

Course Syllabus

 Edit

Psychology

Approved By: **Date:**

Instructor: Gerard Tremblay

Course Description

PSYC111W Psychology (3 Credits)

This is an introductory course which surveys the behavioral science of psychology. Personal and social behaviors are explored through such topics as: consciousness, memory, learning, perception, physiology, sexuality, cognition, abnormal behavior and developmental processes. Applied research assignments are an integral component of this course. Emphasis is placed on analyzing data, and critically examining theories and trends in the field.

Prerequisites

None, but ENG120 College Composition (or equivalent) is suggested

Required Texts and Resources

Textbooks: Psychology 2e OpenStax Spielman, Jenkins & Lovett

ISBN: 978-1-975076-44-3

Materials: access to the Internet for on-line research

See the [CCSNH IT Requirements](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#technology)  (<https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#technology>)

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. define psychology within the context of psychological investigation being a legitimate scientific discipline.
2. describe the methods of research used by psychologists that are scientifically valid
3. identify the major branches of psychology, and the primary focus of each.
4. explain the relationships among heredity, environment, and their manifestations in psychological phenomena.
5. lists the ways that psychologists measure types of intelligence.
6. describe the relationship between sensory perception and its interpretation, and psychological phenomena.
7. define the major recognized psychological disorders and treatments of each.
8. explain how concepts of social psychology manifest themselves in human interactions

Methods of Instruction/ Learning Activities

Required Assessment Method 1: Current Event(s)

Course Outcome(s): Using this Assessment Method, students will achieve the following:

1. define psychology within the context of psychological investigation being a legitimate scientific discipline
2. describe the methods of research used by psychologists that are scientifically valid
3. identify the major branches of psychology, and the primary focus of each
4. explain the relationships among heredity, environment, and their manifestations in psychological phenomena
5. lists the ways that psychologists measure types of intelligence
6. describe the relationship between sensory perception and its interpretation, and psychological phenomena
7. define the major recognized psychological disorders and treatments of each
8. explain how concepts of social psychology manifest themselves in human interaction

Required Assessment Method 2: Project

Course Outcome(s): Using this Assessment Method, students will achieve the following:

1. define psychology within the context of psychological investigation being a legitimate scientific discipline
2. describe the methods of research used by psychologists that are scientifically valid
3. identify the major branches of psychology, and the primary focus of each
4. explain the relationships among heredity, environment, and their manifestations in psychological

phenomena

5. lists the ways that psychologists measure types of intelligence
6. describe the relationship between sensory perception and its interpretation, and psychological phenomena
7. define the major recognized psychological disorders and treatments of each
8. explain how concepts of social psychology manifest themselves in human interaction

Other Optional Methods of Assessment:

Other Optional Assessment Method 1: Report—oral or written

Course Outcome(s): Using this Assessment Method, students will achieve the following:

1. Critically analyze various literary texts for meaning, purpose, and effect
2. Interpret texts from various literary perspectives and schools of thought
3. Use the vocabulary of literary criticism, including common literary terms, theories, and critical approaches.
4. Develop fundamental research, writing, and critical skills.
5. Identify and define elements of fiction, specific works, and their respective authors.

Other Optional Assessment Method 2: Discussion Board (required for an online course)

Course Outcome(s): Using this Assessment Method, students will achieve the following:

1. Critically analyze various literary texts for meaning, purpose, and effect
2. Interpret texts from various literary perspectives and schools of thought
3. Use the vocabulary of literary criticism, including common literary terms, theories, and critical approaches.
4. Write analytical, critical essays on selected readings using various critical approaches, making defensible claims, and applying sound interpretive logic.
5. Develop fundamental research, writing, and critical skills.
6. Identify and define elements of fiction, specific works, and their respective authors.
7. Write according to the conventions of Formal Standard English with proper documentation for primary and secondary sources.

