



Course Number/Title: PS176 General Psychology

Term/Year: Fall 2018

December 14, 2018 – January 4, 2018

Credit Hours: Three

Days/Time: ONLINE

Department: Behavioral Science

Prerequisite: None

Required Text: David G. Myers. Exploring Psychology in Modules, Tenth Edition (2016)

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CCC MISSION

Challenge students to adapt to a diverse society. Create opportunities for student growth. Connect student learning with professional experiences.

RATIONALE

This course provides an understanding of General Psychology, with an emphasis on the basic concepts of human diversity and its impact on self, family, education, psychology, and community.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

General Psychology is the introductory study of behavior and mental processes. The course is a survey of methods, data and principles of psychology combined with the practical use of psychology for the everyday living.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The learning objectives and competencies detailed below meet or exceed the learning outcomes and competencies specified by the Kansas Core Competency Project for this course, as sanctioned by the Kansas Board of Regents.

Core Outcomes:

Upon completion of Introduction to Psychology, students will be able to:

1. Identify historical foundations and current trends in psychology.
2. Distinguish methods of research in psychology.

3. Identify the biological basis of behavior including physiology of the brain.
4. Distinguish principles and theories of learning and cognition.
5. Recognize theories and applications of motivation and emotion.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of human life span development.
7. Identify the major theories of personality.
8. Recognize categories of psychological disorders and treatments.
9. Recognize the major theories and findings in social psychology.

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND COMPETENCIES

Students will be able to:

1. *Access information* on principles and principal proponents of psychological theories using accepted methods of scientific inquiry.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the biological basis of behavior including physiology of the brain and nervous system and the accompanying sensory systems and perceptual processes.
3. Explain learning theories and cognitive processes.
4. Describe theories and applications of motivation and emotion.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of human life span development and discriminate among its major domains.
6. Identify and describe the major disorders, their treatments and/or therapy.
7. Specify how the individual, a group, and the environment influence human interaction.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS/TIMELINE

See Attachment A for a basic outline of the course (at the end of the syllabus). For the most detailed schedule for the course, refer to the “Course Schedule” area on Canvas. Each week you will be able to find that week’s assignments, readings, and other items related to what we are studying. I will give you tips on how to “navigate” your way through the module/chapters and study tips. I will also typically add information about content that is available for inquiry for learning beyond the required content and content that interests those of you who want to specialize in a special area of study.

Course Assignments

All course assignments are listed in the “Course Schedule” online. You will find all due dates on the Course Schedule as well as by the assignment/test in the Modules area.

Course Project

Students will complete 1 of the following project ideas. The deadline for the projects is the last week of scheduled class at the end of the semester, however, it is suggested that students complete the projects at the time the topic is being covered.

Option #1: Write a 3-page paper (double spaced) on your position concerning one of the following topics:

- The etiology of psychological disorders (where do psychological disorders come from and why do they occur)?
- The definition of optimal psychological wellness and how it is achieved.
- Your beliefs about personality development. How do we develop our personalities? Do we come hard-wired with our personality?
- Your belief about the basic nature of people.
- Self-analysis about what you remember about your own development history. What was significant at various points in your life (preschool, elementary school, high school, etc.)? Was your childbirth normal or complicated? Did you go to preschool? With whom did you play? What kind of fantasy or pretend play did you engage in? What are your most vivid memories of childhood? What accomplishments and struggles have you experienced as a young adult or up to this point? How have you changed and how have you remained stable at this point in your life?
- In your expected career field, with whom do you expect to struggle and with whom do you expect it to be easy to work with? What’s the difference and what can you do about it?

Option #2: Film Case Conceptualization: Write a 3 page paper (double spaced) on the following:

- An overview of the plot.
- Discuss the impact of the main character’s family, relationships, or culture
- What issues of violence, culture, socioeconomic status, abuse, mental health, etc. did the main characters have to deal with?
- What was unique about the characters’ circumstances? What is it about the main character’s past, history, or circumstances that may play a role in how he or she behaves?
- What was unique about the main character that affected the way they related to others or the way others related to them?

- What resources did the main character need to find, utilize or develop to overcome his/her circumstances?

