General Psychology Syllabus
Brookhaven College

Instructor Information
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Office Location: K206
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 7:30 - 8:50 am
Division Office and Phone: Social Sciences, 972-860-4130

Course Information
Course Title: General Psychology
Course Number: PSYC 2301
Section Number: 23007
Semester/Year: 2020SP
Credit Hours: 3
Class Meeting Time/Location: Monday and Wednesday, 10:30 – 11:50 AM, B240
Certification Date: 02/03/2020
Last Day to Withdraw: 04/16/2020

Course Prerequisites
College level ready 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. (3 Lec.)

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.

Texas Core Objectives
The College defines essential knowledge and skills that students need to develop during their college experience. These general education competencies parallel the Texas Core Objectives for Student Learning. In this course, the activities you engage in will give you the opportunity to practice two or more of the following core competencies:

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. **Teamwork** - to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal

5. **Personal Responsibility** - to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making

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

Required Course Materials
You can purchase or rent this book from Cengage’s website.

Note: A student of this institution is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from a university-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Graded Work
The tables below provide a summary of the graded work in this course and an explanation of how your final course grade will be calculated.

**Summary of Graded Work**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>30 classes @ 5 points</td>
<td>150 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
<td>Points</td>
<td>Totals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------</td>
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<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>4 @ 100 points each</td>
<td>400 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLO Test</td>
<td>1 @ 40 points</td>
<td>40 points</td>
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</table>

**TOTAL: 630 points**

**Final Grade**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percentages</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>531 – 590</td>
<td>90-100%</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>472 – 530</td>
<td>80-89%</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>413 - 472</td>
<td>70-79%</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>354 - 412</td>
<td>60-69%</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 – 411</td>
<td>0-59%</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description of Graded Work**

**FOUR TESTS**

A. Each test will be taken in the testing center. You will need a test permission slip, pencil, and an Apperson Accuscan Scantron (gray and white). If you do not do well or if you miss the testing date, there will be a make-up test week later in the semester from Monday, November 18 through Monday, November 25th.

**ACTIVITIES.**

B. **SERVES AS A REPLACEMENT GRADE FOR ONE OF THE FIRST THREE TESTS. FIRST THREE TESTS MUST BE TAKEN TO UTILIZE REPLACEMENT GRADE. TO REPLACE A TEST THE GRADE ON THE TEST MUST BE 50 OR ABOVE.** Choose ONE of the following activities. Each 100 points - Due FRIDAY, MAY 01.

1. **Volunteer Activities:** Participate in SERVICE LEARNING. Complete a minimum of 12 volunteer hours and write a 3-5 typed page paper. The paper will consist of a summary and a personal reaction. All students must register with the Service Learning Program located in the SPAR (S201) office.

2. **Books:** Read a pre-approved psychological self-help book and write a 3-5 double-spaced typewritten paper. The paper will consist of a summary and a personal reaction. See the criteria for the book report via the course website in the Book Report Tab for further information. There is also a list of books in the Book Report Tab.

3. **Application Essays:** Four essays worth 25 points each based on the following topics. Each topic will be based on the lectures, in class activities and self-exploration. Each essay will be a minimum of 250 words. Grade will be based on relating classroom information to your own life. See grading scale in the course document tab.
Application Essay Topic | Due Date
--- | ---
**Essay 1:** Discuss the influences on your personality development. | February 17th
**Essay 2:** Are you a recreational drug user, abuser or neither. Discuss your reasons for your selection, how you developed this and how you will change or maintain. | March 9th
**Essay 3:** Describe an issue that you would like to change about yourself and describe how you will attain this. | March 30th
**Essay 4:** Discuss how you became prejudiced. What will you do to reduce your prejudice? *(Sexism, Racism, Ageism, or personality)* | April 20th

**Student Learning Outcomes Test:**

C. The last week of school you will take online the Student Learning Outcomes test which is a twenty-question test based on material from the entire semester. You will have two attempts with the best grade counting. *(Maximum 40 points) Due date WEDNESDAY, MAY 06th.*

**Extra Credit**

A maximum of 55 extra credit points may be earned by completing the following material. **No work will be accepted late.**

1. Maximum of 40 extra-credit points can be earned by completing material in extra-credit handouts. Extra-credit must be completed by the following dates:
   - March 02 - 20 points
   - April 27 - 20 points

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 “Learning Units”. Select this tab and you will be brought to “Units 1, 2, 3, and 4”.

