Course Description:

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

The purpose of this course is to provide you with an overview of the major areas of study in the field of psychology. This course will introduce you to concepts and critical thinking skills that are used in psychology and that will help you learn to think like a psychologist. You will learn about major theoretical perspectives in psychology, research methods, and concepts from different content areas such as physiological psychology, developmental psychology, social psychology, and cognitive psychology.

Understanding some of the major concepts in psychology should prove beneficial for understanding the mental processes and behavior of people, as well as providing a framework for future studies in this field. This course will help you to develop insights into understanding learning and memory, personality, stages of human development, stress and its effects, behavior in groups, and psychological disorders. Thus, the course will expose you to information that is not only interesting but also useful in “the real world.”

The objective of a behavioral science component of a core curriculum is to increase students’ knowledge of how behavioral scientists discover, describe, and explain the behaviors and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, events, and ideas. Such knowledge will better equip students to understand themselves and the roles they play in addressing the issues facing humanity.
Course Pre-requisites:

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

Course Materials/Supplies Needed

Required textbook and MyPsychlab: Ciccarelli, Psychology: An Exploration 3e and an Access Code to MyPsychlab. 1323172599 or 1323171967

You have options for obtaining the required course materials (textbook and MyPsychLab) for the first class day:

- If you are comfortable going all electronic, you can purchase MyPsychLab with the Ciccarelli EText access code only, at a greatly reduced price from having to purchase both the hard cover book and access code.

- If you already have a copy of the 3rd edition of the book and want to purchase the MyPsychLab access code only.

- MyPsychLab for a 14-day period, at which time you will need to pay for the program (or enter an access code from the bookstore package) or else your subscription is canceled.

Important!!! The required MyPsychLab Access Code must be purchased from the MVC bookstore because it is unique to MVC Psychology courses. Codes purchased elsewhere will require you to still purchase another code from the MVC Bookstore, so please avoid paying twice for the same thing.

You must have reliable Access to the Internet and eCampus (Mozilla Firefox recommended). You may use on campus computers or a tower or laptop PC, NOT a smart phone or tablet PC.

If in doubt about what to buy, please see the clerk and class section at the MVC Bookstore which will have the correct items.

Core Objectives:

Through the Texas Core Curriculum, students will gain a foundation of knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world, develop principles of personal and social responsibility for living in a diverse world, and advance intellectual and practical skills that are essential for all learning. Psychology 2314, as part of the core curriculum, satisfies the following Core Objectives in Psychology defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

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

**Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Research methods: Identify research findings through the application of the scientific method. OR Exhibit an understanding and ability to apply basic research methods in psychology including research design, data analysis, and interpretation.

2. Identify factors in the historical development of the study of human behavior including current theoretical perspectives prominent in the field of psychology.

3. Identify terminology unique to the study of psychology.

4. Identify accepted approaches and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation.

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

**Course Outline:**

**Evaluation Procedures:**

**Assignment/Testing Schedule:**

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<th>Test and Homework</th>
<th>Chapters</th>
<th>DUE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Test 1 and Homework</td>
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<td>Test 2 and Homework</td>
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<td>Test 4 and Homework</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
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**Homework Schedule:**

The MyPsych lab 13 chapters of homework are due at the same time the tests are due for those chapters. (All 13 Chapters of homework are completed in MyPsychlab).

1. MyPsychLab 13 Chapter of Homework (100 pts. ea.) 1300 points
(All 13 Chapters of homework completed in MyPsychLab).

2. Four Major Tests plus Final Exam (100 pts. ea.) 500 points
(Completed directly on the eCampus course site)

**Total** 1800 points 100%

To calculate your grade at any time in the semester, simply add up your points and divide this total by the total possible number of points that you could have achieved at present (see above). Example: 932 point I have just earned, up to now, on exams and homework I have been assigned and taken. At this time in the
semester I have 1200 point possible if I made a 100 on each exam (see above). Therefore 932 divided by 1200 is 76.6 or C.

The tests and homework are open book and an individual effort. You can take a different exam as many times as you want.

A one-time written paper and pencil test will be given for anyone experiencing insurmountable technical difficulties in doing the electronic testing. With 5 weeks of semester to go there will be no excuse for contacting your instructor at or near the end of the semester about technical or other difficulty.

Only your last score of each exam or homework will be used to calculate your grade average as a reset will cancel out any previous score. Prints outs of previous test will not be accepted. The tests will not be curved.

All exams and homework are open book and an individual effort. There is to be no outside reference to any source or person(s) while taking a test by computer.

All homework and tests are time limited to 60 minutes.

Any tests or homework that receives an overtime (taking the test pass midnight when it is due completed and submitted by 11:59 pm) or late will not be counted and reset to score of 0.

When you are emailing your Instructor use your enrolled name and ensure that the subject line of your email contains the course name and number otherwise your email will be deleted. You must include the specific reason(s) for your concern and be very detailed about what your request is.