Other Optional Assessment Method 3: Quizzes and/or Exam(s)

Course Outcome(s): Using this Assessment Method, students will achieve the following:

1. define psychology within the context of psychological investigation being a legitimate scientific discipline
2. describe the methods of research used by psychologists that are scientifically valid
3. identify the major branches of psychology, and the primary focus of each
4. explain the relationships among heredity, environment, and their manifestations in psychological phenomena

5. lists the ways that psychologists measure types of intelligence
6. describe the relationship between sensory perception and its interpretation, and psychological phenomena
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Methods of Assessment

Graded objects:	Points:
Discussion board	2 @ 50 points each = 100
Current events/Project	4 @ 75 points each = 300
Exams on assigned readings	5@ 120 points each = 600
Total	1000 points

See the [WMCC Grading Scale](https://catalog.wmcc.edu/grading)  (<https://catalog.wmcc.edu/grading>)

Course Expectations

In college-level courses, instructors have common expectations of their students: specifically, that students have a high degree of self-motivation, that students have a personal interest in learning the material that the course addresses, and that students, as responsible learners, are highly respectful to one another. It is also expected that students possess basic competence in the functional use of digital technology. The following list includes other common expectations, specifically that students:

- Have easy, continuous access to a computer
- Have access to the Internet, preferably via a high-speed connection
- Be able to search for credible information online, have some facility for narrowing searches, and begin to differentiate among the levels of “legitimacy” of online information
- Use word processing software (Microsoft Word, or Open Office Writer are preferred)
- Be able to compose, send, receive, and reply to emails related to their courses, and track their email correspondence
- Know how to attach files to emails and discussion board posts when appropriate
- Be capable of downloading and opening files, manage stored files, and recognize the characteristics of popular computer file types
- Please see WMCC's [Classroom Etiquette Policy](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-)  (<https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources->

[for-students/#classroometiquette](#)) and [Appropriate Online Behavior Policy](#) <https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#onlinestudentbehavior>

Policies

Students registered for WMCC courses must comply with all policies and guidelines in the *Student Handbook* and other college publications, including those related to civil rights, disabilities services, harassment, and plagiarism.

- Please see WMCC's [Academic Integrity and Plagiarism Policy](https://catalog.wmcc.edu/academic-honesty) <https://catalog.wmcc.edu/academic-honesty>)
- Please see WMCC's [Course Drop and Withdrawal Policy](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#coursedrop) <https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#coursedrop>) <https://catalog.wmcc.edu/academic-honesty>)
- Please see WMCC's [Discrimination Policy](https://catalog.wmcc.edu/notice-of-nondiscrimination) <https://catalog.wmcc.edu/notice-of-nondiscrimination>) and [Title IX Policy](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#title-ix) <https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#title-ix>)

Participation and Attendance Policy

As an on-line course, students enjoy some flexibility in determining when to submit assigned research papers and take tests. But as detailed in the section of this syllabus that addresses late work, it is obligatory that these graded objects be completed by their respective deadlines. For that reason, it is critically important that students read the course syllabus, all relevant posted announcements, and emails of each weekly unit to avoid the compromise of grade and learning that occurs from succumbing to a “just in time” strategy for submitting course work.

- Please see WMCC's [Participation and Attendance Policy](https://catalog.wmcc.edu/attendance) <https://catalog.wmcc.edu/attendance>)
- Please see WMCC's [Cancellation/Delayed Start Classes Policy](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#cancellation-delayed-start) <https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#cancellation-delayed-start>)

Communication Policy

Modules will identify assigned research assignments and upcoming tests. They will indicate the due dates for assignments and tests. Students should read those descriptions very carefully, since they contain critically valuable information for successfully addressing each unit's graded objects.

There will be additional announcements posted regularly throughout the term. These announcements will address topics to assist students with other course-related issues or identify “exceptional” events in the courses' progression.

Course distribution-list emails will be sent out, usually once a week, to remind students of unit obligations, and/or issues unique to that week's works.

Emails to individual students will be sent on an as-needed basis.

If a student has issues that cannot be resolved effectively by email, they will be invited to provide a phone number for a follow-up phone conversation.

Grading Policy and Timeframe

Research papers are due by the end of the period for which they are assigned, though they may be submitted earlier within that period. Instructor will provide explanation of the assigned grade and additional constructive feedback for all submitted papers.

Tests are due within the period for which they are assigned, tests are auto graded, and scores will appear in the Canvas Gradebook, usually within an hour of submitting a unit test (or its re-take.)

Late Work, Revisions, and Extra Credit Policy

Research papers and tests must be submitted by their latest due date. Students will be reminded to take advantage of the module window for each to minimize the risk missing the deadlines. In the event of a legitimate emergency, students should contact the instructor as early as possible to negotiate an alternative work delivery plan.

