowers them to succeed.

**Instructors are provided with a record of all student pretests, study plans, and posttest results in the Instructor Gradebook.**

### MyPsychLab Works for Instructors

Instructors, too, benefit from MyPsychLab. By transferring faculty members' most time-consuming tasks—content delivery, student assessment, and grading—to an automated suite of course management tools, MyPsychLab enables faculty to spend more quality time with students.

### Today's View

Today's View is the first page of the course. It contains a Notifications list that lets instructors know how students are doing and displays unread e-mail and newly posted grades.

### Notifications

The Notifications list alerts instructors when students fail to pass a pretest. Instructors can view the test, print it, and view both individual grades and a summary of class results.

### Content Library

MyPsychLab's extensive Content Library provides everything an instructor could need to successfully teach the course, including extra assignments and lectures geared toward students who are having trouble with certain chapters or particular sections within the chapters.

Resources are labeled by chapter title, section, and learning objective, thereby enabling easy customization of the content. Instructors can review content, customize it, or add their own.

### Question Library

MyPsychLab's Question Library is the most robust on the market today. A bank of more than 2,500 questions means that instructors who use MyPsychLab can offer varied assessments via question types such as fill in the blank, text match, ranking, and matching. The questions in MyPsychLab are created around the textbook learning objectives. MyPsychLab randomizes the selection of ques-

tions: each time a student takes a practice test, a different selection of questions is offered, thereby testing the student's understanding of the learning objectives. Instructors may sample, edit, and delete questions from the library.

### **Gradebook Reports**

MyPsychLab offers instructors several types of reports, including student reports and other detailed reports, which can be printed or downloaded to another location, such as an Excel spreadsheet.

### **Mail**

MyPsychLab provides instructors with an easy, flexible way to manage correspondence within the course—among instructors or students.

## **Conclusion**

Colleges and universities across the United States are discovering that MyPsychLab is not only a proven tool for increased learning; it's also cost-effective—through more-efficient use of instructor time and by helping ensure students pass their classes the first time around. Instructors using MyPsychLab report that their students' pass rates are going up, that their drop/fail/withdrawal rates are going down, and that their students are learning how to learn—meaning greater achievement throughout their college career and in the workforce.

MyPsychLab's success is due largely to the key foundational characteristics of all MyLab products: customization, personalization, privacy, and reliable technology.

- Multimedia content—including videos, animations, and online learning—helps students master concepts while working at their own pace.
- Instruction is personalized to the competence of the student. MyPsychLab identifies a student's weakness and directs the student to appropriate tutorials.
- Online and one-on-one learning fosters an environment in which students can ask questions in privacy and free of embarrassment or stigma.
- Homework, quiz, and exam grading is automated, allowing instructors more time for those students who need help.

The Spellings report laments that “unacceptable numbers of college graduates enter the workforce without the skills employers say they need.” Pearson Education's MyPsychLab, powered by Pegasus, offers a solution: assessment, reporting, and adaptive training tools that ensure mastery learning without raising costs.

***For more information, visit [www.mypsychlab.com](http://www.mypsychlab.com).***

<sup>1</sup>A Test of Leadership: Charting the Future of U.S. Higher Education. A Report of the Commission Appointed by Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings. September 2006. To download a copy of the report, see <http://www.ed.gov/about/bdscomm/list/hiedfuture/reports/pre-pub-report.pdf>.



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