Welcome to General Psychology! I am excited that you have decided to take this course. Together we will explore the fascinating science of human behavior, thoughts, and feelings.

To be successful in this class, please read this entire syllabus.

* If you feel that you need help, we provide reliable computers and tutors and personal assistance in the Library and Instructional Lab Center – W137. Both are open 7 AM until 9 PM Mondays-Thursdays, and until 4 PM Fridays and Saturdays.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Introduction to Psychology surveys major topics in the study of human behavior, thoughts, and feelings. Factors which determine and affect behavior are examined. Psychological principles are applied to the human experience. (3 Lec) Coordinating Board Academic Approval Number 4201015125.

The purpose of this course is to provide you 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.

The course will expose you to information that is not only interesting and applicable to future studies in the field, but also useful in “the real world.” This course should 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.

Due dates for assignments are firm. No late assignments will be accepted except under specific circumstances. See details under Assignment Policy in this syllabus.
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/RESOURCES NEEDED

Your textbook is included in an online learning program called REVEL. When you purchase the materials, you have the option of purchasing a printed copy of the text. This is optional. If you are comfortable reading online, you do not need a printed textbook.

To get you started... You may use temporary access to REVEL for a 14-day period. You sign up for temporary access through the eCampus link. Follow the directions to register, but click on “temporary access.” After 14 days, you must purchase PERMANENT access either from REVEL (Pearson) or from the Mountain View Bookstore, or your subscription is cancelled and all history of your work-to-date is lost and not viewable. When you reactivate a temporary account with a purchased access code, use the same user id and password or your previous work will be lost.

PLEASE NOTE: You may use the “temporary” access for 14 days, but you are required to purchase a license for the material. Do not ask me to grade your work before your temporary access expires so that you can avoid purchasing the course materials.

Information for Student Support for REVEL:

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. However, it is highly recommended that you purchase either from the MVC Bookstore or directly from the publisher through eCampus. Our course materials are linked in eCampus. If you purchase from a third-party vendor, the course materials may not link up with our course in eCampus.

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 2301, 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

Due dates for assignments are firm. No late assignments will be accepted except under specific circumstances. See details under Late Work and Exam Policy in this syllabus.
- **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

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

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

- **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 (SLO’S)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. 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.

Below is a tentative evaluation outline for your coursework for Psychology 2301. These assignments may be changed at my discretion. Changes will be posted on eCampus and/or discussed in class.

**Grading Scale: Your final grade will be based on this scale:**

Grades for participation will be on eCampus. REVEL grades will be periodically updated in eCampus. You can see how you are doing on REVEL work in REVEL under Student Grades. Work completed after the due dates in REVEL will not show up in REVEL.

- A = 90 to 100.
- B = 80 to 89.
- C = 70 to 79.
- D = 60 to 69.
- F = below 60.

*Due dates for assignments are firm. No late assignments will be accepted except under specific circumstances. See details under Late Work and Exam Policy in this syllabus.*
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Participation/Attendance 10%
Major Assignments 50%
REVEL 20%
Final 20%

Late Work Policy: Late work be accepted with an automatic 30% deduction after the due date and time. Assignments available on REVEL may be completed early, but must be completed by the target date. NO LATE WORK ACCEPTED IN REVEL. DO NOT email assignments unless you have cleared this with me first. Check each assignment’s details for the late work policy for that assignment.

Missed class Policy: You get 2 “freebies” in the MW classes, 1 in the Sat class. After that, it’s 10 pts per absence NO MATTER THE REASON.

Check your eCampus e-mail account and the Announcements section in eCampus daily. Class information and updates will be e-mailed and posted on eCampus. You need an accurate e-mail address that you check daily. Students may acquire a free e-mail account through any of a number of providers such as the MVC Library or by going to Dcccd.edu and click on Student Services, Online Services and NetMail.

E-mail is a formal channel of communication, and Mountain View College is an academic institution. Please do not address me or any other faculty or staff at MVC with “Hey” as the salutation, and avoid text language. Include your full name and the specific situation you wish to address; use proper punctuation, capitalization, and spelling. In the subject line, please place the name of the course, the course number and section. (Example: PSYC2301-64401). Emails without this information may be considered junk email by my system and will not viewed.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES AND ONLINE POLICIES

When you are in class, your cell phone and other mobile devices need to be muted or turned off, and any listening devices (earbuds, headphones) must be removed. If phone use or other distracting behavior creates an issue, you may be asked to leave the class.

CELL PHONES: if you use your cell phone in class, 5 to 10 points will be deducted from your participation grade.

No Lap Tops open during lectures

Technical difficulties encountered with your computer, browser, or Internet connection are not acceptable excuses for missing a due date. Computers are available on campus.

DO NOT USE A “SMART PHONE” or eReader TO COMPLETE YOUR REVEL HOMEWORK or EXAMS.
Due dates for assignments are firm. No late assignments will be accepted except under specific circumstances. See details under Late Work and Exam Policy in this syllabus.