Movie List: Rainman, A beautiful Mind, The Incredible, Goodwill Hunting, The Pursuit of Happiness, I Am Sam, The Fan, Soul Surfer, Avatar, Role Models, Easy A, Finding Forester, I Love You Man, Hotel Rwanda, Young Guns, Shawshank Redemption, Hoop Dreams.

Option #3: Book Review: Read or listen to one of the following books from the list and write a 3 page (double spaced) reaction paper. Some books are available in the college library. All are available through interlibrary loan. You may also choose to download the book on iTunes or other audiobook service. Books may also be purchased online or at the college bookstore. You may also find books from the list available as E-books.

- What did you think of the information presented in the book?
- How did it related to what you have learned in psychology?
- Was it what you expected?
- What will you remember about the book? Is there anything you think you will be able to use or carry with you through school, career, and life?

Book List: (Student can also get a book approved not listed below!)

The Tipping Point: How little Things Can Make a Big Difference (Malcolm Gladwell)

Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking (Malcolm Gladwell)

Outliers: The Story of Success (Malcolm Gladwell)

Linchpin: Are You Indispensable? (Seth Godin)

Tribes: We Need You to Lead Us (Seth Godin)

The Baseball Codes: Beanballs, Sign Stealing, and Bench-Clearing Brawls: The Unwritten Rules of America's Pastime (Jason Turbow, Michael Duca)

The Talent Code: Greatness Isn't born, It's Grown, Here's How (Daniel Coyle)

Friday Night Lights: A Town, A Team, and a Dream (H.G. Bissinger)

ASSIGNMENT AND TEST POLICY: When you first view your class, look over class requirements, assignments, and other class content to ensure that you wish to remain in the class. If you decide to drop the class, do NOT post in Canvas at all, as that counts as attendance per college policy, and you would be charged a portion of tuition for dropping after attending/posting.

Assignment Policy

These include exams, videos, assignments and a course project. Due dates of all assignments will be posted in the “Course Schedule” area in our Canvas.

Other important things to note about assignments:

- The course software standards for submissions of assignments are Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and Excel. **Assignments completed in other formats will not be accepted.**
- Your assignments will be submitted on our Canvas course. You can not email them to me, they must be submitted in Canvas.
- When technical problems occur and you cannot submit your assignment electronically, send an email to me to explain the difficulty. If you cannot use e-mail, call or text me to explain the difficulty. If you reach your instructor’s voice-mail, leave a message explaining the difficulty and a phone contact where you can be reached. **THIS NEEDS TO BE DONE BEFORE THE DUE DATE** not after the due date has passed!
- **LATE ASSIGNMENTS:** All assignments not submitted by the due date, late week will not be accepted.
- Students are responsible for keeping a copy of all graded assignments. Absent a copy of graded work in question, no grade change or credit for a missing assignment is possible.
- Students must ensure that assignment files are free of viruses before submitting them. Keep your virus detection software up to date. Should an assignment file fail scrutiny by our institution’s standard virus detection software, the student submitting it will so advised by e-mail. A virus-free version of the file must be resubmitted within 24 hours of the posting date of this e-mail. Any subsequent failure to adhere to this requirement will cause an assignment to be unacceptable.
- **If you have computer problems, it is your responsibility to get to a computer to complete your assignments.**

Test Policy

There will be an exam/quiz given over each module or unit. All of the exams will be given online. Test questions and material will consist of information obtained from both the class lectures (which includes videos and reading assignments) and material in the textbook. If for any reason you are unable to take a test, you must NOTIFY the instructor BEFORE the exam expires in order to be able to make it up. Depending on the reason for a missed exam, points may be deducted from the test score.

About tests: A majority of the test will be multiple choice and/or true false. Although some items will test your knowledge of facts or definitions, a larger number will assess your understanding of the material by asking you to apply the concepts we cover to examples. Being able to recognize how to apply class concepts to real-life examples requires understanding rather than rote memorization. We will do some "application" in our in-class activities that should give you an idea of what to expect on exams.

Academic Dishonesty will not be permitted and any student caught “cheating” will receive an “F” on the test and appropriate steps will be taken. I reserve the right to ask any student who is suspected of cheating to come in and take tests under my supervision.

