Instructor Information
Name: Dr. Thomas Taulbee
DCCCD Email: ttaulbee@dcccd.edu
Office Phone: 972-238-6310
Office Location: WH234
Office Hours: M-SU 10:30-11:30pm
Division Office and Phone: School of Social Sciences (C-243) 972-238-6230

Course Information
Course Title: General Psychology
Course Number: PSYC 2301
Section Number: 83460
Semester/Year: SPRING 2020
Credit Hours: 3
Class Meeting Time/Location: M-SU ONLINE
Class Start/End Dates: April 6 – May 14
Certification Date: April 9, 2020
Last Day to Withdraw: May 5, 2020

Course Prerequisites
Reading: Pass TSI Reading Standards or complete Developmental Reading 0093. (TSI met - Reading).

Course Description
General Psychology 2301 is a survey of the major psychological topics, theories and approaches to the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. (3 Lec.) This is a Texas Common Course Number. This is a Core Curriculum course selected by the colleges of DCCCD.
Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)

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 book may be purchased at the Richland College Bookstore in Sabine Hall]
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</td>
<td>500 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Board Questions</td>
<td>1 per learning unit</td>
<td>25 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment: Alcohol Paper</td>
<td>1 @ 20 points</td>
<td>20 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment: Brown Eyes Video</td>
<td>1 @ 20 points</td>
<td>20 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment: Thinking Routines</td>
<td>1 @ 10 points</td>
<td>10 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL: 550 points; 25 extra credit points**

Final Grade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>495-550+</td>
<td>100-90%</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>440-494</td>
<td>80-89%</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>385-439</td>
<td>70-79</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>330-384</td>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-329</td>
<td>0-59%</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description of Graded Work

**Exams:** will be multiple choice and true/false valued at 100 point each plus any extra credit points I may decide to include. The exams will have a time limit of 55 minutes.

**Examination Point Deductions (for time over-runs):** Propriety (correctness, properness, conformity) to standards established in the normal classroom require that a limit be placed on the time one may have to take an examination.

**The time limit for this exam:** The time limit is **55 minutes** before penalty points are deducted (although a total time of 2 hours is provided for those with learning disabilities.)
Because in a normal classroom the examination terminates with the end of the class hour, when that class leaves the room and another occupies it, over-running the examination time is not possible. In fairness such a limitation must be placed on online testing also. **However, even though there is a fifty-five minute limit for you to take any given examination the system will not shut down or lock you out which allows you to take as much time as you wish to finish.** Anything above 55 minutes (see below for points deduction schedule) would clearly be against the spirit of the testing parameters and to assure you do not abuse this open opportunity to cheat (by taking more time than the limit) penalties shall be imposed on those who extend their examination time beyond the 55 minute limit. The following schedule of point deductions shall, therefore, apply to all examinations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME OVER-RUN IN MINUTES</th>
<th>AUTOMATIC POINT DEDUCTIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-10 minutes</td>
<td>10 points deducted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.01 – 20 minutes</td>
<td>30 points deducted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.01 +</td>
<td>50 points deducted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*By example: if you took an examination and received a grade of 86 but you took 70 minutes (1hr and 10 min) to complete that examination you would have overrun the limit by 15 minutes and thus be penalized 30 points and your final score would be recorded as a 76. These are non-negotiable parameters. So when you finish an exam be sure to submit it as soon as you finish or the minutes will continue to collect and you will be penalized accordingly.*

**Assessment #1 Alcohol paper:** Read an article on Alcohol and write your responses to questions asked about the article. Writing will be conducted in eCampus

**Assessment #2 Brown Eyes/ Blue Eyes:** View a provided video and write your responses to questions asked about the video. Writing will be conducted in eCampus

**Assessment #3 Critical Thinking:** Read an assigned chapters in the textbook and (1) create questions about material in the chapters and (2) supply answers to those questions. Writing will be conducted in eCampus

**Extra Credit - Discussion Board:**
During each “Learning Unit” (there are five per semester) students will be given a question to discuss with each other on the Discussion Board. After each exam for each Learning Unit the Discussion board question for that unit will be removed and a new question for the new Learning Unit will be presented. To find the question go to the course menu and click on the button which reads, “Discussion Board” You will be presented with the question and may interact with other students. Though the question is extra credit it is a REQUIRED part of the course.
Each Discussion Board question will be worth five (5) points for a possible total of twenty-five (25) for the entire semester. These points may be added to any exam or exams you wish and will be counted in the grand total of points you earn for the semester along with your examination grades.

**Attendance and Your Final Grade**

Attendance is online and the schedule is flexible and up to you. However, exams and Discussion Board Questions will have exact due dates which can be found in the course menu under “Exam Dates” and “Discussion Board” menu buttons.

**Late Work Policy**

Late work is not accepted unless a valid medical (or other) excuse is provided in writing.

**Other Course Policies**

**TSI --- Texas Success Initiative**

For information on TSI developmental course requirements: Go to: [Texas Success Initiative --- TSI](#) and look under the heading at the bottom of the page entitled: Texas Success Initiative Assessment Requirements and Course Placement Guidelines. Additional information is available from the TSI Office in T170T or T170S (phone number 972-238-6225 or 972-238-3787) or at [Additional TSI information](#)

**Disruptive Behavior & Consequences:** Any person whose unusual, unreasonable or unacceptable (to the professor) behavior or attitude interferes with the academic, administrative or the activities of Richland College and/or the real or virtual (online) classroom setting is a disruptive student.

