General Psychology Syllabus
Brookhaven College

Instructor Information
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Course Information
Course Title: General Psychology
Course Number: PSYC-2301
Section Number: 23706
Semester/Year: 2020SP
Credit Hours: 3
Class Meeting Time/Location: Tuesday & Thursday, 7:10 – 8:30PM, K238
Certification Date: 02/10/2020
Last Day to Withdraw: 04/20/2020

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 be able to:
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. **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
(ISBN: 978-1-305-95411-2)

The following are some options for securing this required textbook:
1. The complete textbook is available on eCampus. Save the textbook to your computer so you can view it whenever you like. The individual chapters are also located in the specific units. You are free to print your own chapters. If you prefer a printed copy, you can purchase one in the campus bookstore:
   - Follett Bookstore at Brookhaven College (Located in S Building; Room S-238; 972.484.7652)
2. Brookhaven Library (Located in L Building, L-200)
   - There are copies of the textbook on reserve at the Circulation Desk for use in the Library.

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>Exams</td>
<td>5 @ 100 points each</td>
<td>500 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>1 @ 125 points maximum</td>
<td>125 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Activity</td>
<td>1 @ 100 points maximum</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Supplements</td>
<td>4 @ 20 points maximum</td>
<td>80 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLO Quiz</td>
<td>1 @ 40 points</td>
<td>40 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grand total: 845 points

Final Grade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>760 – 845+</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>676 – 759</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>591 – 675</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>507 – 590</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 - 506</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description of Graded Work

Exams (500 points)

There will be five exams covering textbook modules. Each exam will be taken online. All tests are located in the exam section of eCampus. You will have two attempts per exam with the highest-grade counting. All students who miss an exam will be able to take one make-up during the week of April 6th. There will be only one attempt for the make-up. Academic dishonesty policies will be strictly enforced.

Research Activity (100 points)

During the course of the class, there will be one case study research activity focused on a specific problem.

Supplemental Readings (80 points)

In the reading supplements tab, you will find a folder for each topic that we will be studying in this course. To aid in your better understanding of these areas or to explore your specific interests more on a topic, you are to select the following
number of readings by the assigned due date.

1 article  **Due date February 19**
1 article  **Due date March 11**
1 article  **Due date April 8**
1 article  **Due date April 29**

You are to select an article of interest and answer the short essay questions listed as “Reading Supplement Unit 1 Essay 1”, etc. The essays are worth 1 – 6 points with maximum points of 20 points. This should be a highly interesting activity since you select the article you want to read.

**Reading Supplement Rubrics**

**Question 1:** What is the title of the article?
- 0 point Incorrect title
- 1 point Correct title

**Question 2:** List three main conclusions of the article.
- 0 points Failed to address question
- 1 point Discussed one conclusion in a competent manner.
- 2 points Discussed two conclusions.
- 3 points Discussed on two conclusions in a competent manner.
- 4 points Briefly discussion three conclusions.
- 5 points Discussed three conclusions in a competent manner.
- 6 points Elaborated on three conclusion in a competent manner.

**Question 3:** Are the ideas presented in the article viable?
- 0 points Failed to address question.
- 1 point Briefly discussed viability of one conclusion.
- 2 points Briefly discussed viability of two conclusions.
- 3 points Briefly discusses the viability of conclusions without referencing specific conclusions in essay.
- 4 points Discusses viability of conclusions without referencing specific conclusions in essay.
- 5 points Discusses the viability of ideas of all three conclusions.
- 6 points Elaborates on the viability of ideas of all three conclusions.

**Question 4:** How can the information in this article assist your psychological well-being?
- 0 points Failed to address question.
- 1 point Briefly discussed one personal connection to the information presented.
- 2 points Discussed one personal connection to the information presented.
- 3 points Briefly discussed two personal connections to the information presented.
- 4 points Briefly discussed two personal connections to the information presented in a competent manner.
• 5 points   Elaborated on two personal connections to the information presented.
• 6 points   Extensively elaborated on two personal connections to the information presented.

Student Learning Outcomes

(SLO) Quiz (40 points)
Though not a full exam, the student learning outcomes quiz will be completed at the end of the semester. Due by May 11.

Attendance and Your Final Grade

Class Participation (125 points)
Class participation will be an objective grade based on students’ attendance and ability to answer questions during class. Interactive student response cards will be utilized during class to record answers to questions presented during class. Students who repeatedly arrive late to class and/or leave before class ends will lose points from the class participation grade.

Optional Extra Credit (40 points)
Maximum of 40 extra-credit points can be earned by completing material in extra-credit handouts. In each unit there are articles attached to various topics. Select a topic and open it up and a series of articles will appear. 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”, which reveals a set of four questions to answer regarding the article. An announcement will appear asking you if you ready to begin the test. Select begin and the questions will appear. Make sure you click on the submit button as you finalize your answers. Your responses will be graded and the point total will appear in the grade center. No points beyond 40 will be applied to your final grade. Due date May 4.

Late Work Policy

Late work will not be accepted or graded. Infrequent exceptions may be granted, at the instructor’s sole discretion, in the event of documented emergencies or documented extenuating circumstances such as unplanned medical treatment or incarceration. All doctors’ notes must be signed by the doctor on official letterhead/prescription pad. Notes that are not dated, signed, or verifiable will not be accepted. It is the students’ responsibility to contact the instructor 24 hours prior to the assignment due date to arrange a make-up.

Other Course Policies

Certification
You must attend and participate in your course 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 the course but not limited to the following examples: participating in a lecture class activity; submitting an academic assignment; taking an exam; completing an interactive video; participating in computer-assisted instruction; attending a study group assigned by the instructor; or participating in an online discussion board about academic matters relating to the course.

