**General Psychology**

**Fall, 2016**

**What:** Psychology 2 (online)

**Who:** John Terrell, Ph.D.

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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:

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.. (2012). *The Science of Psychology in Modules (*2nd Ed.; loose-leaf) New York: McGraw-Hill. ($90.75)

 ISBN: 978-1-30-878168-6

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.*

ConnectRegistration web address:

 https://connect.mheducation.com/class/j-terrell-1-1

**Access Code for BlackBoard:** In order to access Connect and use the BlackBoard classroom, you will need to purchase an access code. You can either purchase that at the Reedley Bookstore or online through the publisher on Blackboard. If you purchase Connect online, you will have the option of purchasing Connect or Connect Plus, which includes an interactive eBook version of the required textbook for this course. Also, you can register in Connect and have access without a code for a limited time period (typically three weeks). There is a "First Day of Class" .pdf file that explains Connect and the registration process under the Information button (which you can access now).

**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.

**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 160 points through the semester. You can take them at any time, but they need to be **completed by 11:59 PM on the day they are due.** (For example, Chapter 1 is due by 11:59 PM on 8/27.)

**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 administered at 4:00 PM on the dates below, and students will have 1 hour to complete the tests. You'll have to be **flexible** if the scheduled time is 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 type of

problem of this sort. It is recommended for students to have a DSL hookup for this

class because wireless connections can fail at any given time. Wireless users are

responsible for any individual problems that occur related to class deadlines.

**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):

 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 (8/15) Sample Quiz**

**Week 2 (8/22)** What is Psychology?      Chapter 1

**Week 3 (8/29)** The Scientific Method Chapter 2

**Week 4 (9/5)** Biological Foundations Chapter 3

**Week 5 (9/12)** Sensation and Perception Chapter 4

**9/17 (4 PM)-** **Exam 1- (Chaps. 1-4)**

**Week 6 (9/19)** Consciousness Chapter 5

**Week 7 (9/26)** Learning Chapter 6

**Week 8 (10/3)** Memory Chapter 7

**Week 9 (10/10)** Thought and Language Chapter 8

**10/15 (4 PM)- Exam 2- (Chaps. 5-8)**

**Week 10 (10/17)** Motivation and Emotion Chapter 10

**Week 11 (10/24)** Sex and Gender Chapter 11

**Week 12 (10/31)** Personality Chapter 12

**Week 13** **(11/7)** Social Psychology Chapter 13

**11/12 (4 PM) Exam 3- (Chaps. 10-13)**

**Week 14** **(11/14)** I/O Psychology Chapter 14

**Week 15** **(11/21)** Psychopathology Chapter 15

**Week 16** **(11/28)** Therapies Chapter 16

**Week 17** **(12/4)** Health Psychology Chapter 17

**Week 18** **(12/11)** **Final Exam- (Chaps. 14-17)**

 **Thursday, 12/15 (4 PM)**

 ***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!**