**REEDLEY COLLEGE**

Department of Psychology

General Psychology

TUE/TH: 6:00 p.m.‒7:15 p.m.

Fall 2015

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| This course presents an overview of the field of psychology, a field that emphasizes the scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. Topics include history, methodology, biopsychology, life-span development, sensation and perception, consciousness and altered states, learning and memory, thought and language, intelligence, motivation and emotion, personality, psychopathology and therapy, stress and health, social and cultural influences. | |
| **Instructor:** Amber Salveson, M.A. | **Units:** 3 units |
| **Time:** PSYCH 2-56895  TUE/THUR 6:30p.m.–7:15 p.m. | **E-Mail:** amber\_salveson@csufresno.edu  Normally, I will respond to e-mails within **24** hours. |
| **Location:** Life Science A | **Telephone:** (510) 779-2411 |
| **Office Hours:** By Appointment | **Advisories:** Eligibility for English 125 and 126 |

**Required Textbooks and Materials**

### Coon, D. & Mitterer, J. (2014) Psychology: A Journey. 5th ed. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Thomson Learning.

### Email

Please include the **course name, number and the time** (e.g., Psych.2) in the subject heading of ALL email correspondence. Failure to do so will result in a delay in responding. It may result in not getting any response. Remember to include your name in the body of the email, as I will not return email to anonymous senders. Use of a non-district email account may also result in either a delay or non-response. Non-district email addresses are sometimes filtered as spam. The district provides free email accounts to all students. I will get back to you within 24 hours (there may be exceptions on weekends and holidays).

### Course Objectives

The course will consist of lectures, written assignments and in-class activities. Students are expected to attend class regularly and to have read the assigned material prior to class. Late assignments will be accepted only with prior permission of the instructor. Quizzes will also be given on a regular basis.

In the process of completing this course, students will:

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.

### Primary Learning Outcomes

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

## 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 their own development and growth.

## Utilize psychological applications in the pursuit of self-improvement and relationships.

## Examinations and Major Assignments

1. *Research Paper*

The research paper is required to be a minimum of 1000 words. To receive full credit, your paper must be written in APA format with a minimum of 4 sources (12pt. Times New Roman font, double spaced, with 1” margins, title page and appropriate citations). **Topics** for the research paper must be from the required text and submitted for approval no later than **Thursday September 24th, 2015**. The assignment is worth a maximum of 100 points and must be submitted in class on the date the assignment is due (November 24th). NO assignments may be turned into my college mailbox. No late, handwritten or emailed assignments will be accepted without *prior* permission from the instructor.

1. *Quizzes*

There will be ten quizzes given in class during the semester. Material required for all quizzes will come from material covered in the lectures, the textbook, and the exercises. Each quiz is worth up to 10 points. No makeup quiz will be given for those who miss the class without permission from the instructor *prior* to the class.

1. *Exams*

There will be 3 exams throughout the semester worth a total of 100 points each. Each exam will consist of multiple choice, true and false, and matching items. The tests may cover material from both the book and the lecture. You will NOT need a Scantron as one will be provided for you. The final is not comprehensive. However, please note you may be responsible for knowing some material, which may be addressed periodically throughout the semester. It is in your best interest to attend class on a regular basis. Many of the test questions come from the lecture, material that is not covered in the book. If you miss class, please ask someone if you can copy their notes. If you miss class on a regular basis due to an illness or other problems, please call me so that we can work out a plan. Ignoring the problem may result in getting dropped from the course (if before the drop deadline on October 16th) or receiving an “F” in the class. In addition, because of the distraction caused by students coming in late, **you may be asked to leave if you come in late for a test**. You may or may not be able to take a make-up exam; this will be entirely at the discretion of the instructor. If you are allowed to come in late – **DO NOT** take a seat in the middle of the row, take a seat on the outside and do so quietly. Thank you.

**Makeup Policy:** Make-up exams will be permitted for the following reasons: 1) The student presents a verifiable physician’s certificate which clearly indicates that attendance on the day of the exam in question was advised against by the physician on medical grounds 2) In the event of death in the family, verifiable documentation of same. If you have been given permission to take a make-up exam, the make-up test may be essay, multiple choice, matching, or true/false in format.

Arrangements must be made prior to the exam. If for any reason you are unable to be present at the scheduled time. If you miss an exam due to an unexpected medical illness or emergency, you must email the instructor before the scheduled evaluation time, and then provide (medical) documentation at or before the next class. If you do not email the instructor, you will receive 0 points for the missed evaluation.

1. *Participation*

Additionally, 100 points will be available by participating in class activities, discussions, and test review exercises. If you are absent from class, you will not be able to receive the participation points for the day, so continued absences will become a problem in the number of points that you have earned. If you are in class but fail to participate in a meaningful way (as determined by the instructor), you will receive no points for the day.

**Study Expectations:** It is usually expected that students spend approximately 2 hours of study time outside of class for every one hour in class. Because this is a 3-unit class, you should expect to study an average of 6 hours outside of class each week. Some students may need more outside study time and some less.

## Special assistance:

## If, after the first exam, you are not testing well in this class, please seek assistance for studying and test preparation. 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.

## Grading

A. Percent Distribution **Point Value**

1. Exams 300

2. Quizzes 100

3. Research Paper 100

4. Participation 100

**Possible Points = 600**

B. Grading Scale

540–600 points = A

480–539 points = B

420–479 points = C

360–419 points = D

0–359 points = F

**Subject to Change**

## The schedule and procedures for this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, or based on the professional judgment of the instructor. If you are absent from class, it is your responsibility to check on announcements made while you were absent.

