Course Information

INSTRUCTOR: Michael Dennehy, Ed.D.

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OFFICE HOURS: Online, by phone or by appointment

COURSE TITLE AND NUMBER

PSYCHOLOGY 2301, GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY

COURSE HOURS: 3 Credits, 3 Lectures, O 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: Introduces the study of behavior and the factors that determine and affect behavior.

Coordinating Board Academic Approval Number 4201015125

Psychology 2301 is included in the DCCCD Core Curriculum. This course provides students with the opportunity to develop the Core Curriculum Intellectual Competencies of reading, writing, speaking, listening, critical thinking and computer literacy fundamental to all DCCCD Core Curriculum courses. It also provides students with the opportunity to achieve the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board’s Exemplary Objectives in Psychology

COURSE RATIONALE

Psychology 2301, General Psychology, is designed to serve as the course which introduces and surveys the field of psychology. For many students the Psychology 2301 course is their first formal exposure to psychology, and the course does serve to dispel myths about psychology. Psychology 2301 is the prerequisite course for most of the other psychology courses taught in the DCCCD.

An introductory psychology course is transferable to almost all colleges and universities, and it is offered as a one semester or two-semester course universally in American colleges and universities. The "Common Learning" consideration for this course should extend beyond the DCCCD to other institutions.

Psychology 2301 or its equivalent is required for many baccalaureate degrees. Typically business, education, health occupation, engineering, and a number of other majors require the introductory psychology course as a part of a behavioral or social science distribution requirement for a DCCCD degree. Those programs that require an introductory psychology class see the information taught in the course as directly applicable to the particular major and profession or as an example of a behavioral or a social science. A number of students take Psychology 2301 for personal needs. They see psychology as a
way of helping them find out why people behave the way they do. Some students see psychology as a way to understand their own behavior. Some students take introductory psychology because they are interested in majoring in psychology, and they want to determine whether psychology is a viable major for them.

There are basic common course objectives that are used in each of the Dallas County Community College District colleges in their Psychology 2301 classes. There is also a topical outline that is common to each of the Psychology 2301 courses in the DCCCD colleges. Individual instructors may add appropriate course objectives, and items to the topical outline. The order of topics, the teaching method used for each topic and objective, and the individual instructor will determine the amount of emphasis given to each topic and objective.

Exemplary Educational Objectives

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 Curriculum Intellectual Competencies in Psychology

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.

COMMUNICATION WITH YOUR INSTRUCTOR

I review and grade all newly posted material at least once a day during the work week. Also, you can expect me to respond to your e-mails normally within 24 hours during the work week. If you contact me after 4:30 P.M. on Friday, I will respond by 8:30 A.M. on Monday. If it is a holiday, I will respond by 8:30 A.M. on the next work day.

When you send an email be sure to include your name, class number, and section number. For example: Michael Dennehy PSYC 2301 21401

This will help me in locating your work and responding to you quickly. If you use the "E-Mail Dr. Dennehy tab this will do this for you automatically.

Technical Requirements and Support

PSYC 2301 online requires access to a computer, the Internet and e-mail (if applicable)

If you should have any technical difficulties, the fastest way to get technical support with eCampus is to click the "Help" link at the very top of the eCampus screen and then "Submit a Ticket" or call 972-669-6402. Also alert the instructor concerning any technical problems. (if applicable)

TEXTBOOK
PSYCHOLOGY: MODULES FOR ACTIVE LEARNING combines the highly effective SQ4R (Survey, Question, Read, Recite, Reflect, Review) active learning system, an engaging style, appealing visuals, and detailed coverage of core topics and cutting-edge research in one remarkable, comprehensive

Methods for ordering book:

The local bookstore for this course is the eFollett bookstore located at any of the DCCCD colleges.

Online at: http://www.cengagebrain.com/shop/isbn/9781285739281

http://www.dcccd.edu/SS/Academics/Textbooks/Bookstores/Pages/Bstores.aspx

LEARNING UNITS

Learning Units are designed to help focus your reading and preparation for the major tests in this class. There is a Learning Unit that corresponds to each Test with a Learning Unit for each Chapter covered in the test. It is strongly recommended that you use the Learning Units. Learning Units are located under the Course Documents button. In each Learning Unit there are Learning Objectives and Key Terms for each chapter. By answering these objectives and becoming familiar with the Key Terms the student will be able to learn the material for the tests. I would strongly urge you to look up the Key Terms and the answers for these objectives within your textbook.

EVALUATION
ORIENTATION: The Orientation should be completed online at the beginning of the class. It is worth 10 points.

