General Psychology Syllabus
Cedar Valley College

Instructor Information
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Course Information
Course Title: General Psychology
Course Number: PSYC 2301
Section Number: PSYC 2301-33296
Semester/Year: Spring 2020
Credit Hours: 3
Class Meeting Time/Location: Monday and Wednesday 2:00 PM-3:25 PM
Gilliam Collegiate Academy
Certification Date: February 3, 2020 (16-Week Courses) *Check your registration receipt.
Last Day to Withdraw: April 16, 2020 (16-Week Course) *Check your registration receipt.

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.

Rationale
If you are trying to understand why people do the things that they do and why you may do certain things, then this course is for you. Psychology 2301 is designed to introduce you to the world in which we reside through the provision of the basic knowledge of psychology presented through an overview of the aspects of psychology, with focus on the understanding of human behavior and the shaping of behavior by both internal and
environmental factors. Through the process of reading, class discussions, assignments and exercises this course will enable one to evaluate the means, by which psychological knowledge can be applied to improve the quality of individual and community life.

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
This Courses uses “free” open-source internet resources: OpenStax Psychology. Download your eTextbook to your computer and/or phone from:

Access Textbook Here - Openstax Psychology

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.

Student Course Requirements:

1. **Successful completion of all examinations and quizzes is required to pass the course.**
2. Additional assignments and quizzes may be given at the discretion of the instructor for extra assistance to all students.
3. It is a requirement for the student to be readily prepared through the reading of the assigned textbook chapter(s) and provided notes.
4. **Class quizzes shall be given at the discretion of the instructor during any scheduled class session.** This method is done to test the scholars gained knowledge and understanding of the covered topic(s)/ chapter(s). To receive full-credit the student needs to be present during the scheduled class time. Quizzes are taken at/on the specified date and cannot be made up if the student is absent from class, unless the absence is officially excused.
5. Students will be notified of the chapter(s) exam date, the class session prior to testing (The class is scheduled to meet every Monday and Wednesday as it relates to the class schedule and unless DCCCD Campus/DISD [Gilliam High] is closed. If the test is on a Wednesday notification will be provided on Monday.) An exam date list will be provided on Ecampus/Blackboard of tentative dates, but they are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.
6. **You are expected to take exams when scheduled!**
7. **On the day of the exam students are required to completely follow all the verbal and provided exam instructions, if not done so the student shall be penalized through grade/test score deductions.** Test questions shall be answered on a SCANNTRON (Form 882-E), and the provided paper for the critical thinking/essay questions. Students should come to each exam with the required SCANNTRON (882-E) and a #2 pencil.
8. Outlining of the assigned/covered chapter(s) is encouraged, to have a better understanding of the topic(s) being covered.
9. Adequate delivery, participation and preparation of mandatory individual assignments and /or group presentations will be required by all students enrolled.
in the course on the designated presentation date(s) to receive full credit. If the requirements are not met deductions shall be applied.

10. All assignments submitted for a grade shall be typed using the appropriate writing style/format used for behavioral/social science disciplines (APA) and the instructor required APA title page format. All examples are on the initial class handouts as well as being posted on ecampus.

Graded Work

At the beginning of the course, the instructor provides a schedule of examinations and assignments that contribute to the final grade in the course for each student. 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>Discretionary/Extra Credit Psychological Assignments bonus/optional assignments that are not calculated in the ISD percentage grades</td>
<td>5 @ 5 points each</td>
<td>25 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>4 @ 25 points each</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>4 @ 100 points each</td>
<td>400 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Reflection or Social Responsibility</td>
<td>1 @ 50 points</td>
<td>50 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Group Chapter Presentations</td>
<td>1 @ 50 points</td>
<td>50 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>1 @ 100 points</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL:</strong></td>
<td><strong>725 points</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Discretionary/Extra Credit assignments that will be provided are a one-time initiative that is not mandatory, but optional and will be presented to assist all students by the instructor which total 25 points. Discretionary/Extra Credit assignments must be submitted/turned in by the designated time and date and they cannot be submitted on a later time or date. In addition, the extra credit is not calculated into the ISD calculations and shall count towards the end grade as a bonus.

A total of 725 maximum points can be earned for the course, however only 700 points are required for the course evaluation.
Final Grade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>630-700 (725)</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>560-629</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>490-599</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>420-489</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-419</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description of Graded Work

**Exams:** All exams will cover the assigned chapter(s) and may consist of multiple choice, true and false, completion, as well as questions requiring students to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of chapter topics through the usage of critical thinking skills. The exam will have up to 100 questions which total 100 points, having 1 hour to complete.

