**PSYCHOLOGY 2—GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY**

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| COURSE DATE | 06/15/2009—08/07/2009 |
| INSTRUCTOR NAME | Crystal Soto, Psy.D. |
| CONTACT INFORMATION | (559) 633-0618 \*\*\*Make sure when you call you leave a brief message and identify yourself and the course. All calls will be returned within 48 hours.  [psydocsoto@yahoo.com](mailto:psydocsoto@yahoo.com) |
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**Course Description**

This course presents an overview of the field of Psychology, a field that emphasizes the scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. Topic include history, methodology, biopsychology, life-span development, sensation and perception, conscious and altered states, learning and memory, thought and language, intelligence, motivation and emotion, personality, psychopathology and therapy, stress and health, social and cultural influences.

**Prerequisites**

Eligibility for English 125 and 126.

**Required Text**

Bernstein, D. A., Penner, L.A., Clarke-Stewart, A., and Roy, E.J. (2008). *Psychology.* (8th Ed.). Cengage publishing.

ISBN-10: 0618874070  ISBN-13: 9780618874071

**Grading**

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| **Point Breakdown of the Course** | | |
| **Project 1**  **Team Project** | 150 Points  150 Points | 300 Points |
| **Scavenger Hunt** | 40 Points | 40 Points |
| **Class Participation** | (Participation in Discussion Boards) | 160 Points |
| **Paper 1**  **Paper 2** | 150 Points  150 Points | 300 Points |
| **Final Exam** | 200 Points each | 200 Points |
|  | ***Total:*** | 1000 Points |

LETTER GRADE: Will be determined by the percentage of accumulated points relative to the total points possible as follows:

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| **A=** | 900-1000 Points | **B=** | 800-899 Points |
| **C=** | 700-799 Points | **D=** | 600-699 Points |
| **F=** | 000-599 Points |  |  |

**Topics Covered will include**

A. Origin and Methodology

1. Historical schools of thought

2. Modern approaches

3. Cultural perspective

4. What psychologists do

5. Research methods

6. Types of measurements in psychology

B. Physiological Bases of Behavior

1. Basic units of the nervous system

2. The nervous system

3. The endocrine system

C. Sensation and Perception

1. Structure of the senses

2. Function of the senses

3. Perceptual development

4. Visual perception

5. Auditory perception

D. States of Consciousness

1. Continuum of consciousness

2. Sleep and dreams

3. Altered states

4. Hypnosis and meditation

5. Drugs

E. Learning

1. Classical conditioning

2. Operant conditioning

3. Cognitive learning

F. Memory

1. Sensory memory

2. Short-term memory

3. Long-term memory

4. Reasons for forgetting

5. Eyewitness Testimony

6. Recovered Memories

G. Intelligence, Thought and Language

1. Definitions of intelligence

2. Intelligence testing

3. Genetic, environmental and cultural influences

4. Reasoning and thinking

5. Judgment and decision making

6. Problem solving and creativity

7. Nature of language

8. Development of language

H. Motivation and Emotion

1. Theories of motivation

2. Hunger and thirst

3. Sexuality

4. Aggression

5. Theories of emotion

I. Human Development

1. Physical development through the lifespan

2. Cognitive development through the lifespan

3. Social development through the lifespan

4. Moral development through the lifespan

5. Emotional development through the lifespan

6. Attachment

J. Personality

1. Psychoanalytical theory

2. Trait theory

3. Cognitive-behavioral theory

4. Humanistic theory

5. Biological theory

6. Assessment of personality

K. Health, stress and Coping

1. Nature and theories of stress

2. Sources of stress

3. Coping with stress

4. Stress and personality types

L. Pathology/Abnormal Psychology

1. Defining normal and abnormal behavior

2. Anxiety disorders

3. Mood disorders

4. Dissociative disorders

5. Somatoform disorders

6. Schizophrenia

7. Personality disorders

8. Classification of pathologies

M. Psychotherapy

1. Historical roots of therapeutic procedures

2. Medical model

3. Cognitive-behavioral model

4. Humanistic model

5. Psychoanalytic model

N. Social Psychology

1. Social perception

2. Attribution theory

3. Attitudes

4. Social influence: conformity, compliance, obedience

5. Interpersonal attraction and aggression

6. Communication and the media

**Plagiarism & Cheating**

Plagiarism is defined as the misuse of published and or unpublished material of another by representing the material as one’s own work. Cheating is defined as the practice of fraudulent or deceptive acts for the purpose if improving a grade or obtaining course credit. Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a grade of an “F” and be reported to the proper school officials.