TESTS: Four tests will be given during the course. Each test consists of 50 multiple choice questions worth 2 points each. Each test is worth 100 points. Tests will be taken online. Tests are timed and you will be allowed 75 minutes to complete them. You will be penalized 1 point for each minute you go over the time limit. Be sure to finish your Tests on time. Tests must be completed on the dates listed below.

TESTING SCHEDULE:

TEST 1 - Learning Modules 1 - 16 – February 17, 2015

TEST 2 - Learning Modules 17 - 36 – March 17, 2015

TEST 3 - Learning Modules 37 - 54 – April 21, 2015

TEST 4 - Learning Modules 55 - 74 – May 11, 2015 - this date cannot be extended and all work must be submitted by this final due date.

DISCUSSION BOARDS:

There will be five (5) Discussion Board assignments throughout the course. These are worth 10 points each. You may access the Discussion Board assignments by clicking on the Discussion Board icon. You should complete one Discussion Board every 10 days. Be sure to read the information on Discussion Board Guidelines located under the Welcome icon. That gives you information on my expectations for "proper" netiquette when responding to other students and myself.

All discussion questions will be posted in the Discussion Board section of the course. Students are expected to post a well-defined, minimum of four to five sentence response. Responses should not be more than 7 - 8 sentences. Answers to the question should contain both your opinion and facts from the textbook or other professional sources (research articles). Be sure to site your resources in APA format. For example: Berger (2010). Grading will be based on the following scale:
5 points - Insightful and factual statements based on research from the textbook or other research sources. There must be more than six sentences.

4 points - Factual statements based on research from the textbook or other research sources and opinion based statements that are six sentences.

3 points - Opinion based statements that are five sentences.

2 points - Opinion based statements that are less than five sentences.

1 point - Opinion based statements that are less than four sentences and repeat others views.

0 points - Statements such as "I agree" or "Good point".

Posted responses should be made during the posted time. The last possible time to post a response and receive credit is 11:59 P.M. 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 your first statement for each Discussion Board. To receive the maximum credit you must participate in all of the forums. Maximum points 50.

Discussion Board 1 - Introduction - due before test one

Discussion Board 2 - Influences on Human Behavior - due before test two

Discussion Board 3 - Is Alcoholism a Disease? - Due before test three

Discussion Board 4 - Weight Management - due before test four

Discussion Board 5 - Psychotherapy - due before test four
READING ASSIGNMENTS

Under the Assignments and Exams tab you will find multiple Reading Articles. You may choose any article that looks interesting to you. You will read 5 Articles during the course. This list of Articles corresponds to the file listed as, "Reading Articles 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 with a minimum of 9 questions per article. Some articles have 10 - 15 questions. Each correct answer is worth one point. You may accumulate a maximum of 50 points. If you answer more than 50 questions correctly you will only receive the maximum 50 points. However, if you miss some questions and have answered more than 50 questions you may still receive the 50 maximum points. Follow the schedule for Reading Assignments below. All Reading Assignments must be completed by midnight on the due date.

Article 1 - due before test one due date

Article 2 - due before test two due date

Article 3 - due before test three due date

Article 4 - due before four due date

Article 5 - due before test four date

EXTRA CREDIT

Maximum of 20 extra-credit points can be earned by reading additional articles from the Reading Articles List located in the Assignments and Exams Tab. 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 20 correct answers. Select an article that you are interested in. Make this an assignment that is enjoyable. Remember you can do as many articles as you want to reach the 20 points. All extra credit reading assignments are to be read and answers are to be selected based on the readings. Extra Credit is a privilege that enables a student to raise their grade. 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.

All Extra Credit is due on or before the third exam.

GRADING : 510 possible points

510 - 459 = A

458 - 408 = B

407 - 357 = C

356 - 306 = D

Below 306 = F

POSTING GRADES

I review and grade all newly posted material (Discussion Board answers and Tests) at least once a day during the work week. I will post a grade for your Discussion Board within 24 hours after you submit
your answer. I usually do not start grading Discussion Boards until the due date posted in the class Calendar. If you submit a Discussion Board early it may not be graded until it is due.

Tests are automatically graded unless you go over the time limit. If you do go over the time limit I will grade your Test and post the grade within 24 hours after you take the Test. You will be penalized 1 point for each minute you go over the time limit. Be sure to finish your Tests on time. You can check your grades under the Tools button and then click on My Grades.

EXTERNAL LINKS

In the External Links section you will find several resources that may help support your success on this class. Be sure to look at these resources.