## Course Policies & Safety Issues

**Attendance:** Students are expected to attend class and should contact the instructor regarding any absences, especially when there are extended absences due to illness, death in the immediate family, or other situations. Any missed exams and/or assignments remain the responsibility of the student. If you are absent from class, it is your responsibility to check on announcements made while you were away. If a student misses a class and has questions about lecture material, it is the student’s responsibility to visit the instructor during posted office hours. **As a courtesy to others, please be on time.**

**Drop Deadline:** The semester Drop deadline is the 9th week of a full-term semester (Fri. October 16). If you fail to attend class, the instructor may automatically drop you. If you wish to be dropped from the course, be sure to do so prior to this deadline. All students enrolled after this date will receive a letter grade.

## Disruptive Classroom Behavior

The classroom is a special environment in which students and faculty come together to promote learning and growth. It is essential to this learning environment that respect for the rights of others seeking to learn, respect for the professionalism of the instructor, and the general goals of academic freedom are maintained. Differences of viewpoint or concerns should be expressed in terms, which are supportive of the learning process, creating an environment in which students and faculty may learn to reason with clarity and compassion, to share of themselves without losing their identities, and to develop an understanding of the community in which they live. Student conduct which disrupts the learning process shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.

### Cheating and Plagiarism

“Cheating is the actual or attempted practice of fraudulent or deceptive acts for the purpose of improving one’s grade or obtaining course credit; such acts also include assisting another student to do so. Typically, such acts occur in relation to examinations. However, it is the intent of this definition that the term ‘cheating’ not be limited to examination situations only, but that it include any and all actions by a student that are intended to gain an unearned academic advantage by fraudulent or deceptive means. Plagiarism is a specific form of cheating which consists of the misuse of the published and/or unpublished works of others by misrepresenting the material (i.e., their intellectual property) so used as one’s own work.” Penalties for cheating and plagiarism range from a 0 or F on a particular assignment, through an F for the course, to expulsion from the university.

### Copyright Policy

Copyright laws and fair use policies protect the rights of those who have produced the material. The copy in this course has been provided for private study, scholarship, or research. Other uses may require permission from the copyright holder. The user of this work is responsible for adhering to copyright law of the U.S. (Title 17, U.S. Code).

**Tentative Course Schedule**

| **Date** | **Topic** | **Reading Assignment** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Tue., Aug 17 | Free Day |  |
| Thur., Aug 19 | Instruction | Introduction to course, policies, and course assignments |
| Tue., Aug. 25 | Chapter 1 | Thinking Critically About Psychology & Research Methods |
| Thur., Aug. 27 | Chapter 1 | Thinking Critically About Psychology & Research Methods |
| Tue., Sept. 1 | Chapter 2  **QUIZ #1** | Brain & Behavior  **QUIZ: Chapter 1** |
| Thur., Sept. 3 | Chapter 2 | Brain & Behavior |
| Tue., Sept. 8 | Chapter 2 | Brain & Behavior  Substance Use |
| Thur., Sept. 10 | Chapter 2 | Brain & Behavior  Substance Use |
| Tue., Sept. 15 | Chapter 3  **QUIZ #2** | Human Development  **QUIZ: Chapter 2** |
| Thur., Sept. 17 | Chapter 3 | Human Development |
| Tue., Sept. 22 | Chapter 4  **QUIZ #3** | Sensation & Perception  **QUIZ: Chapter 3** |
| Thur., Sept. 24 | Chapter 4 | Sensation & Perception  **DUE: TOPICS FOR RESEARCH PAPER** |
| Tue., Sept. 29 | **TEST #1** | **CHAPTERS 1-4** |
| Thur., Oct. 1 | Chapter 5 | States of Consciousness |
| Tue., Oct. 6 | Chapter 6  **QUIZ #4** | Conditioning & Learning  **QUIZ: Chapter 5** |
| Thur., Oct. 8 | Chapter 6 | Conditioning & Learning |
| Tue., Oct. 13 | Chapter 7  **QUIZ #5** | Memory  **QUIZ: Chapter 6** |
| Thur., Oct. 15 | Chapter 7 | Memory  **DROP DATE is FRI. OCT. 16** |
| Tue. Oct. 20 | Chapter 8  **QUIZ #6** | Cognition, Language, Creativity, & Intelligence  **QUIZ: Chapter 7** |
| Thur., Oct. 22 | Chapter 8 | Cognition, Language, Creativity, & Intelligence |
| Tue., Oct. 27 | Chapter 9  **QUIZ #7** | Motivation & Emotion  **QUIZ: Chapter 8** |
| Thur., Oct. 29 | Chapter 9 | Motivation & Emotion |
| Tue., Nov. 3 | **TEST #2** | **CHAPTERS 5-9** |
| Thur., Nov. 5 | Chapter 11 | Health, Stress & Coping |
| Tue., Nov. 10 | Chapter 12 | Psychological Disorders |
| Thur., Nov. 12 | Chapter 12 | Psychological Disorders |
| Tue., Nov. 17 | Chapter 12 | Psychological Disorders |
| Thur., Nov. 19 | Chapter 12 | Psychological Disorders |
| Tue., Nov. 24 | Chapter 13  **QUIZ #8** | Therapies  **DUE: RESEARCH PAPERS**  **QUIZ: Chapter 12** |
| Thur., Nov. 26 | **HOLIDAY** |  |
| Tue., Dec. 1 | Chapter 10  **QUIZ #9** | Personality  **QUIZ: Chapter 13** |
| Thur., Dec. 3 | Chapter 10 | Personality |
| Tue., Dec. 08 | Chapter 14  **QUIZ #10** | Social Behavior  **QUIZ: Chapter 10** |
| Thur., Dec. 10 | Chapter 14 | Social Behavior |
| Tue., Dec. 15 | **FINAL EXAM** | **CHAPTERS 10-14** |

**Updated: August 19, 2015**