Disruptive college behavior is any behavior which may result in personal or property damage and/or which possesses a threat (as assessed by the professor or other authorized college personnel) to stability and continuance of normal college or college-sponsored activities including, but not limited to:

- Non-acceptance of online etiquette norms
- Aggressive or threatening written or otherwise communicated behavior
- Chronic fabrications and deceptions
- Harassment, including personal, social, emotional, physical or sexual harassment, of an instructor, employee or other student
- Intentionally initiating a false report of fire, explosion or other emergency
• Unauthorized use, possession, or storage of a firearm while on Richland College property
• Cheating, forgery, plagiarism, unauthorized alteration, or unauthorized use of any college document or instrument or identification
• The destruction or damaging of college property or personal property of other Richland College students or personnel
• Failure to comply with the direction of college officials, including college professors, acting in performance of their duties or responsibilities

Consequences require that disruptive students will be asked to terminate their disruptive behavior or be dropped from the course and be reported to Richland College police. Failure to comply with the directions of the professor will result in the student being dropped from the course and notification sent to the Richland College Police.

**College Specific Information:**

*Financial Aid:* Failure to attend classes could result in loss of financial aid. If you are receiving any form of financial aid, you should check with the Financial Aid Office prior to withdrawing from classes. Withdrawals may affect your eligibility receive further aid and could cause you to be in a position of repayment for the current semester. Students who fail to attend or participate after the drop date are also subject to this policy.

*Academic Honesty:* Scholastic dishonesty is a violation of the Code of Students Conduct. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion.

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**Campus Emergency Operation Plan and Contingency Plan:** Richland College and the DCCCD have developed policies and procedures for dealing with emergencies that may occur on campus.
(1) To familiarize yourself with these procedures, please take time to watch the overview video at: Campus Emergency Plan

(2) The complete Emergency Operations Plan can be viewed and printed at the following website: Complete Emergency Operations Plan.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact the Richland College Office of Emergency management. This office can be reached by phone (972-238-3794) or by e-mail at rlcoem@dcccd.edu

Contingency Plan: Richland College has developed an Instructional Contingency Plan for Temporary College Closing for On-Campus Courses. Please discuss this contingency plan with your instructor. For distance learning courses, your instructor will use email to contact students in the event of extended technology downtime. To assure work in the class continues, it is important for all students to have an accurate email address recorded in both eCampus and eConnect.

Richland College’s Quality Enhancement Plan - Learning to Learn: Developing Learning Power: Richland College is implementing its Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) in select classes. The QEP provides techniques, practices, and tools to help students develop the habits, traits or behaviors needed to be effective and successful lifelong learners in college and in life. For more information on the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) please log onto Quality Enhancement Plan

Academic Progress & Degree Completion: Students are encouraged to discuss academic goals and degree completion with their instructors. Degree plan advising is available throughout the semester. Information about academic advising locations at Richland is available under the "Step 6" tab at: academic advising locations

Psychology 2301 Course Objectives

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the history of psychology and its development
2. Demonstrate an understanding of what the study of psychology involves
3. Demonstrate knowledge of the basic language of psychology
4. Describe the basic theories and methods of psychology, how they are used, and what direction they are going
5. Demonstrate an objective understanding of processes such as group processes
6. Demonstrate an appreciation for the uniqueness of each person
7. Demonstrate an understanding of how to apply the above to everyday life
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.

Richland Institutional Policies may be found at: Richland College Institutional Policies

Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter &amp; Topic</th>
<th>Readings &amp; Assignments</th>
<th>Due Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Introduction to Psychology</td>
<td>Must Read this chapter in the text</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Biology and Behavior</td>
<td>Must Read this chapter in the text</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Human Development</td>
<td>Must Read this chapter in the text</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXAM #1</td>
<td></td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Learning</td>
<td>Must Read this chapter in the text</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Cognition, Language, and Intelligence</td>
<td>Must Read this chapter in the text</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Social Psychology</td>
<td>Must read this chapter in the text</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXAM #2</td>
<td></td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Sensation and Perception</td>
<td>Must read this chapter in the text; Use this chapter to complete Assessment #3: Critical Thinking</td>
<td>Due by the announced date of exam #3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Memory</td>
<td>Must Read this chapter in the text</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Motivation and Emotion</td>
<td>Must Read this chapter in the text</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXAM #3</td>
<td></td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Consciousness</td>
<td>Must Read this chapter in the text</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Personality Theory and Assessment</td>
<td>Must Read this chapter in the text</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXAM #4</td>
<td>Must Read this chapter in the text</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter &amp; Topic</td>
<td>Readings &amp; Assignments</td>
<td>Due Dates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Health and Stress</td>
<td>Must Read this chapter in the text</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Psychological Disorders</td>
<td>Must Read this chapter in the text</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Abnormal)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Therapies</td>
<td>Must Read this chapter in the text</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXAM #5</td>
<td></td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Disclaimer**

The instructor reserves the right to amend a syllabus as necessary with any changes he deems required and at any time during the semester.