DROP/WITHDRAWAL POLICY: 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. https://www1.dcccd.edu/catalog/ss/oep/dw.cfm?use_nav=acad_info&loc=econ

STOP BEFORE YOU DROP:

For students who enroll in college level courses for the first time in the fall of 2007, Texas Education Code 51.907 limits the number of courses a student may drop. You may drop no more than 6 courses during your entire undergraduate career unless the drop qualifies as an exception. Your college counseling/advising center will give you more information on the allowable exceptions. Remember that once you have accumulated six non-exempt drops, you cannot drop any other courses with a "W." Therefore, please exercise caution when dropping courses in any Texas public institution of higher learning, including all seven of the Dallas County Community Colleges. The full drop and withdrawal policy is online in the college catalog. https://www1.dcccd.edu/coursedrops
FINANCIAL AID STATEMENT: Failure to attend classes could result in a loss of Financial Aid (FA). If you are receiving any form of financial aid, you should check with the Financial Aid Office prior to withdrawing from classes. Withdrawals may affect your eligibility to receive further aid and could cause you to be in a position of repayment for the current semester. Students who fail to attend or participate after the drop date are also subject to this policy.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS: Students on an F-1 visa cannot withdraw from classes without jeopardizing their official status. If you are on an F-1 visa, you MUST NOT withdraw from any class without the permission of an International Student Advisor in the Multicultural Center, in Room S-136 or at 972-860-4192.

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS: A student shall be excused from attending classes, or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this provision may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment within a reasonable time after the absence.

ADA STATEMENT: If you feel you may need special assistance or accommodation (such as help with taking notes, extra time on tests, etc.) because of any type of physical disability or learning difference, please contact the Special Services office in Room S124 or at 972-860-4673.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Scholastic dishonesty is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct and is punishable as stated in college policies. Please review the full Student Code of Conduct as listed in the college catalog for additional information.

https://www1.dcccd.edu/catalog/ss/code.cfm.

Scholastic dishonesty shall include, but not be limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion. The purpose of the Student Code of Conduct is to provide guidelines for the educational environment of the Dallas County Community College District. This environment views students in a holistic manner,
encouraging and inviting them to learn and grow independently. Such an environment presupposes both rights and responsibilities.

REPEATING THIS COURSE: Each college of the DCCCD charges additional tuition to students registering the third or subsequent time for a course. All third and subsequent attempts of the majority of credit and continuing education/workforce training courses will result in additional tuition being charged. Developmental Studies and some other courses will not be charged a higher tuition rate. Third attempts included courses taken at any of the DCCCD colleges since the Fall 2002 semester. The District's policy for tuition charges relating to a third attempt is in the college's catalog. https://www1.dcccd.edu/catalog/ss/oep/third_attempt.cfm?loc=econ

GRADE REPORTS: Final grade reports are not mailed to students. You may obtain your final grades online at eConnect, https://econnect.dcccd.edu/. From the student menu, select "My Grades" under "My Personal Information." If you are not already logged in, you will be prompted to do so. Select the grade type you wish to review. Press the submit button and all grades for the selected grade type will be displayed.

INSTRUCTOR'S RIGHT TO MODIFY: The instructor has the right to add, delete, or revise segments of this course syllabus.

FERPA: The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords students certain rights with respect to their education records. More information about the FERPA guidelines is available online in the college catalog at https://www1.dcccd.edu/catalog/about/privacy.cfm

IMPORTANT DATES:

Spring Academic Semester, 2015

January 2 (F) College Buildings and Offices Open

January 12 (M) Faculty Reports

January 19 (M) Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Holiday
January 20 (T) Classes Begin

February 2 (M) 12th Class Day

February 19 (R) Conference Day- day and evening classes will not meet.

February 20 (F) Professional Development Day- Friday day classes will not meet. Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday classes will meet.

February 23 (M) Classes Resume

March 9-13 (M-F) Spring Break- College buildings & offices will be closed for the week.

March 16 (M) Classes Resume

April 3 (F) Holiday

April 6 (M) Classes Resume

April 16 (R) Last Day to Withdraw

May 11-14 (M-R) Final Exams

May 14 (R) Semester Ends

May 18 (M) Last Day for faculty to submit grades electronically through eConnect to the Registrar’s Office

May Graduation Ceremony dates may vary at the colleges depending on space available.
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Discussions

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Discussion Board 4 - Weight Management - due before test four

Discussion Board 5 - Psychotherapy - due before test four

Reading Assignments

Article 1 - due before test one due date

Article 2 - due before test two due date
Article 3 - due before test three due date

Article 4 - due before four due date

Article 5 - due before test four date

EXTRA CREDIT

Maximum of 20 extra-credit points can be earned by reading additional articles from the Reading Articles List located in the Assignments and Exams Tab.