- See WMCC's [Policy for Incomplete Grades](https://catalog.wmcc.edu/incomplete-grades)  (<https://catalog.wmcc.edu/incomplete-grades>)
- See WMCC's [Grade Reporting Policy](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#gradereporting)  (<https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#gradereporting>)

Support

See WMCC's [Accessibility Services](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#accessibility)  (<https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#accessibility>)

See WMCC's [Counseling Services](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#counseling)  (<https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#counseling>)

See WMCC's [Services for Student Basic Needs](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#basicneeds)  (<https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#basicneeds>)

Course Timetable

Week	Date	Topic	Assignment	Outcome
1	1/16/2024 to 1/21/2024	psychology origins and its methodologies	Required reading: Textbook <i>Chapter</i> <i>1: Introduction to</i> <i>Psychology</i>	1,3
2	1/22/2024 to 1/28/2024	methods of psychological research	Required reading: Textbook <i>Chapter</i> <i>2: Psychological</i> <i>Research</i> Discussion board 1: Introduce yourself and describe your course expectations	2

3	1/29/2024 to 2/04/2024	the biological basis of psychological phenomena	Required reading: Textbook <i>Chapter</i> <i>3: Biopsychology</i> Test 1: Ch. 1-3	4
4	2/05/2024 to 2/11/2024	consciousness and sleep	Required reading: Textbook <i>Chapter</i> <i>4: States of</i> <i>Consciousness</i> Assignment 1: Biological	6

			Foundations	
5	2/12/2024 to 2/18/2024	physical and psychological bases of sensation	Required reading: <i>Textbook Chapter</i> <i>5: Sensation and</i> <i>Perception</i> Test 2: Ch. 4-5	6
6	2/19/2024 to 2/25/2024	learning and conditioning	Required reading: <i>Textbook Chapter</i> <i>6: Learning</i>	2,5
7	2/26/2024 to 3/03/2024	cognition, language and intelligence	Required reading: <i>Textbook Chapter</i> <i>7: Thinking and</i> <i>Intelligence</i> Assignment 2:	2,4,5

			Sleep Disorders	
8	3/04/2024 to	how memory	Required reading:	6

	3/10/2024	functions	Textbook <i>Chapter</i> <i>8: Memory</i> Test 3: Ch. 6-8	
9	3/11/2024 to 3/17/2024	stages of development through the lifespan	Required reading: Textbook <i>Chapter</i> <i>9: Lifespan</i> <i>Development</i>	4,8
10	3/18/2024 to 3/24/2024	motivation and emotion	Required reading: Textbook <i>Chapter</i> <i>10: Emotion and</i> <i>Motivation</i> Assignment 3: Personality and Assessment	6,8
11	3/25/2024 to 3/31/2024	theories of personality development	Required reading: Textbook <i>Chapter</i> <i>11: Personality</i> Test 4: Ch. 9-11	2,8
12	4/01/2024 to 4/07/2024	social psychology and industrial psychology	Required reading: Textbook <i>Chapter</i> <i>12: Social</i> <i>Psychology</i>	8

			<p><i>and</i></p> <p><i>Chapter 13:</i></p> <p><i>Industrial –</i></p> <p><i>Organizational</i></p> <p><i>Psychology</i></p>	
13	4/08/2024 to 4/14/2024	stress and physiological consequences	<p>Required reading:</p> <p>Textbook <i>Chapter</i></p> <p><i>14: Stress,</i></p> <p><i>Lifestyle and Health</i></p> <p>Assignment 4:</p> <p>Stress and</p> <p>Health</p> <p>Discussion board</p> <p>2: What are your most important course take-aways</p>	4,6
14	4/15/2024 to 4/21/2024	psychological disorders and treatment	<p>Required reading:</p> <p>Textbook <i>Chapter</i></p> <p><i>15: Psychological</i></p> <p><i>Disorders and</i></p> <p><i>Chapter 16:</i></p> <p><i>Therapy and</i></p> <p><i>Treatment</i></p> <p>Test 5: Ch. 12-16</p>	2,7

15	4/22/2024 to 4/28/2024	genetic and bioengineering potentials for treating disorders	online reading and video regarding genetic treatment for psychological disorders	7
16	4/29/2024 to 5/04/2024	reflection of how the course's topics are relevant to current news	Course wrap-up, final course communications End-of-course survey completion is required	6