Class time: Online Class

Instructor: Ms. Lauren Christian Culpepper

Contact information:
Office: Bldg. 41, Pensacola Campus
Phone: (850) 474-2363
Email: lcc6@students.uwf.edu (preferred means of communication)
Department Website: School of Psychological and Behavioral Sciences

Required Text:

   - Authors: Philip G. Zimbardo, Robert L. Johnson, and Vivian Mccann
   - Publisher: Allyn & Bacon
   - ISBN-10: 0205547885

You may find that the APA manual is helpful for APA style writing of papers. However, this text is not required but highly recommended.

   - Authors: American Psychological Association

All other required readings will be provided in electronic format through the University of West Florida e-learning services. You will be required to have basic internet knowledge to open and save PDF files located on your e-learning account.

Course Description:
The general psychology course intends to captivate interest in the many fields of psychology as seen in today’s society. With the information provided in this course, students will be able to identify key theories of psychology and apply these to daily experiences.

Course Purpose:
The course should be valuable to all students, regardless of career path or major. The course has three broad goals: to increase your interest in the field of psychology, provide an introduction to the various areas of psychology, and give you practical applications from the field that you can use to improve the quality of your daily and academic life.
Resources for Success in the Course:

1. UWF Student Handbook: The Student Handbook is available in the Division of Student Affairs and contains information vital to success in the academic environment, with a listing of resources and policies that affect you as a student. You are advised to obtain and read the handbook with special emphasis on the sections involving academic conduct and classroom behavior.

2. CAS Student Resources: The College of Arts and Sciences Student Resources page contains a comprehensive list of the services available on campus to support your success as a student. It includes a list of computer labs, tutoring services, and other resources.

3. Teachers First Toolbox Study Guides and Strategies: The Study Guides and Strategies website has a huge store of resources for students to support development of study skills, note-taking skills, taking tests, preparing for tests, writing skills, learning strategies, research skills, project management, and more.

Student Learning Outcomes:

After completing the general psychology course, students will be able to complete the following:

1. Describe research methods and applications of scientific method associated with the study of human behavior
2. Identify parts of the brain which influence human behavior
3. Assess the relationship between the brain and human behavior
4. Define perceptual processes utilized by sensory organs in the body and communicate theories of perception in depth
5. Discuss the nature of consciousness in relation to the human experience and behavior
6. List principles of learning with emphasis on the ability to use the principles in real life situations
7. Relate memory theory to daily experiences of an undergraduate student and academic affairs
8. Compare theories of language acquisition and discuss development of language centers in the brain
9. Explain elements of problem solving and decision making with special emphasis on real life applications
10. Describe major categories of psychological tests and the components of standardization
11. Compare and contrast current issues surrounding intelligence theory and measurement
12. Classify major theories of emotion in relation to human behavior and cognition
13. Apply motivational theory to the experiences of an undergraduate student and success in the academic environment
14. Explain the stages of human development including theory from birth to death
15. Contrast the concepts presented by the major personality theorists and evaluate critical key aspects of each theory in relation to friends and family
16. Evaluate the role of stress and its effects on physical health, interpersonal relationships and the world of work
17. Classify psychological disorders such as Affective Disorders, Schizophrenia, and Personality dysfunction
18. Compare the advantages and disadvantages of therapeutic systems including ethical issues posed with therapy

With the completion of this class, students will have successfully examined critical key points of several areas of psychology and applied these concepts to real world experiences and applications.
University Policy on Academic Conduct:

As members of the University of West Florida community, we commit ourselves to honesty. As we strive for excellence in performance, integrity – personal and institutional – is our most precious asset. Honesty in our academic work is vital, and we will not knowingly act in ways which erode that integrity. Accordingly, we pledge not to cheat, nor to tolerate cheating, nor to plagiarize the work of others. We pledge to share community resources in ways that are responsible and that comply with established policies of fairness. Cooperation and competition are means to high achievement and are encouraged. Indeed, cooperation is expected unless our directive is to individual performance. We will compete constructively and professionally for the purpose of stimulating high performance standards. Finally, we accept adherence to this set of expectations for academic conduct as a condition of membership in the UWF academic community. Any student suspected of cheating will be immediately referred to the University Academic Misconduct system.