For this course, you must have attended at least one class meeting prior to (before) the certification date. Failure to attend class prior to the stated date will prevent you from being certified and will affect your financial aid.

Electronics Policy
Inappropriate use of electronics (cell phones, tablets etc.) during class sessions—including text messages, social media, games, etc.—will result in the student being dismissed for the remainder of that day’s class session without credit. If an electronic device is in a student’s hand, desk or other visible area during an exam, it will be assumed that the student is cheating.

Technology
Assignments are DUE as outlined in the course calendar. Waiting until the last minute can be problematic as issues may arise with computers; eCampus is a class feature. Experiencing technological difficulties, or not having access to a computer are not acceptable reasons for missing assignment deadlines. Students should plan in advance to complete assignments—the Brookhaven College Library and local public libraries are good resources—please use them.

IMPORTANT: The reading supplement assignments, exams, and any other formal writing assignments will be submitted via eCampus and checked for plagiarism through SafeAssign.

Academic Honesty Statement
Scholastic dishonesty is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion. As a college student, you are considered a responsible adult. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on tests, plagiarism and collusion. Cheating includes copying from another student’s test or homework paper, using materials not authorized, collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test, knowingly using, buying, selling, stealing, or soliciting the contents of an un-administered test, and substituting for another person to take a test. Plagiarism is the appropriating, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the unacknowledged submission or incorporation of it in one’s own written work. Collusion is the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work for fulfillment of course requirements.

Academic dishonesty is a serious offense in college. You can be given a failing grade on an assignment or test, can be failed for the class, or you can even be suspended from college.

Classroom Etiquette
This course may cover sensitive material; therefore, please make every effort to respect others. Disagreements are allowed and are to be expected but should focus on ideas rather than the
individual who expresses them. Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions; however, offensive, abusive or threatening language and remarks related to racial and ethnic background, sexual orientation, gender, gender presentation, religious groups, and other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated.

**Signs of disrespect that will not be tolerated include, but are not limited to,** having background conversations while others are talking, packing up early while others are talking or asking questions, sleeping, listening to music, and working on material for other classes. Inappropriate behavior may result in the student being directed to leave the classroom, course failure, and/or being referred to the Dean.

**Email Etiquette**

Emails are a constant in the academic and professional worlds. Therefore, it is important that you practice proper email etiquette at all times. I value your time and my own. Most emails will receive a response within 24 hours. Therefore, if you have a time sensitive question, you will not want to procrastinate in contacting me. With that said, when emailing me, you are expected to do the following to assure the most efficient response time:

- All subject lines for this class should include your name and the course level and section, e.g. First Name Last Name PSYC 2301-23201
- Emails concerning course grades will not be responded to unless the student has emailed the instructor from a DCCCD student Outlook account.

**A Note on Emails:** Emails not adhering to the email expectations for this course may be returned with the request to meet expectations before a response is given. Emails not including a subject line may not be responded to or opened due to virus and spam concerns. Following instructions the first time will result in the student receiving a faster response.

**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:</th>
<th>Topics and Activities:</th>
<th>Assigned Readings:</th>
<th>Assignments Due:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1 Jan 27-Feb1</td>
<td>Introducing Psychology and Research Methods</td>
<td>Modules 2-6</td>
<td><strong>PURCHASE:</strong> Textbook</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 2 Feb 2-Feb 8</td>
<td>Brain and Behavior</td>
<td>Modules 7-11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Human Development</td>
<td>Modules 12-16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week:</td>
<td>Topics and Activities:</td>
<td>Assigned Readings:</td>
<td>Assignments Due:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 9-Feb 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Sensation &amp; Perception</td>
<td>Modules 17-22</td>
<td>Reading Supplement #1 Due Wed. Feb 19 at 11:59p.m. Exam 1 due by Sun., Feb. 22 at 11:59 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 16-Feb 22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>States of Consciousness</td>
<td>Modules 23-26</td>
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<td>Feb 23-Feb 29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>Conditioning &amp; Learning</td>
<td>Modules 27-31</td>
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<td>Mar 1- Mar 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Memory</td>
<td>Modules 32-36</td>
<td>Reading Supplement #2 Due Wed. March 11 at 11:59p.m. Exam 2 due Sun., Mar. 14 at 11:59 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 8 –Mar 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Cognition &amp; Intelligence</td>
<td>Modules 37-41</td>
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<td>Mar 15-Mar 21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Motivation &amp; Emotion</td>
<td>Modules 42-45</td>
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<td>Mar 22-Mar 28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>Human Sexuality</td>
<td>Modules 46-49</td>
<td>Exam 3 due by Sun., April 4 at 11:59 p.m.</td>
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<td>Mar 29- April 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 11</td>
<td>Personality</td>
<td>Modules 50-54</td>
<td>Reading Supplement #3 Due Wed. April 8 at 11:59p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 5 –April 11</td>
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<td>1 Makeup Exam available</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 12</td>
<td>Health Psychology</td>
<td>Modules 55-59</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 12-April 18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 13</td>
<td>Psychological Disorders</td>
<td>Modules 60-64</td>
<td>Exam 4 due Sun., April 25 at 11:59 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 19-April 25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 14</td>
<td>Therapies</td>
<td>Modules 65-69</td>
<td>Reading Supplement #4 Due Wed. April 29 at 11:59p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 26-May 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 15</td>
<td>Social Psychology</td>
<td>Modules 70-74</td>
<td>Extra Credit Articles due by Mon., May. 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 3-May 9</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week:</td>
<td>Topics and Activities:</td>
<td>Assigned Readings:</td>
<td>Assignments Due:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 16</td>
<td></td>
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<td>SLO Quiz due Mon., May 11 at 11:59 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 10-May 14</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Exam 5 due Wed., May 13 at 11:59 p.m.</td>
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</tbody>
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