Each unit pertains to the chapters that will be on your tests. Under Unit 1 Extra Credit Articles will be found articles that pertain to the first three chapters for Test 1. You can read any article from any group. **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 are 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 40 points you must accumulate 160 correct answers. View the grading scale for further clarification. Select an article that you are
interested in. Make this an assignment that is enjoyable. Remember that you can do as many articles as you want to reach the 40 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. 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". It is expected that a student will comprehensively read each article. You must read the article and complete the quiz immediately. Randomly selecting answers, skimming the article for answers, speed reading an article 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 Grading Scale is in the Learning Units section.

2. Attend a lecture that relates to human behavior, and then write a summary and a personal reaction, one-and-a-half-page minimum. 5 points each. **Due April 27th**.

3. Attend the Orientation on Tuesday, January 21, 2020 in your assigned classroom. (B240) Maximum 5 points.

**Extra Credit Point Total Chart**

To determine how many extra credit points, you have accumulated just view the Extra Credit Total 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.

Students are required to purchase their own answer sheets for testing.

**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.**

**Attendance and Your Final Grade**

Participation: will be an objective grade based on students' attendance and ability to answer questions during class. Maximum 150 points.

Attendance will be taken at the beginning of class and at the end of class. (2 points per class. Maximum 58 points)

Interactive student response cards will be utilized during class to record answers to questions presented during class. (Maximum 92 points)

**Late Work Policy**

Ample time has been allotted to complete each activity. All assignments are expected on or before the deadline indicated in the syllabus. I am certainly willing to work with you through extenuating personal circumstances should the need arise to submit a late essay. Any student that needs to submit a late
paper must contact me in advance of the deadline for approval and to make alternative arrangements. You will be required to provide some form of written documentation in order to substantiate a request to submit a late assignment.

If approved, late work will be considered for up to 50% of the original value of an assignment. Late work must be submitted within two calendar days (48 hours) of the original deadline (including weekends and holidays). If the assignment has not been submitted within the time allotted after the original deadline, it will receive a zero. Due to time constraints, late work will not be accepted in the final unit of the course (the final course deadline). Tests, and extra credit are excluded from the late work policy and are due by the stated deadline.

**Institutional Policies**

Institutional Policies relating to this course can be accessed using the link below. These policies include information about tutoring, Disabilities Services, class drop and repeat options, Title IX, and more. [Brookhaven Institutional Policies](#)

**Course Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week of</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings &amp; Assignments</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| January 21 | Syllabus Day  
Introduction                  | Modules 2 - 6                                |
| January 27 | Introduction  
Brain & Behavior               | Modules 2 – 6  
Modules 7 - 11                            |
| February 03 | Brain & Behavior  
Human Development             | Modules 7 – 11  
Modules 12 - 16                           |
| February 10 | Human Development  
Human Development             | Modules 12 - 16  
Modules 12 - 16                           |
| February 17 | Sensation/Perception  
Sensation/Perception         | **TEST 1 (Modules 2-16) (Friday, February 14 – Thursday, February 20)**  
Modules 17 - 22                              |
| February 24 | States of Consciousness  
No Class February 27          | Modules 23 -26  
**DCCCD Conference Day**                  |
| March 02  | States of Consciousness  
Learning & Conditioning        | Modules 23 – 26  
Modules 27 - 31                           |
| March 09  | Learning & Conditioning  
Memory                        | Modules 27 – 31  
**TEST 2 (Modules 17 – 31) (Tuesday, March 10 – Saturday, March 14)**  
Modules 32 - 36                              |
<p>| March 16  | Spring Break                   | March 16 - 20                                |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week of</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings &amp; Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 23</td>
<td>Memory</td>
<td>Modules 32 – 36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Motivation &amp; Emotion</td>
<td>Modules 42 - 45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 30</td>
<td>Motivation &amp; Emotion</td>
<td>Modules 42 – 45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sex &amp; Gender</td>
<td>Modules 46 - 49</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 06</td>
<td>Sex &amp; Gender</td>
<td>Modules 46 – 49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Colors Personality</td>
<td><strong>TEST 3 (Modules 32 – 36 &amp; 42 – 49) (Wed. April 08 – Tuesday, April 14 )</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Testing</td>
<td>Modules 50 - 54</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 13</td>
<td>Colors Personality</td>
<td>Modules 50 - 54</td>
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<td>Testing</td>
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<td>Personality</td>
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<td>April 20</td>
<td>Personality</td>
<td>Modules 50 - 54</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Psychological Disorders</td>
<td>Modules 60 - 64</td>
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<td>April 27</td>
<td>Psychological Disorders</td>
<td>Modules 60 - 64</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Therapies</td>
<td>Modules 65 - 69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Therapies</td>
<td><strong>TEST 4 (Modules 50 – 54 &amp; 65 - 74) (Thursday, May 07 – Wednesday, May 13.)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 04</td>
<td>Therapies</td>
<td>Modules 65 – 69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Social Psychology</td>
<td>Modules 70 – 74</td>
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