**General Psychology**

**Fall, 2023**

**What:**       Psychology 2 (online)

**Who:**         John Terrell, Ph.D.

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                  Office Hours: M 12-1 (in office); TH 12:30-2:30, F 11-1 (virtual)

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**Why:**         Course description:  This class will examine the many ways that scientists discuss and explain human behavior and mental processes.

Course Outcomes are as follows:

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

1. explain the nature and origin of the empirical field of Psychology.

2. describe the relationship between historical figures and appropriate psychological theories.

3. 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.

4. explain human behavior throughout the lifespan, biologically, behaviorally, cognitively, humanistically, psychologically, and culturally.

5. demonstrate knowledge of the empirical data related to the aforementioned concepts.

6. demonstrate knowledge of basic research methodology.

7. identify future directions in psychological research.

8. explain the impact of cultural issues in the formation of psychological concepts. Out

Student Learning Outcomes are as follows:

* analyze and discuss major psychological theories and research.
* apply psychological concepts when examining human and animal behavior.
* synthesize knowledge regarding culture, history and genetics in understanding behavior.
* critically evaluate scientific claims within the field of psychology and beyond.
* develop insight into human development and growth.
* utilize psychological applications in the pursuit of self-improvement and relationships.
* integrate psychological theory and practice in analyzing social issues;
* differentiate valid scientific inquiry from pseudoscience;
* apply psychological concepts to the development of effective college learning skills;
* demonstrate ability to apply independent critical thinking skills.

**Text:** King, L. (2012).  *The Science of Psychology: An Appreciative View (*6th Ed.; loose-leaf) New York: McGraw-Hill.

                  ISBN: 9781264246557

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.*

Here’s a video about the registration process:

http://video.mhhe.com/watch/xUs68jEUwVnAB2K64eWMgc?

**What, again:**

                             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. The lowest of your midterm exam scores will be dropped in the evaluation of your final grade. This means that missing a midterm will not necessarily count against you, but missing two will certainly hurt your final grade.  **However, all students must take the final exam in order to pass the course and no make-up exams will be allowed for the final exam.**

**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 also prepare you for the quizzes and exams. You'll receive 10 points for successfully completing the assignment, for a total of 150 points through the semester. You can take them at any time, but they all need to be **completed by 11:59 PM on Sunday, 12/2.**

VERY IMPORTANT: If you haven’t completed the VIDEO QUIZ **AND HAD THAT SCORE RECORDED IN THE CANVAS GRADE FILE BY 8/27, YOU WILL BE DROPPED FROM THE COURSE!**

(The quiz isn’t really worth any points- it is just for recordkeeping purposes.)

**CONTENT QUIZ**

There will be an actual quiz administered during the semester. It will include multiple choice and short answer questions, and will be worth 50 points. There will be no time limit on the quiz, though it will have to be completed by 11:59 PM on the day it is 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.

All exams will be administered at 2:00 PM and 8:00 PM on the dates below, and students will have 1 hour to complete the tests. **You can only take EITHER the Exam or the Test, NOT BOTH (**they’re labeled differently only for grading purposes.) **IF YOU LOG ONTO BOTH, YOU WILL RECEIVE NO CREDIT FOR EITHER.**

Also,you'll have to be **flexible** if the scheduled 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,   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 or for a make-up exam because your computer crashed or you were unable to ‘get online’ to complete the work. Except for the exams, you are given several days (or months) 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!***

 **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 (remember, the 100-point final, and 200 points available from the other activities:

         500-465              A           (93%)                         384-365   C              (73%)

         464-450              A-         (90%)                         364-350           C-         (70%)

         449-435              B+         (87%)                         349-335   D+           (67%)

         434-415              B           (83%)                         334-315   D            (63%)

         414-400              B-          (80%)                         314-300           D-         (60%)

         399-385              C+         (77%)                         Below 300         Don’t go here!

**When:**

**Topic                                                                Readings**

**Week 1-** Registration/Video Quiz

**Week 2-**                                  What is Psychology                  Chapter 1

**Week 3-**                                  The Scientific Method                  Chapter 2

**Week 4-**                                  Biological Foundations                  Chapter 3

**Week 5-**                                  Sensation and Perception                  Chapter 4

**9/9                                     Exam 1 or Test 1 (only take one!)                  (Chaps. 1-4)**

**Week 6-**                                  Consciousness                  Chapter 5

**Week 7-**                                  Learning                  Chapter 6

**Week 8-** Memory                  Chapter 7

**Week 9-** Thought and Language                  Chapter 8

**10/14                                    Exam 2 or Test 2 (only take one!)                  (Chaps. 5-8)**

 **Week 10-** Motivation and Emotion                  Chapter 10

**Week 11-**                                Sex and Gender                  Chapter 11

**Week 12-** Personality                  Chapter 12

**Week 13-**                               Social Psychology                  Chapter 13

 **11/18                                     Exam 3 or Test 3 (only take one!)                  (Chaps. 10-13)**

**Week 14-**                               I/O Psychology                  Chapter 14

**Week 15-**                               Psychopathology                  Chapter 15

**Week 16-** Therapies                  Chapter 16

**12/7**-                                        **Final Exam/Test (Ditto)      (Chaps. 14-16)**

***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!**