Discussion Policy

- Forums will have an associated deadline by which time all students must have posted their responses to receive credit for participation.
- Within 3 days of a discussion’s end, the instructor will review all students’ responses and post a response as a course announcement and at the end of the discussion.
- Students will be graded on discussion postings. Points are earned based on quality of responses and compliance with the required number of postings as specified in individual assignment instructions.
- Individual discussion assignment instructions will indicate the number of points that can be earned on that particular discussion assignment.
- The points earned by each student on a given discussion will be posted to the online grade book no later than one week after the discussion ends.
- All students have a right to express their own opinions in discussions, and every other student must respect this right. Any student posting a comment disrespectful of this right will be asked to leave the discussion, and a grade of 0 points will be recorded.
- **“Flaming” is posting abusive or insulting messages.** Any student who engages in flaming in a discussion will be required to leave the class. A grade of F for the course will be reported.
- Controlling behavior includes, but is not limited to, attempts to dominate a discussion by posting threads excessively, intentionally changing the discussion topic, or exhibiting an inappropriate or argumentative attitude. Controlling behavior is not permitted. Violators will be asked to leave the discussion, and a grade of 0 points will be recorded.
- Students required to leave a discussion will be notified of this consequence in a private e-mail.

E-Mail Policy

- We are all often fooled by the ease of email into thinking that it is an informal method of communication. In this class, it is not. This is a professional educational environment, and your emails should reflect that. Consequently, you should remember to type your first and last name at the close of every email so I know who I am replying to. With 30+ students each semester, I can't remember names based on a message's email address. Therefore, please include your name in the subject line of the email and be as clear and as specific as you can with your questions in order to get a quick and satisfactory answer.
- Your instructor will answer e-mails received within 24 hours.

- You need to check your e-mail to assure that you receive course information disseminated by e-mail in a timely fashion. You should especially be checking the course announcements area for everything pertaining to class.
- NOTE: your email will go to your Trojan Web account. If you want to have those forwarded to the email account of your choice, please do that in ePortal.

Online Activity

It is your responsibility to check our course website frequently throughout the week. On Monday you should always check our Course Announcements and the Course Schedule to see what you will need to be doing for the week and plan accordingly.

METHOD OF EVALUATION:

The instructor's evaluation of the student will be based upon online discussion, examinations, assignments, research, and student attitude.

Participation is encouraged and is evidenced by the timely, accurate and legible preparation of homework and meaningful participation in online class discussions and activities. The educational process requires active involvement on the part of each student, and you are highly encouraged to ask questions.

There is no grading curve and there is no expectations as to the number of A's, B's, etc. given in the class. Letter grades will be assigned as follows: A=90-100, B=89-80, C=70-79, D=60-69, F=under 60.

NETIQUETTE POLICY: This is a professional educational environment, and your emails should reflect that. Consequently, you should remember to type your first and last name at the close of every email so I know who I am replying to.

When posting on the Discussion Board in your online class, you should:

- Make posts that are on topic and within the scope of the course material
- Take your posts seriously and review and edit your posts before sending
- Be as brief as possible while still making a thorough comment
- Always give proper credit when referencing or quoting another source
- Be sure to read all messages in a thread before replying
- Don't repeat someone else's post without adding something of your own to it
- Avoid short, generic replies such as, "I agree." You should include why you agree or add to the previous point
- Always be respectful of others' opinions even when they differ from your own
- When you disagree with someone, you should express your differing opinion in a respectful non-critical way
- Do not make personal or insulting remarks
- Be open-minded

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY:

Colby Community College defines academic integrity as learning that leads to the development of knowledge and/or skills without any form of cheating or plagiarism. This learning requires respect for Colby's institutional values of quality, service and integrity. All Colby Community College students, faculty, staff, and administrators are responsible for upholding academic integrity.

Cheating is giving, receiving, or using unauthorized help on individual and group academic exercises such as papers, quizzes, tests, and presentations through any delivery system in any learning environment. This includes impersonating another student, sharing content without authorization, fabricating data, and altering academic documents, including records, with or without the use of personal and college electronic devices.

Plagiarism is representing or turning in someone else's work without proper citation of the source. This includes unacknowledged paraphrase, quotation, or complete use of someone else's work in any form. It also includes citing work that is not used and taking credit for a group project without contributing to it.