- **Academic Integrity:** Academic integrity is the foundation for achievement in higher education. Each student is encouraged to access the plagiarism tutorial offered by the university library. This tutorial provides an excellent overview of proper citation and quotation of the work of others, as well as examples of proper and improper citations and quotations, and strategies to avoid plagiarism.

- Any instance of violating academic integrity (cheating, plagiarism, etc.) will result in an automatic grade of “0” for that test, as the minimum penalty and will be handled according to the university policy on Academic Misconduct. Depending on the seriousness of the violation, that process may result in additional penalties such as a failing grade for the course, or even suspension or expulsion from the university.

- The student code of conduct can be found at [http://www.uwf.edu/judicialaffairs](http://www.uwf.edu/judicialaffairs). You will be required to complete a conduct quiz with 100% on the first week of class to ensure that all students recognize and understand the student code of conduct. Further explanations of this assignment can be found in the assignment and testing section of the syllabus.

- **Academic Responsibility:** What you learn and the grade you earn in this class are in your hands. Please refer to the university policy on class attendance in the UWF Catalog. Attendance at class is your responsibility, but you are expected to attend each class.

- You will also be expected to refrain from any behavior that disrupts or interferes with the class, and to refrain from any behavior or expression that might be deemed offensive by a member of the class. To assure an atmosphere conducive to learning that maintains the dignity of and respect for all parties involved, students will be expected to adhere to the university statement on expectations for academic conduct and classroom behavior, as
published in the Student Code of conduct, posted by the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities.

**Assistance:**

Students with a documented disability who require specific examination or course related academic accommodations should contact the Student Disability Resource Center (SDRC), by email at sdrc@uwf.edu or by telephone at (850) 474-2387. SDRC will provide the student with a letter for the instructor that will specify any recommended accommodations.

**Course Withdrawal:** The deadline for withdrawing from a course with an automatic grade of "W" is November 2. Students should review the university policy on course withdrawal. Withdrawal from a course after the posted deadline requires approval of the student’s academic advisor, course instructor, department chairperson, and the Academic Appeals committee. Requests for late withdrawals may be approved only under unusual circumstances, which must be documented, such as a death in the immediate family, serious illness of the student or an immediate family member, call to military service or National Guard duty.

**Tropical Storms:** Hurricane Season extends through the month of November, which covers almost the entire fall semester. Although nobody wants a tropical storm to make landfall locally, it is a very real possibility that we should be properly prepared for. With an approaching storm, the university will announce its plans for closure, due to the potential for a hurricane to impact the Pensacola area. Decisions regarding closure of the university will be made as the track of the storm becomes more apparent. Please pay careful attention to the UWF announcements on the university website or on WUWF FM radio. For additional information about the university and its hurricane preparations, refer to the information posted by the Office of Environmental Health and Safety.

**Contingency Plan for Student or Instructor Illness:** During the course of the semester, there is a reasonable likelihood that a student may become ill with the flu or other infectious illness. It is important for students to take responsible precautions to avoid getting sick, as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and the university H1N1 Response and Preparedness. Specifically, students are encouraged to wash hands frequently and to use hand sanitizers located in numerous sites on campus. Additionally, students are advised to avoid passing an illness to other individuals by staying home when sick and following other recommendations of the CDC and university to avoid spreading disease.
Course Work: Evaluations

Because this course is completely online, the students will be required to complete quizzes, papers, and exams online as well. Listed below are descriptions of each:

