INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Stephen Link

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OFFICE HOURS: 7:30 – 8:30 MONDAY - FRIDAY ON-LINE OR BY APPOINTMENT

COURSE TITLE AND NUMBER: PSYCHOLOGY 2301, General Psychology

COURSE HOURS: 3 Credits, 3 Lectures, 0 Labs

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: This is a Texas common course number.

This is a DCCCD Core Curriculum Course

Prerequisite: Developmental Reading 0093 or English as a Second Language (ESOL) 0044 or have meet the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) standard in Reading.

Course Description: General Psychology is a survey of the major psychological topics, theories and approaches to the scientific study of behavior and mental processes.

Coordinating Board Academic Approval Number 4201015125

website:http://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0102/courseDescriptions/

Psychology 2301, is part of the core curriculum and addresses the following Student Learning Outcomes and Core Objectives as set forth by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board:
Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Identify various research methods and their characteristics used in the scientific study of psychology.

2. Describe the historical influences and early schools of thought that shaped the field of psychology.

3. Describe some of the prominent perspectives and approaches used in the study of psychology.

4. Use terminology unique to the study of psychology.

5. Describe accepted approaches and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation.

6. Identify factors in physiological and psychological processes involved in human behavior.

Core Objectives

1. Critical Thinking Skills - to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.

2. Communication Skills - to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.

3. Empirical and Quantitative Skills - to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.

4. Social Responsibility - to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGY

Internet use, group discussions, internet demonstrations, and assigned activities will be utilized to achieve course objectives.

COMMUNICATION WITH YOUR INSTRUCTOR

I try to review and grade all newly posted material at least once a day. Also, you can expect me to respond to your emails normally within 24 hours. Be aware that while this is my general and intended practice, it is subject to the changes and chances of life.
Technical Requirements and Support (for eCampus users)
This course requires access to a computer, the Internet and e-mail. If you should have any technical difficulties, send an e-mail to helpdesk@dcccd.edu or call 972-669-6402. Also alert the instructor concerning any technical problems. Everything you need to know about the Dallas Community Colleges and distance education can be found at our website: http://www.brookhavencollege.edu/dl/

INSTITUTIONAL POLICIES

FINAL WITHDRAWAL DATE: Withdrawing from a course is a formal procedure which YOU must initiate; the instructor cannot do it for you. You may withdraw from a class in either the Admissions office or Advising Center. If you stop attending or are unable to complete this class and you do not withdraw before the official drop date, you will receive a performance grade, usually a grade of “F.” Students sometimes drop a class when help is available that would enable them to continue. Please discuss your plans with the instructor if you feel you need to withdraw. The full drop and withdrawal policy is online in the college catalog. The official drop date for this course is December 25, 2015.

All institutional polices can be found at the following website. http://www.brookhavencollege.edu/about/vpi/Pages/Syllabus-Addendum.aspx

TEXTBOOK

Website http://www.wadsworth.com

EVALUATION

Evaluation will consist of:

A. FOUR TESTS. Each test will be 50 multiple-choice questions. 100 points each test: All tests will be taken on-line. Students may take a test up to three times and keep the highest grade. Only one test can be taken after the due date. Students are expected to take the tests on time. Make up tests are available, with a five-point reduction per day for any test taken late. Any student taking the last exam late will receive their final performance grade based on work complete to that point. After completing late exams your grade will be recalculated, with deductions, and a grade change form will be submitted by your professor to the academic dean. This process could entail a wait of 4 -6 weeks depending on vacation schedules and college registry policies. Due date for all tests is January 7th.

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B. All discussion questions will be posted in the discussion forum section of the course. Students are expected to post a well defined, minimum of five or more sentence responses. Answers to the question should be either your opinion or factually based. Grading will be based on the following scale:

10 points  Insightful and factually, referenced based statements (quotes) that are ten or more sentences.
9 points  Insightful and factually, referenced based statements (quotes) that are nine sentences.
8 points  Insightful and factually, referenced based statements (quotes) that are eight sentences.
7 points  Factually or opinioned based statements that are more than seven sentences.
6 points  Factually or opinioned based statements that are six sentences.
5 points  Factually or opinioned based statements that are five sentences.
4 points  Opinion based statements that are more than five sentences.
3 points  Opinion based statements that are less than five sentences.
2 point  Opinion based statements that are less than four sentences and repeat others views.
1 point  I agree with statements more than three sentences.
0 points  I agree with statements

Posted responses should be made during the posted time. The last possible time to post a response and receive credit is 11:59pm on the due date. There will be no credit given for posted responses that are late. You can make as many comments as you want, but you will only receive credit for the first two statements per discussions forum. Second statements responding to other students’ responses will receive a maximum of two points. To receive the maximum credit you must participate in all of the forums. In order to get the full ten points you must have a quote to back up your opinions. Maximum points 100.

