Psychology 2: General Psychology (online)

Course Syllabus – Spring 2019

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# Course Overview

Course description

This class will examine the many ways that scientists discuss and explain human behavior and mental processes.

### Course outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

A. Explain the nature and origin of the empirical field of Psychology.

B. Describe the relationship between historical figures and appropriate

 psychological theories.

C. Identify psychological concepts relating to the nervous system, sensory and

 perceptual processes, states of consciousness, learning ability, memory,

 motivation and emotion, human development, personality, and stress

 management.

D. Explain human behavior throughout the lifespan, biologically, behaviorally,

 cognitively, humanistically, psychologically, and culturally.

E. Demonstrate knowledge of the empirical data related to the aforementioned

 concepts.

F. Demonstrate knowledge of basic research methodology.

G. Identify future directions in psychological research.

H. Explain the impact of cultural issues in the formation of psychological

 concepts.

Text

King, L. (2017).  *The Science of* *Psychology: An Appreciative View (*4th Ed.; loose-leaf)  New York: McGraw-Hill.

McGraw-Hill Online Learning System: *Connect*

McGraw-Hill’s Connect is a web-based assignment and assessment solution required for this course. Connect is designed to assist you with your coursework based on your needs. As outlined in this syllabus, assignments on Connect will make up a significant portion of your overall course grade.

Go to our course [Connect Registration page](http://connect.mheducation.com/class/l-vargas-59949-spring-2019) to register.

Access for Connect: Here’s a video that explains Connect and the registration process:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tY61B0GP-jA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tY61B0GP-jA" \o "To access video that explains connect registration process click here)

**Important Note- If you have not completed the Discussion Post for the first week of the course and had it registered on the Canvas gradebook, YOU WILL BE DROPPED FROM THE COURSE!** (It isn't worth any points- just a check on the registration process.)

# Course Requirements

There will be three midterms and a final. All exams will be worth 100 points and will be a combination of multiple choice and fill-in questions. Additionally, 200 points will be available in the form of online quizzes and assignments.

## Connect Learnsmart Assignments

Students will complete the practice exams at the end of the chapters. They fulfill two functions: they give you an estimate of your level of understanding of the material and send you back to the topic in the text if you're not sure about it, and prepare you for the quizzes and exams. You'll receive 10 points for successfully completing the assignment, for a total of 160 points through the semester. You can take them at any time, but they need to be **completed by 11:59 PM on the Sunday of the week they were assigned.** (For example, Chapter 1 is due by 11:59 PM on 1/27.)

### Quizzes

There will be two quizzes randomly administered during the semester. They will include multiple choice and short answer questions and will be worth 20 points. There will be no time limit on the quizzes, though they will have to be completed by 11:59 PM on the day they are due.

Exams

There will be three midterms and a final. All exams will be worth 100 points and will be a combination of 50 multiple choice and fill-in questions. **The lowest of your midterm exam scores will be dropped, but all students must take the final exam and that score will not be dropped in the final point total.** All exams will be assigned on the dates below (Saturday), but will be due by 11:59 PM the next day (Sunday). Students will have 1.5 hours to complete the exam. Once you start the exam, the 1.5 hours begins. The final exam is scheduled to be taken on Monday, May 20, 2019 by 11:59 PM. You'll have to be **flexible** if the scheduled dates/times are inconvenient for you. Because of the nature of an online course, no make-up exams will be allowed.

# Class Etiquette

**IMPORTANT WARNING!** Online learning is not for everyone. You need to be a very self-directed and personally responsible student to be successful in online courses. Online you do not see your instructor twice a week, reminding you of what’s due next class, or discussing other projects. Therefore, you need to seriously consider your motivation and skills before you embark on this course.

Computer problems, electrical shortages, and other malfunctions do occur, and it is your responsibility to complete work by the deadline *regardless of* any of these problems. Please do not write to me to ask for extensions because your computer crashed, or you were unable to ‘get online’ to complete the work. You are given several days to complete an assignment, therefore, if your technology fails on the last day the assignment is due, you will not be excused from the deadline.

To clarify: Under no circumstance will late work be accepted at any time in the term!

I recommend you always complete your work before the deadline to prevent any problem of this sort.

# The “P” Word

Please note that plagiarism is a violation of Reedley College policy. Anyone deemed to have submitted plagiarized work will automatically receive a failing grade. Plagiarism may include, but is not limited to, failing to provide complete citations and references for all work that draws on the ideas, words, or work of others, failing to identify the contributors to work done in collaboration, submitting duplicate work to be evaluated in different classes without the knowledge and consent of the instructors involved, or failing to observe computer security systems and software copyrights. Again, all assignments, tests, and quizzes are to be completed on an individual basis; collaboration with other classmates or anyone else is **not allowed** unless instructed otherwise.

# Grades

The following scale will decide final grades. There will be a total of 500 points possible from the three 100-point midterms, the 100-point final, and 200 points available from the other activities (remember, your lowest midterm test score will be dropped).

## Grading Scale

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Points | Letter Grade | Percentage |
| 500-465 | A | 93% |
| 464-450 | A- | 90% |
| 449-435 | B+ | 87% |
| 434-415 | B | 83% |
| 414-400 | B- | 80% |
| 399-385 | C+ | 77% |
| 384-365 | C | 73% |
| 364-350 | C- | 70% |
| 349-335 | D+ | 67% |
| 334-315 | D | 63% |
| 314-300 | D- | 60% |
| Below 300 | Don’t go here! |  |

# Course Schedule

| **Week** | **Date** | **Topic** | **Readings** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Week 1** | **(1/14)** | Discussion Post | Unit 0 Module |
| **Week 2** | **(1/21)** | What is Psychology?      | Chapter 1 |
| **Week 3** | **(1/28)** | The Scientific Method | Chapter 2 |
| **Week 4** | **(2/4)** | Biological Foundations | Chapter 3 |
| **Week 5** | **(2/11)** | Sensation and Perception | Chapter 4 |
| **2/16**  | **Exam 1- (Chaps. 1-4)** |  |  |
| **Week 6** | **(2/18)** | Consciousness | Chapter 5 |
| **Week 7** | **(2/25)** | Learning | Chapter 6 |
| **Week 8** | **(3/4)** | Memory | Chapter 7 |
| **Week 9** | **(3/11)** | Thought and Language | Chapter 8 |
| **3/16**  | **Exam 2- (Chaps. 5-8)** |  |  |
| **Week 10** | **(3/18)** | Motivation and Emotion | Chapter 10 |
| **Week 11** | **(3/25)** | Sex and Gender | Chapter 11 |
| **Week 12** | **(4/1)** | Personality | Chapter 12 |
| **Week 13** | **(4/8)** | Social Psychology | Chapter 13 |
| **4/13**  | **Exam 3- (Chaps. 10-13)** |  |  |
| **4/15 – 4/19** | **Spring Break** | **No Classes** |  |
| **Week 14** | **(4/22)** | I/O Psychology | Chapter 14 |
| **Week 15** | **(4/29)** | Psychopathology | Chapter 15 |
| **Week 16** | **(5/6)** | Therapies | Chapter 16 |
| **Week 17** | **(5/13)** | Health Psychology | Chapter 17 |
| **Week 18** | **(5/20)** | **Final Exam- (Chaps. 14-17)** |  |

**This syllabus is subject to (very probable) change and/or revision during the academic term.**

**Have a GREAT SEMESTER-If you have any questions, just ask!**