- **Quizzes**: 10 points each
  - *The Plagiarism Awareness Quiz* (20 points possible), found in the library online services, will be used to ensure that students recognize the importance of honesty and citation in the writing process. A link for the quiz will be found in the content section of e-learning. Students will be required to make 100% to complete the rest of the course. Students will also take the quiz as many times as needed, but a perfect score is ultimately required.
  - *Textbook Content Quizzes* (80 points total) will be used to assess the progress of learning for each student in the class. A total of eight textbook content quizzes will ensure that students are reading the chapters and understanding materials. The content of the quizzes will come from readings assigned in the syllabus. Keep up with these quizzes! There will be no make-ups without proper documentation. Questions about the quizzes can be referred to the instructor through email. As an Instructor, I take pride in the excellence of my students.
  - *The Syllabus Quiz* (20 Points possible) will assess understanding of the general psychology syllabus for spring 2011. As a student, it is important to read the syllabus and know what is expected for an excellent grade. Students will be required to make 100% to complete the rest of the course. Students will also take the quiz as many times as needed, but a perfect score is ultimately required.

  By doing the math, the student has a possibility of receiving 120 total quiz points with perfect scores on all quizzes.

- **Test**: 50 points each

  A total of four online multiple choice, true- false examinations will be given. The 1st - 4th examination will not be comprehensive. It will cover materials listed in the description of each examination.

  - The **first examination** will cover the nature of psychology, psychological methods, biological psychology, and sensation (textbook chapters 1, 2 and 7). The examination will include 50 items worth 2 points each. Students will have forty-five minutes to complete the examination.
  - The **second examination** will cover perception, developmental psychology, social psychology, and assessment techniques (textbook chapters 6 and 11). The examination will include 50 items worth 2 points each. Students will have forty-five minutes to complete the examination and will not be allowed to use outside materials for reference.
  - The **third examination** will cover theories of personality, abnormal psychology, and therapy (textbook chapters 12 and 14). The examination will include 50 items worth 2 points each. Students will have forty-five minutes to complete the examination and will not be allowed to use outside materials for reference.
• The **fourth examination** will cover consciousness, cognition, motivation, and emotion (textbook chapters 5 and 9). The examination will include 50 items worth 2 points each. Students will have forty-five minutes to complete the examination and will not be allowed to use outside materials for reference.

• Looking at the points available, students have an opportunity to achieve a total of **400** total points from examinations.

**Writing assignments: 50 points each**

Each student is required to show adequate knowledge and understanding of library services. One way to achieve this is to write personal responses (2 total each worth 50 points) of the literature in Journal articles. Students may choose empirical articles found in the journals listed below found in the library electronic services. Response papers must be double-spaced with ONE inch margins around edges. The response paper due dates are dispersed throughout the semester. Please check the class schedule (found further in the syllabus). No papers will be accepted after that deadline.

If you have any questions please contact the instructor through email listed previously in the syllabus.

**The only journals you may use are as follows** (all are available in the UWF library or on-line):

- *Developmental Psychology*
- *Health Psychology*
- *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*
- *Journal of Applied Psychology*
- *Journal of Counseling Psychology*
- *Journal of Educational Psychology*
- *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*
- *Psychological Assessment*
- *Psychology Today (only in Library)*

To access on-line journals:

1. Click A to Z index (upper right)
2. Click on the letter “L”
3. Click on library
4. Click on books and other library materials
5. Type in the Journal Name and click search

The two writing assignments are worth 50 points each. Thus, students have an opportunity for 100 total points for the writing assignments.

**Overall Grade:**
The students have an opportunity of achieving 620 total points in this class from examinations, quizzes, and writing assignments.

The chart below describes the points needed for specific letter grades.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>570 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>548 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>498 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>476 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>426 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>402 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>354 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>332 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>less than 332 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Attendance:**

Since this section of general psychology is completely online, attendance cannot be taken. However, students will be required to check the e-learning website and email daily. As a student, you are responsible for completion of all assignments. If special circumstances arise, please contact me before the deadline for the assignment, accommodations will be made, depending on proper documentation provided to the instructor.