The following procedure will be used for students who violate the policy for the Academic Integrity Policy begins with the notification of the first infraction and continues throughout the student's tenure at Colby Community College:

- **First Offense** – Student will receive a zero for the assignment and the student will be reported to the Vice President of Academic Affairs.
- **Second Offense** – The student will receive a failing grade in the class and be reported to the Vice President of Academic Affairs and removed from the class in which the offense occurred.
- **Third Offense** – The student will be reported to the Vice President of Academic Affairs and dismissed from the college.

Any questions about this policy may be referred to the Vice President of Academic Affairs.

ASSESSMENT:

Colby Community College assesses student learning at several levels: general education, program, and course. The goal of these assessment activities is to improve student learning. As a student in this course, you will participate in various assessment activities. An example of your work, a paper, some test questions, a presentation, or other work may be selected for assessment. This process will not affect your grade, will not require you do additional work and your evaluation will be confidentially handled. Results of these activities will be used to improve teaching and learning at Colby Community College.

SYLLABUS INFORMATION DISCLAIMER

I reserve the right to change any information contained in this document, when necessary, with adequate notice given to the student. Notice shall be given in the classroom during class. No other notice is required. It is the students' responsibility to stay current with any changes, modifications, adjustments or amendments that are made to this document

Students should adhere to the attendance, cell phone, assignment, test and grading policies in the course syllabus.

TECH SUPPORT INFORMATION

Canvas Support Hotline

855-691-5024

You can access Canvas Support information by selecting the help button on the left hand menu.

Colby Community College Support

support@colbycc.edu

THINGS TO KNOW AND MOST COMMON QUESTIONS ASKED!!!

- If the system does not work for you first contact help desk and then notify me via email, text, or phone! DO NOT CONTACT ME days later and inform me about personal problems or computer problems. I need to know that ASAP not days or weeks later! This is for your sake (so you don't get behind) and my sake (so I know how I can be of help to you)!

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

According to the Americans Disabilities Act, it is the responsibility of each student with a disability to notify the college of his/her disability and to request accommodation. If a member of the class has a documented learning disability or a physical disability and is requesting special accommodations, he/she should contact disability services at disability@colbycc.edu.

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

Colby Community College provides equality of opportunity to its applicants for admission, enrolled students, graduates, and employees. The College does not discriminate with respect to hiring, continuation of employment, promotion, tenure, other employment practices, application for admission or career services and placement on the basis of race, color, gender, age, disability, national origin or ancestry, sexual orientation or religion. For inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies, contact the Vice President of Students Affairs, Title IX and ADA Coordinator, Colby Community College, 1255 S. Range Ave., Colby, KS 67701 (785) 460-5490).

ACCREDITATION

Higher Learning Commission

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Chicago, IS 60604-1411

(800) 621-7440 FAX (312) 263-4162

www.ncahlc.org

Course Outline

“ATTACHMENT A”

Unit 1: Intro and History

Module 1 - History and Scope of Psychology

Module 2 - Research Strategies

Unit 2: The Biology of behavior

Module 3 - Neural and Hormonal Systems

Module 4 – Tool of Discovery and Older Brain Structures

Module 5 – The Cerebral Cortex and Our Divided Brain

Unit 3: Consciousness and the Two-Track Mind

Module 7- Consciousness: Some Basic Concepts

Module 8 – Sleeps and Dreams

Module 9 – Drugs and Consciousness

Unit 4: Developing Through the Lifespan

Module 10 - Dev. Issues, Prenatal Dev. And the Newborn

Module 11 - Infancy and Childhood

Module 12 – Adolescence

Module 13 - Adulthood

Unit 5: Learning

Module 19 – Basic Concepts & Classical Conditioning

Module 20 - Operant Conditioning

Module 21 – Biology, Cognition, and Learning

Unit 6: Personality

Module 38 – Classic Perspective on Personality

Module 39 – Contemporary Perspectives on Personality

Unit 7: Psychological Disorders

Module 40 - Basic Concepts of Psychology Disorders and Mood Disorders

Module 41 – Anxiety Disorders, OCD, and PTSD

Module 42 – Depressive Disorders and Bipolar Disorder

Module 43 – Schizophrenia and Other Disorders