El Centro College
Dallas County Community College District
Academic Transfer Department
Associate Dean: Roger Copeland
Coordinator for Psychology: Melissa B. Weston
Course Instructor: H. Steven Carter, M.S., C.R.C., C.V.E.

Instructor Contact Information
Instructor: H. Steven Carter
Office Location: El Centro Downtown Campus, Room A942
Telephone: 214-860-2410
Email: scarter@dcccd.edu
Office Hours: TBA

Course Information
Course Title: General Psychology
Course & Section Number: PSYC 2301
Section Number: 53410
Credit Hours: Three (3)
Class Meeting Time/Location: INET Sprint to Finish Course, 8 weeks MTWRFSS

Course Prerequisites
Developmental Reading 0093 or English as a Second Language (ESOL) 0044 or have met the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) standard in reading.

Course Description
The Texas Academic Course Guide Manual (ACGM) lists PSYC 2301 as, “Survey of major topics in psychology. Introduces the study of behaviour and the factors that determine and effect behaviour.”
Approval Number ................................................................. 42.0101.51 25
CIP Area ..................................................................................... Psychology
maximum SCH per student ........................................................................ 3
maximum SCH per course ........................................................................ 3
maximum contact hours per course ......................................................... 48

Certification of Course Attendance and Participation
Instructor’s Note: Student’s attendance in class is certified on the 12th class day. Inasmuch as El Centro College holds classes seven days a week, Certification Day will always fall precisely 12 days from the first class day, weekends included.
"You must attend and participate in your on-campus or online course(s) in order to receive Federal Financial Aid. Your instructor is required by law to validate your attendance in your on-campus or online course in order for you to receive financial aid. You must participate in an academic related activity pertaining to your courses to include such as those indicated below but not limited solely to the following examples:

(1) initiating contact with your instructor to ask a question about the academic subject studied in the course;
(2) submitting an academic assignment;
(3) taking an exam;
(4) completing an interactive video;
(5) participating in computer-assisted instruction;
(6) attending a study group assigned by the instructor; or
(7) participating in an online discussion board about academic matters relating to the course.

In an online course, simply logging in is not sufficient by itself to demonstrate academic attendance. You must demonstrate that you are participating in your online class and are engaged in an academically related activity such as in the examples described above. Failure to do so will prevent you from being certified and will affect your financial aid.”

Core Objectives

Through the Texas Core Curriculum, students will prepare for contemporary challenges by developing and demonstrating the following core objectives:

A. Critical Thinking Skills: to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information;
B. Communication Skills: to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication;
C. Empirical and Quantitative Skills: to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions;
D. Social Responsibility: to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

For additional information, see THECB Core Curriculum standards. [This link is broken.]

Learning Outcomes

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) are based on the Core Objectives as indicated above. Outcomes specific to ALL psychology classes at El Centro College are indicated below.

(A) Critical Thinking: Student is able to …
   (1) Ask questions leading to identifications of problems or challenges;
   (2) Operationalize terms in concrete and absolute terms;
   (3) Determine if what is claimed, alleged, or stated is based on valid (empirical) evidence;
   (4) Investigate one's own biases and assumptions to assure they do not interfere with consideration of empirical evidence;
(5) Avoid argument by anecdote in favor of evidence-based discussion;
(6) Keep an open mind, and consider all empirical possibilities;
(7) Avoid decisions based on emotion in favor of those based on empirical sources;
(8) Acknowledge that evidence supports phenomena; it does not prove its existence.

(B) **Communications Skills:** Students will communicate in both written (via homework assignments, term papers, and exams) and oral form (class discussion) with the Instructor and their classmates.

(C) **Empirical/Quantitative Skills (Scientific Methodology):** Student is able to
   (1) See potential relationships among observed phenomena;
   (2) Consider plausible outcomes (consequences) of observed phenomena, and offer alternative solutions;
   (3) Determine if conclusions are based on anecdote or scientific evidence.

(D) **Social Responsibility:** Students will demonstrate social responsibility through ethical behaviour in class in terms of displaying academic integrity. Students will engage in use of digital and electronic media for submission of assignments and taking exams by performing these activities via the BlackBoard Bb 9.1™ digital platform rather the use of traditional pen-and-paper formats, thus lowering their carbon footprint through use of digital technology.

   In addition to the four learning outcomes mandated for the Social Sciences by the State of Texas, the Department of Psychology at El Centro College also requires the two following student learning outcomes.

(E) **Theoretical Foundations of Psychology:** Student is aware of and understands the major perspectives from which psychology is studied (Psychodynamics, Behaviorism, Biological, Neuroscience, Humanistic, Cognitive, Humanistic, and Evolutionary), and can demonstrate knowledge of each perspective.

