COLBY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Syllabus

Course Number/Title: PS176 General Psychology   **Year:** Fall 2012
Department: Psychology   **Credit Hours:** Three
Required Text: David G. Myers. Exploring Psychology, Eighth Edition in Modules (2010),
ISBN 9781429216364
Days/Time: Online   **Instructor:** Krista Carter
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                                                       785-443-3058 – Cell (text)
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Course Placement: Freshmen / Soph.   **Prerequisite:** None

Course 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 Outline
See Attachment A for a basic outline of the course. For the most detailed schedule for the course, refer to the "Course Schedule: *Weekly Reminders and Checklist*" area on our eCourse under the "*Home*" area. 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 Learning Objectives Assessed
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 Competencies
The learning outcomes and competencies detailed in this syllabus meet or exceed the learning outcomes and competencies specified by the Kansas Core Competency Project for this course.

Method of Instruction
Material for the course will be presented online through discussions, lectures, video observations, and audio-visual aids.

Course Logistics
This course is set up so that each week runs from Monday to Sunday. Most deadlines will be Sunday at midnight. **ALL DEADLINES and DUE DATES ARE POSTED under the "Home" area in "Weekly Checklists and Reminders"! Be sure to check the course reminders regularly to stay up to date!**

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.

Assignment Policy
These include exams, videos, assignments and a final project. Due dates of all assignments will be posted in the "Home" area in the "Weekly Checklists and Reminders" area in our eCourse on eCollege.
   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.
   - Most of you assignments will be turned into our course dropbox. You will find a video under the home area on how to use our dropbox. Please watch that before emailing or posting questions!
   - 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.
   - LATE ASSIGNMENTS: All assignments not submitted by the due date will be considered late. I will accept late work up to a week later. However, late points will be deducted!
   - Students are responsible for keeping a copy of all graded assignments. Absent a copy of graded in 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.
   - **Colby Community College Written Assignment/Test Policy**
     "In accordance with the mission of Colby Community College – to provide for the development of better futures for it's students – it is essential that the principles of academic honesty and professional ethics be stressed throughout the educational process. The college, faculty, and student share responsibilities in addressing this issue Students responsibilities are twofold: 1. Complete class assignments to the best of their ability without plagiarizing, cheating or in any way misrepresenting their work 2. Refrain from participating in any form of academic dishonesty as an individual or in combination with other individuals. (Student Handbook p. 18)"

Test Policy
There will be an exam/test given over each 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.

Attendance Policy/Online Activity
It is your responsibility to check our course website frequently throughout the week. On Monday you should always check our course to see what you will need to be doing for the week and plan accordingly.

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.

Academic Probation and Suspension
"A student registered for a minimum of seven credit hours who does not maintain a semester grade point average of 2.0 will be placed on probation the following semester of enrollment. If at the close of that semester the student has not raised the grade point average, the student may be placed on suspension, during which time the student may not be recommended for admission to any other academic institution. Failure to make satisfactory academic progress may impact financial aid recipients. (College Catalog p. 21)"

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.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities
According to the Americans with 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 needs special accommodations, he/she should contact Student Support Services, which is located in the Student Union.

Equipment
You will need the course textbook and access to a computer with internet capabilities.

Recommended Resources
Go to the following website and register for access to the free student resources:
http://bcs.worthpublishers.com/exploring8einmodules/

Course Outline

INTRO WEEK:	August 20th-26	Introduction Week
Week 1	August 27-Sept. 2	Unit 1: Intro and History
Week 2	Sept. 3-9	Modules 1 & 2
Week 3	Sept. 10-16	Unit 2: The Biology of the Mind
Week 4	Sept. 17-23	Modules 3 & 4
Week 5	Sept. 24-30	" "
Week 6	Oct. 1-7	Unit 3: Conciousness and the Two Track Mind
Week 7	Oct. 8-14	Modules 5 & 7
Week 8	Oct. 15-21	Unit 4: Developing Through the Lifespan
Week 9	Oct. 22-28	Modules 10, 11, 12, & 13
Week 10	Oct. 29-Nov. 4	" "
Week 11	Nov. 5-11	Unit 5: Learning
Week 12	Nov. 12-18	Modules 17, 18, & 19
Week 13	Nov. 19-25	" "
Week 14	Nov. 26-Dec. 2	Unit 6: Psychological Disorders
Week 15	Dec. 2-9	Modules 32, 33, & 34
Week 16	Dec. 10 -14	" "

Remember: Each week starts on Monday and ends on Sunday.
Refer to the "**weekly checklists**" online for what specifically needs to be done each week!

Unit 1: Intro and History
   Module 1 - History and Scope of Psychology
   Module 2 - Research Strategies
Unit 2: The Biology of the Mind
   Module 3 - Nerual and Hormonal Systems
   Module 4 - The Brain
Unit 3: Consciousness and the Two-Track Mind
   Module 5- Dual Processing, Sleep and Dreams
   Module 7 - Drugs
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:
   Module 17 - Classical Conditioning
   Module 18 - Operant Conditioning
   Module 19 - Learning by Observation
Unit 6: Psychological Disorders
   Module 32 - Basic Concepts
   Module 32 - Mood Disorders
   Module 33 - Schizophrenia
   Module 34 - Anxiety and Somatoform Disorders
   Module 34 - Dissociative and Personality Disorders