November 16  Welcome to General Psychology

November 30  Forums #1:
Influences on Human Behavior
Perception
Is Alcoholism a Disease?

December 14  Forums #2
Advertising and Conditioning
Improving Memory
Weight Management

December 28  Forums #3
Gender Differences
Abnormal Psychology
Psychotherapy

C. Critical Thinking Essay: In the assignment section you will find an article entitled "The Happiness of Pursuit". You will read and answer short essays questions for a maximum of 40 points. All completed essays must be submitted on line in the essay folder that is below the listed article in the assignment section. (Maximum 40 points total with ten points per essay) Grading will be based on the grading scale listed in the Course Document tab entitled “Guidelines to Answer Critical Thinking Essays” Due date January 4th.

D. Student Learning Outcomes Test: In the assignment section you will find a test that will test your overall knowledge of this course. This test is to determine if you have mastered the state mandated Student Learning Objectives. Each test question is worth two points. Students may take the test up to three times and keep the highest grade. All tests are to be taken by January 7th. (Maximum points 40)

COURSE GRADES

A = 522 - 580 points  D = 348 - 405 points
B = 464 - 521 points  F = 347 points & below
C = 406 - 463 points  

EXTRA CREDIT

Maximum of 20 extra-credit points can be earned by completing material in extra-credit handouts. The extra credit articles are located within the class website. When you enter the class website to the left you will find a tab entitled “Assignments”. Select this tab and you will be brought to “Articles” that correspond to the file listed as, “Extra Credit Article List “in the course document section. Choose the article topic through the article number that you want to read. You can read any article from any group. Click the “Article” tab that corresponds to your article number. This will bring you to the article topics. Do not make copies of the articles if you do you will be in violation of copyright laws. Click the article you want to read. The article will appear. Read the article and at the end of the article there is a “Quiz”. An announcement will appear asking you if you ready to begin the test. Select begin and the test will appear. Select the best answer for each question. Make sure you click on the submit button at the end of the test. Your test will be graded and the point total will appear in the “My Grades” section of Tools. Each article has a different number of questions. Each correct answer is worth one point. The total accumulation of points will equate to extra credit points. To get the full 20 points you must accumulate 80 correct answers. View the grading scale for further clarification. Make this an assignment that is enjoyable. Remember you can do as many articles as you want to reach the 20 points. Extra Credit is a
privilege that enables a student to raise their grade. The goal of the extra credit is for you to do additional work to receive "extra credit". By not comprehensively reading the article you are not completing the "extra credit". Anyone who commits academic dishonesty regarding extra credit will be penalized by reducing their point total by 40 points. All extra credit reading assignments are to be read and answers are to be selected based on the readings. You must read the article and complete the quiz immediately. Randomly selecting answers, skimming the article for answers, speed reading the article, completing the quiz at a later date and/or printing the articles will be considered academic dishonesty. If you complete an article in less than five minutes you are probably committing academic dishonesty.

The Extra Credit Article List and the Grading Scale are in the course document section. Extra-credit must be completed by the following date: January 5th.

Extra Credit Point Total Chart

To determine how many extra credit points you have accumulated just view the Total Point Column in the My Grades section. This gives you the summation of the total number of correct answers. Open up the Extra Credit Point Chart in the Course Document section and view how many correct answers you have and what number of extra credit points it correlates to. Example: 13 correct answers equals 3 extra credit points. 36 correct answers equals 8 extra credit points. 68 correct answers equals 16 extra credit points.

Academic dishonesty policies apply to all extra credit assignments. Anyone who commits academic dishonesty regarding extra credit will be penalized by reducing their total point total by 40 points.

TEXTBOOK LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Within the Course Document section there is a folder with the learning objectives for each chapter. By answering these objectives the student will be able to learn the material for the tests. I would strongly urge you to look up the answers for these objectives with in your textbook.

SUGGESTED CALENDAR

The following is a recommended calendar. Students who keep a schedule and space out their tests will finish on time without rushing to finish the last week. Since this is a self paced internet class, students need to take the test by the final due date. Tests can be taken at any time.

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