**Make-Up Policy**

There will be no make-up exams or assignments allowed, unless there is a documented reason.

**Note:** This syllabus is subject to change during the course of the semester per the Instructors’ necessity.

**Dropping the Class**

It is the student’s responsibility to officially drop a class in which he/ she no longer wishes to be enrolled. The last day to drop a class is the 50% completion point of the class. Any courses carried past the ninth week (50% point), will receive a letter grade.

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e., Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact me as soon as possible.

**Discussion Boards**

Each Monday at 6 a.m. new Discussion Boards will be available. Each Week the Discussion Boards will close at 10 p.m. on Sundays. Make sure that you post a response to fellow classmates in addition to answering the questioned posed. Remember to post substantive posts on more than one day per week.

**WEEK 1 (JUNE 15-JUNE 21, 2009)**

*Read:* Chapter 1—Introducing Psychology

*Read:* Chapter 2—Research in Psychology

*Assignment:*

* Weekly Discussion Boards
* Scavenger Hunt (via the Discussion Board Arena)

**WEEK 2 (JUNE 22-JUNE 28, 2009)**

*Read:* Chapter 3—Biological Aspects of Psychology

*Read:* Chapter4—Sensation

*Read:* Chapter 5—Perception

*Assignment:*

* Weekly Discussion Boards
* Paper 1—Please select one journal article which deals with behavior and genetics. Write a synopsis of the journal article. Make sure to adhere to APA requirements and proper citations throughout. The paper is to be between 150-300 words in length. Submit your paper via Turnitin by **June 28, 2009 at 10 p.m.**

**WEEK 3 (JUNE 29-JULY 5, 2009)**

*Read:* Chapter 6—Learning

*Read:* Chapter 7—Memory

*Read:* Chapter 8—Cognition & Language

*Assignment:*

* Weekly Discussion Boards
* Team Project—Please create a Powerpoint regarding the concept of language development in children. Make sure to discuss language barriers, trauma during the formative years, and speech problems. Each Team Member is to complete approximately 3-4 slides each and compose them into one product, to be submitted via the Digital Dropbox by ONLY one Team Member by **July 5, 2009 at 10 p.m.**
  + \*\*\*\*Teams will be assigned during Week 1

**WEEK 4 (JULY 6-JULY 12, 2009)**

*Read:* Chapter 9—Consciousness

*Read:* Chapter 10—Cognitive Abilities

*Read:* Chapter 11—Motivation & Emotion

*Assignment:*

* Weekly Discussion Boards

**WEEK 5 (JULY 13-JULY 19, 2009)**

*Read:* Chapter 12—Human Development

*Read:* Chapter 13—Health, Stress, and Coping

*Assignment:*

* Weekly Discussion Boards

**WEEK 6 (JULY 20-JULY 26, 2009)**

*Read:* Chapter 14—Personality

*Read:* Chapter 15—Psychological Disorders

*Assignment:*

* Weekly Discussion Boards
* Project 1—Please complete the movie review assignment. Select a movie from below and construct a paper which addresses the psychological elements within the movie. This paper should adhere to APA standards and be between 150-300 words in length. Please submit this paper via the Digital Dropbox by **July 26, 2009 at 10 p.m.**
  + Movies:
    - Hannibal
    - Crash
    - A beautiful Mind
    - Clockwork Orange
    - Mr. Jones
    - The Color Purple
    - Silence of the Lambs
    - American Beauty
    - American History X

**WEEK 7 (JULY 27-AUGUST 2, 2009)**

*Read:* Chapter 16—Treatment of Psychological Disorders

*Assignment:*

* Weekly Discussion Boards
* Paper 2—Please discuss at least (2) methods for the treatment of Schizophrenia and Bipolar Disorder. Make sure that you provide sufficient citations throughout. This paper must adhere to APA requirements and be between 150-300 words in length. Please submit this paper via Turnitin by **August 2, 2009 by 10 p.m.**

**WEEK 8 (AUGUST 3-7, 2009)**

*Read:* Chapter 17—Social Cognition

*Read:* Chapter 18—Social Influence

*Assignment:*

* Weekly Discussion Boards
* Complete Final Exam, due by **August 7, 2009 at 10 p.m.**