Please see this link as I think you might find it helpful for college, your other classes and the world of work after college. [https://www.insidehighered.com/views/2015/04/16/advice-students-so-they-dont-sound-silly-emails-essay](https://www.insidehighered.com/views/2015/04/16/advice-students-so-they-dont-sound-silly-emails-essay)

The final exam schedule is published in the calendar of the schedule for the current semester for normally scheduled sections. We will meet class on the date posted in this schedule.

Grades will be posted in the Ecampus and MyPsychLab after the due dates. The Ecampus grade books will have the homework manually transferred from MyPsychLab to Ecampus within a few days after the due date for that section. You are to keep track of your grades so that any questions concerning them are resolved immediately and prior to the end of the semester, not after the semester is over.

There is no extra credit policy, only completion of the syllabus criteria.

All tests and homework are due no later than 11:59 p.m. on the day it is due; the Final Exam is due on the last day of Finals, at 11:59 p.m. Of course, uncompleted work has a value of zero (0) points. Do not wait until late to take the exam because any exam that goes beyond 12 midnight will not be counted.

Retests are at the discretion of the professor and allowance for work schedule, technical difficulty, child care and other issues related to last minute testing, equipment failure or work turn in will not be accepted.

Important!!! Contact the “helpdesk” for technical problems with Ecampus. Phone: 1-866-374-7169 or 972-669-6402 or for Pearson MyPsychlab 844 292-7018. Make sure you have a report number from tech support before you contact your instructor about technical difficulties not related to course content.
Others will have planned to complete their assignments and so should you. We take deadlines and
timeliness seriously as does your present or future employer does.

**Instructor Attendance Policy: (Not for Internet Classes)**
Students are expected to attend all classes. Students have the responsibility to attend class and to consult
with the instructor when an absence occurs. If for some reason you must leave class early, you should
inform the instructor prior to the start of class of your reason for leaving early.

_Students must begin attendance in all classes of enrollment. No exceptions. Financial Aid will not be
granted to students who have been certified as not attending, by the certification date. For this lecture
course, your physical participation in class, on or before the certification date will allow you to receive credit
for FA purposes. For certification dates, check with the division or FAO for further information. Students,
who are not certified as beginning class, are responsible for any payments due as a result of non-
certification, to include the dropping of courses._

Roll will be taken at the beginning of class and end when the last name is called. If **you arrive after the last
name, you are late and will be counted absent**. See your Instructor for the Excuse Form for you to fill out
and provide verification for **possibly attendance** approval.

If for some reason you must leave class early, you should inform the instructor prior to the start of class of
your reason for leaving early, otherwise, **you will be counted absent**.

If you are absent or late, it is your responsibility to obtain the missed class lecture information from another
student.

Students have the responsibility to attend class and to consult with the instructor when an absence occurs.
It has been the experience of the Instructors that the students who regularly log on and complete their lab
and test assignments on time have an excellent chance of completing this course satisfactorily.

We also have a high failure and drop rate among students who do not log on frequently or attend class. The
choice is yours.

We also view completion of assignments on time as a very positive commitment on the part of the student
toward completion of the course. We are always ready to provide help as needed for these students.

Certification will be completed on the 3rd class day to ensure all students are included who enrolled after the
start class date which will be on Dec. 13th.

Please review the Withdrawal Policy and Drop Date section later in this syllabus.

**Grading Scale:** (Based on a percentage of 1800 points listed previously)

- A- 90-100%
- B- 80-89%
- C- 70-79%
- D- 60-69%
- F- 59% or less

**Makeup/Late Work Policy:** There is no late work policy except for verifiable **extreme circumstances** that
you document on the **excuse form** that you will requested to complete and provide verification for
consideration.

**College Sponsored Events:**
Any college sponsored events requires prior coordination with the Instructor before the event, not after.
An excuse form must be submitted, approved and verified before the event takes place.
Electronic Devices: (Not for Internet Classes)
Students are expected to turn off all cell phones, electronic devices and pagers during class time. The use of laptops, tablets, smart phones, ear buds, head phones, glass devices or recorders are prohibited.

Under no circumstances are texting or viewing of other off subject activities be permitted during class otherwise, you will be asked to leave.

All cell phones and other communication equipment will be turned off as you enter class and until you leave.

The withdraw date for this class is Dec. 22nd.

The Instructor reserves the right to change the syllabus.

Course Calendar

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<tr>
<td>Test 4 and Homework</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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Holidays, Dec. 25, Jan 1

9.1 Institutional Policies

Institution Policies: Institutional Policies relating to this course can be accessed from the following link: www.mountainviewcollege.edu/syllabipolicies for a complete list of institutional policies (Stop Before You Drop; Withdrawal Policy; Repeating a Course; Financial Aid; Academic Dishonesty; Americans with Disabilities Act Statement; Religious Holidays; and Campus Emergency Operation Plan and Contingency Plan, etc.).

“As you know from your own experience, a student cannot master the material covered in a course without some hard work, no matter how good the teacher and the textbook are. You must take the time to study, memorize the vocabulary and learn the concepts. Nobody else can do that for you. If you choose to put in the effort, you’ll succeed; if you don’t you’ll fail. The responsibility is primarily yours.”

Essential of Understanding Psychology, Robert Feldman.