(F) **Information Literacy:** Students will demonstrate their abilities in each of the following skills.
   (1) Create research strategies using online academic and professional databases;
   (2) Construct appropriate citations from a variety of sources using American Psychological Association (APA) style and NoodleTools software;
   (3) Demonstrate understanding of plagiarism through correct use of appropriate APA style references in text and on References page(s) within a research project; and
   (4) Integrate discipline specific relevant information from a variety of sources in writing homework assignments and research papers.

**Required Textbooks**

The following books are both required. I encourage you to have your textbooks in your possession on the first day of classes, as reading assignments will be made for that week.

1. *Psychology: The Science of Person, Mind, and Brain*, by Daniel Cervone

Make sure you purchase the correct edition by confirming that the ISBN number of the book matches the one listed above. If you buy another edition, parts of the text will not be present, and assignments may not line up.

**NOTE:** A student of El Centro College is NOT under any obligation to purchase textbooks from a university/college affiliated bookstore. The same textbook(s) may also be available from independent retailers, including online retailers (see THECB TAC Rule 4.218(c)).

**Required Course Activities**

Instructional materials will be provided through the assigned textbook(s) and additional resources provided on a class-related web site. Mastery of these goals will be assessed via quizzes, exams, discussion boards, and writing assignments.

**Chapter quizzes:** You will take a multiple choice quiz for each of the 16 chapters. Each quiz has 25 questions and is untimed. You can take each quiz up to three times, and your highest score is recorded as your grade. The quizzes will help you understand the material and prepare for the unit exams.

**Exams:** There are four unit exams and one comprehensive final. Each of the exams has fifty questions and is timed. The questions are taken at random from the chapter quizzes. You have up to one hour to complete these tests, and they can only be taken once. Take a unit exam only after having taken all the chapter quizzes for that unit.

**Writing Assignments:** You will write two critiques. The purpose of the assignments is to learn the basics of American Psychological Association (APA) formatting. This style of writing is used not just in psychology but in many other disciplines including education and many science related areas. The abstract assignment is a written summary of an article you have read. Each critique is an analysis of a professionally published psychological research article. Each critique is to be performed using a provided template. You will submit these assignment on eCampus as Microsoft Word documents (.doc or .docx). No other submissions will be accepted. You are responsible to make sure the document you submit is not corrupt and will open. You can assure yourself of this by making sure you are submitting a Word document with the .doc or .docx suffix.

The first of these critiques will be done in stages as a class. I will provide the article. The second you will locate the article you will use on your own, and will complete the project on your own.

**Discussion Boards:** For each chapter you will participate in a discussion board. For each chapter a discussion question will be posted on one of the topics discussed in or related to the chapter. You are required to write a 250 word response to the question, and to read and make a substantive comment on at least one other student’s post. Failure to comment will result in a 5 point deduction. Failure to have 250 words in the initial post will result in zero points awarded.
Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Item</th>
<th>Points Each</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16 Chapter Quizzes</td>
<td>25 points each</td>
<td>400 points total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Exams</td>
<td>100 points each</td>
<td>500 points total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Writing Assignments</td>
<td>Two completed Critiques</td>
<td>200 points total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Discussion Boards</td>
<td>10 points each</td>
<td>160 points total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Orientation Quiz</td>
<td>10 points each</td>
<td>10 points total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL POINTS: 1270

Your letter grade will be based on the following point ranges:

A = 1270-1150
B = 1149-1020
C = 1019-900
D = 899-792
F = 791 and below

Attendance Policy

Attendance is indicated by your online participation at least one time each week of the semester, including taking Chapter quizzes and unit exams, and participating in discussion assignments. Students not participating in a given week will be counted as ABSENT for that week.

Late Work Policy

Students are expected to complete assignments by the due date listed on the course calendar. Please note that the deadlines are absolute and late work will only be accepted in extreme circumstances (which do require documented proof). If you get behind, you likely will not be able to catch up. So do the assignments on a timely basis.

Course Drop Date

The last day to withdraw from a class without a grade is Wednesday, April 12 at 5:00 PM in the Registrar’s Office (A130). Failure to withdraw from a course will result in a grade of “F” or “N”. “N” stands for nonparticipation and may have implications to future financial aid awards.
ADA Statement
If you are a student with a disability and/or special needs who requires accommodations, please contact the college Disability Services Office at 214.860.2411 (Voice/TTY), visit A095, or visit their website at http://www.elcentrocollege.edu/students/disability-services.

Institutional Policies
Click the links below to read the El Centro policies all students are responsible for following.

- El Centro’s Institutional Policies
- Course-related Institutional Policies

Disclaimer
The instructor reserves the right to amend this syllabus as necessary. Provisions contained in this Syllabus do not constitute a contract between the Student and El Centro College. These provisions may be changed at the discretion of the Discipline Coordinator and Instructor. When necessary, appropriate notice of such changes will be given to the Student. The Instructor may provide additional information to enhance the course to meet the needs of the enrolled students, provided that the enhancements do not conflict with the official course syllabus.