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**Class Schedule**

**PSY 2012- online session**

**Spring 2011**

Week 1 and 2 - (January 5-16, 2011)
• Complete Plagiarism Awareness Quiz with 100%
• Complete Syllabus Quiz with 100%
• These quizzes should be completed with 100% by **January 16, 2011** at 11:59 pm for credit. These quizzes are required to complete the course. It is important to do well on the quizzes.
• Fill out the E-learning profiles provided for students. This helps the student find cohorts with similar interest and background. This will also provide the student with contact information if the student needs a study buddy! You may also find a new best friend!
• Read Chapter 1 and 2 which includes the nature of psychology and psychological methods
• Complete the Textbook Content quiz for chapter 1 and 2 by 11:59pm on **January 16, 2011**.

**Week 3 - (January 17-23, 2011)**

• Read Chapter 7 which includes biological psychology and sensation
• Complete the Textbook Content quiz for chapter 7 by 11:59pm on **January 23, 2011**.

**Week 4- (January 24-30, 2011)**

• 1st response paper due by 11:59 pm- **January 30, 2011**- for credit. No late papers will be accepted unless proper documentation is presented to instructor. The drop-box will close at midnight. Refer to “Course Work: Evaluations” section of the syllabus for specific details.
• Examination 1 should be completed by 11:59 pm- January 30, 2011. This examination covers chapters one, two and seven which includes nature of psychology, psychological methods, biological psychology, and sensation.

**Week 5 - (January 31- February 6, 2011)**

• Please check examination grade. Any questions regarding the examination should be emailed to the instructor. All questions will be addressed so students will be able to recognize the room for improvement, and ready to move on to new and exciting content.
• Read chapter 6 which covers developmental psychology
• Complete the Textbook Content Quiz for chapter 6 by 11:59 pm of **February 6, 2011**

**Week 6- (February 7-13, 2011)**

• Read chapter 11 which covers social psychology, and assessment techniques
• Complete the Textbook Content Quiz for chapter 11 due by 11:59 pm on **February 13, 2011**

**Week 7- (February 14-20, 2011)**

• Examination 2 should be completed by 11:59 pm on **February 20, 2011** for credit. This evaluation includes materials from perception, developmental psychology, social psychology, and assessment techniques.
• Grades will be posted on e-learning. Any questions regarding the exams should be emailed to the instructor.

**Week 8 – (February 21-27, 2011)**
• Please check examination grade. Any questions regarding the examination should be emailed to the instructor. All questions will be addressed so students will be able to recognize the room for improvement, and ready to move on to new and exciting content.
• 2nd response paper due by 11:59 pm on February 27, 2011 for credit. No late papers will be accepted unless proper documentation is presented to instructor. The drop-box will close at midnight. Refer to “Course Work: Evaluations” section of the syllabus for specific details.

Week 9-(February 28-March 6, 2011)
• Read chapter 12 which covers personality, and abnormal psychology
• Complete the Textbook Content Quiz for chapter 12 due by 11:59 pm of March 6, 2011

Week 10- (March 7-13, 2011)
• Read chapter 14 which covers therapy.
• Complete the Textbook Content quiz for chapter 14 due by 11:59 pm of March 13, 2011

Week 11- (March 14-20, 2011)
Spring BREAK 😊

Week 12-March 21-27, 2011
• Examination 3 should be completed by 11:59 pm on March 27, 2011. This examination will cover personality, abnormal psychology, and therapy (chapters 12 and 14).
• Grades will be posted on e-learning. Any questions regarding the exams should be emailed to the instructor.
• 3rd response paper (optional for extra credit of five points) due by March 27, 2010 for credit. No late papers will be accepted unless proper documentation is presented to instructor. The drop-box will close at midnight. Refer to “Course Work: Evaluations” section of the syllabus for specific details.

Week 12- (March 28- April 3, 2011)
• Read chapter 5 which includes consciousness and cognition
• Complete the Textbook Content Quiz for chapter 5 by 11:59 pm on April 3, 2011.

Week 13- (April 4-10, 2011)
• Read chapter 9 which covers motivation and emotion
• Complete the Textbook Content Quiz for chapter 9 by 11:59 pm on April 10, 2011

Week 14-(April 11-17, 2011)
• Examination 4 should be completed by midnight on April 17, 2011 for credit. This examination covers consciousness, cognition, motivation, and emotion.