**Quizzes:** All quizzes will cover the assigned chapter(s) and may consist of multiple choice, true and false, completion, as well as questions requiring students to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of chapter topics through the usage of critical thinking skills. The exam will have up to 25 questions which total 25 points, having up to 30 minutes to complete.

**Individual/Life Reflection Assignment:** Mandatory graded presentation (oral and visual report) completed as it relates specifically to your development stages while utilizing one of the two human developmental theories (Erik Erickson~Psychosocial Stages or Jean Piaget~Cognitive Stages of Development) that will be covered during the course, specifically the understanding of Chapter 9 Lifespan Development.

**Social Responsibility Assignment:** Mandatory graded assignment for all students completed as it relates to your interaction with society and aspects within the psychology course itself, specifically the understanding of Chapter 12 Social Psychology.

**Group Lesson Assignment:** Mandatory graded presentation for all students (group oral and visual report) completed as it relates to one of the instructors assigned psychology chapters from the required text. The group explains and present the important and specific chapter concepts.
Adequate delivery, participation and preparation of mandatory and/or individual group presentations will be required by all students enrolled in the course on the designated presentation date(s) to receive full credit. If the requirements are not met deductions/penalties shall be applied.

**Attendance**
Class attendance is a requirement to be successful in the course and participation is highly recommended.

**Late Work Policy**
Late course assignments (discretionary assignments)/projects will not be accepted. The assignments and projects required for the course must be completed by the due date specified, submitted online if required and physically submitted to the instructor at the start of the class session. NO ASSIGNMENT(s) EMAILED will be accepted as a method of submission.

**Other Course Policies**
1. The syllabus, assignments (homework) and other course related materials will be posted in the Blackboard system. The students should gain access to Blackboard, through the DCCCD link on the homepage of Dallas County Community College, [http://www.dcccd.edu](http://www.dcccd.edu) (If you are having trouble logging in to your email or Blackboard, please contact the Help Desk at http://ecampus.dcccd.edu/ or (972) 860-5206. Information for the course will be in the Psychology link. Students will physically submit all homework and assignments to the instructor unless otherwise instructed.
2. **Communication.** I will reply to student emails within 24-hours or less (during the week), or before the 1st class session for emails sent on weekends. If your concern is urgent, please call the departmental office.
3. **This is your education and you are responsible for it. You must be accountable, communicative, honest, on time, present and responsible.**

**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.

[Cedar Valley Institutional Policies](http://www.cedarvalleycollege.edu/syllabipolicies)

**Course Schedule**
### I. Spring Academic Semester, 2020 General Course Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATES</th>
<th>TOPICS</th>
<th>READING</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 22, 27, 29, February 3</td>
<td>Introduction, course and syllabus overview Psychological Perspectives Research in Psychology</td>
<td>Chapter 1, Chapter 2</td>
<td>Psychological Movie Reflection (ec) Related Field (ec) Goals of Psychology (ec)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 3, 5, 10</td>
<td>Biopsychology</td>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
<td>Exam 1 (chapters 1,2,3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 12, 17, 19</td>
<td>States of Consciousness</td>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
<td>Brain Games</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 24, 26</td>
<td>Sensation and Perception</td>
<td>Chapter 5</td>
<td>Brain Games Assignment-APA Journal article review (ec) Exam 2 (chapters 4,5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>Learning</td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
<td>Learned Helplessness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>Thinking and Intelligence</td>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
<td>Brain Games</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>Memory</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
<td>Exam 3 (chapters 6,7,8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Lifespan Development,</td>
<td>Chapter 9</td>
<td>My Development Assignment (due??)**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Motivation and Emotion</td>
<td>Chapter 10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Topics in Social Psychology Industrial-Organizational Psychology</td>
<td>Chapter 12, Chapter 13</td>
<td>Social Responsibility Assignment (due ??)** Exam 4 (chapters 9,10,12,13)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 4, 6, 11</td>
<td>Personality</td>
<td>Chapter 11</td>
<td>Presentation Paper Due Group chapter presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 4, 6, 11</td>
<td>Stress Lifestyle and Health</td>
<td>Chapter 14</td>
<td>Group chapter presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 4, 6, 11</td>
<td>Psychological Disorders</td>
<td>Chapter 15</td>
<td>Group chapter presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 4, 6, 11</td>
<td>Psychological Therapies</td>
<td>Chapter 16</td>
<td>Group chapter presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 13</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>Chapter 11,14,15,16</td>
<td>My Course Reflection Assignment (Due 05/10) (ec) Final Exam (Comprehensive with additional emphasis on Chapters 11,12,13,14,15)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Calendar is subject to change. (ec = extra credit)*

***Dates and assignments are subject to change, depending on the pace of the class, the needs of our classmates and potential DCCCD/DISD scheduling changes. The Instructor Reserves the Right to Modify the Course Format and Contents***