Course Calendar
During most weeks 1 to 2 chapters will be covered. Students are expected to complete all chapter and/or unit assignments by the last date of the week (generally Sunday), all assigned activities must be completed by the due date, those not completed by the due date may not be accepted. All activities are to be found online in eCampus, unless told otherwise, all writing assignments must be submitted on eCampus. Details on assignment due dates can be found on the assignment checklist.

Week 1
   Chapter 1: Introducing Psychology
   Chapter 2: Research Methods

Week 2
   Chapter 3: The Brain
   Chapter 4: Nature and Nurture
   Unit One Exam and Writing Assignment One

Week 3
   Chapter 5: Sensation and Perception
   Chapter 6: Memory

Week 4
   Chapter 7: Learning
PSYC 2301, Section 53410  Semester SP2017
(Based on Elements Approved for Use District Wide by Vice Presidents Council)
Chapter 8: Thinking
Unit Two Exam and Final APA Writing Assignment One due

Week 5
Chapter 9: Consciousness
Chapter 10: Emotion and Stress, Chapter 11: Motivation

Week 6
Chapter 12: Social Psychology
Chapter 13: Personality
Unit Three Exam and APA Writing Assignment 2nd Critique first draft due

Week 7
Chapter 14: Developmental Psychology
Chapter 15: Disorders I
Chapter 16: Disorders II
Unit Four Exam and APA Writing Assignment Critique Two Final Draft

Week 8
End of Course Exam Due 5/10/2017

DCCCD OIE Faculty Syllabi Statement- SPRING 2017

The Office of Institutional Equity, in coordination with DCCCD colleges, has the primary responsibility for reviewing, updating and implementing compliance policies and procedures. The Institutional Equity and Compliance Officer and the Office of Institutional Equity will ensure compliance with College District policies, federal and state laws related to sexual assault, Title IX, Title II (Americans with Disabilities Act) and the Military Veterans Full Employment Act to support diversity and inclusion.

Students with Disabilities: If you are a student with a disability and/or special needs, or if you think you may have a disability, please contact the college Disability Services Office (DSO). Please note that all communication with DSO is confidential. If you are eligible for accommodations, please provide or request that the DSO send your accommodation letter to me as soon as possible (students are encouraged to contact DSO at the beginning of the semester). For more information regarding the College Disability Services Office, please visit the Student Services website: dcccd.edu/DSO Offices or contact DCCCD Office of Institutional Equity at (214) 378-1633.

College Disability Services Offices
Brookhaven 972-860-4673  Cedar Valley 972-860-8119
Eastfield 972-860-8348  El Centro 214-860-2411
Mountain View 214-860-8677  North Lake 972-273-3165
Richland 972-238-6180
A Note on Harassment, Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct:

We are committed to assure all community members learn and work in a welcoming and inclusive environment. Title VII, Title IX and DCCCD policy prohibit harassment, discrimination and sexual misconduct. If you encounter harassment, sexual misconduct (sexual harassment, sexual assault, stalking, relationship violence, stalking), retaliation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, age, national origin, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, and/or gender expression, please contact your College Title IX Coordinator or the Office of Institutional Equity. We treat this information with the greatest degree of confidentiality possible while also ensuring student welfare and college safety. We are concerned about the well-being and development of our students, and are available to discuss any concerns. There are both confidential and non-confidential resources and reporting options available to you. If students wish to keep the information confidential, please contact the college Counseling or Student Health Services. As required by DCCCD policy, incidents of discrimination and/or sexual misconduct shared with faculty will be reported to the College Title IX Coordinator or District Title IX Coordinator. The Title IX Coordinator will contact the student and determine if further investigation is needed. For more information about policies, resources or reporting options, please contact your college Title IX Coordinator or visit www.dcccd.edu/titleIX.

College Title IX Coordinators

Brookhaven Terri Edrich TitleIX-BHC@dcccd.edu 972-860-4825
Cedar Valley Grenna Rollings TitleIX-CVC@dcccd.edu 972-860-8181
Eastfield Rachel Wolf TitleIX-EFC@dcccd.edu 972-860-7358
El Centro Shanee’ Moore TitleIX-ECC@dcccd.edu 214-860-2138
Mountain View Regina Garner TitleIX-MVC@dcccd.edu 214-860-8561
North Lake Rosemary Meredith(acting) TitleIX-NLC@dcccd.edu 972-860-3992
Richland Bill Dial TitleIX-RLC@dcccd.edu 972-238-6386

Dallas Colleges Online Le’Kendra Higgs TitleIX-LEC@dcccd.edu 972-669-6672
District Title IX Coordinator
Office of Institutional Equity LaShawn Grant TitleIX-District@dcccd.edu 214-378-1633