

Course Name: Psychology

**Approved By:**      **Date:**

Instructor: Christine Brann

### Course Description

Psychology is an introductory course that surveys the behavioral science of psychology. Students explore personal and social behaviors through topics that include consciousness, memory, learning, perception, physiology, sexuality, cognition, abnormal behavior, and developmental processes. Applied research projects are an integral component of the course, which emphasizes the analysis of data, along with the theories and trends in the field.

### Prerequisites

ENGL120W strongly recommended

### Required Texts and Resources

See the [CCSNH IT Requirements](#) [Links to an external site.](#)

### Course Learning Outcomes

1. define psychology within the context of psychological investigation being a legitimate scientific discipline.

**(Chapter 1: Introduction to Psychology** - This chapter provides an overview of what psychology is, its history, and its status as a scientific discipline.)

2. describe the methods of research used by psychologists that are scientifically valid

**Chapter 2: Research Methods** - This chapter covers various research methods used in psychology, including experimental, correlational, and observational methods.

3. identify the major branches of psychology, and the primary focus of each.

**Chapter 1: Introduction to Psychology** (partially) and **Chapter 3: Biological Psychology** - While the first chapter introduces the major branches of psychology, the third chapter focuses on biological psychology, one of the key branches.

4. explain the relationships among heredity, environment, and their manifestations in psychological phenomena.

**Chapter 3: Biological Psychology** - This chapter discusses how biological factors (heredity) interact with environmental influences to affect psychological phenomena.

5. lists the ways that psychologists measure types of intelligence.

**Chapter 7: Intelligence and Intelligence Testing** - This chapter covers different theories of intelligence, and the methods used to measure it.

6. describe the relationship between sensory perception and its interpretation, and psychological phenomena.

**Chapter 5: Sensation and Perception** - This chapter explores how sensory information is processed and interpreted, linking this process to psychological experiences.

7. define the major recognized psychological disorders and treatments of each.

**Chapter 12: Psychological Disorders** and **Chapter 13: Treatment of Psychological Disorders** - Chapter 12 outlines various psychological disorders, while Chapter 13 discusses the treatments available for these disorders.

8. explain how concepts of social psychology manifest themselves in human interactions

**Chapter 14: Social Psychology** - This chapter covers concepts such as social perception, social influence, and group behavior, which explain how social psychology manifests in human interactions.

Methods of Instruction/ Learning Activities

- Applied Learning
- Project-Based
- Group Learning
- Online assignment components (discussion boards, assignments, readings, etc.)
- Video Lecture

Methods of Assessment

Current Events: 10%

Quizzes: 15%

Discussion Boards: 35%

Application Assignments: 30%

Course Connections / Reflections: 10%

See the [WMCC Grading Scale](#)[Links to an external site.](#)

#### Course Expectations

- Please see WMCC's [Classroom Etiquette Policy](#)[Links to an external site.](#) and [Appropriate Online Behavior Policy](#)[Links to an external site.](#)

As an online course, it is important to participate in the course discussion boards as they replace the typical conversation that occurs in in-person courses. Discussion boards have two due dates, however, Canvas doesn't allow us to enter two different dates for one assignment. Therefore, please make sure to organize your week to include posting your first original post prior to midnight on Thursday. Then, make sure to go back and reply to two peers prior to midnight on Saturday. Finally, discussion boards are a written component of a college course and therefore, should be presented using appropriate grammar and correct spelling. Please plan to be involved and active in the discussion boards and the course as a whole. This course is also an 8-week accelerated course, and as such, has a great deal of content to cover in a shorter semester.

In college-level courses, instructors have common expectations of their students: for example, that students have a degree of self-motivation, that students have interest in learning, that students are responsible and respectful, that students possess basic competence in digital technology. The following list includes other common expectations: that students:

- Have access to a computer
- Have access to the internet
- Know how to search for credible information online
- Can compose, send, receive, & reply to emails related to their courses
- Know how to attach files

- Know how to download files
- Can use word processing software
- Participate in in-class activities face to face to receive full credit OR
- Synchronously via Zoom only under special circumstances and only when planned for at least two hours in advance. If you have not received a confirmation before the class from the instructor, do not assume you can participate via Zoom.

## Policies

In addition to the Academic Integrity and Plagiarism Policy below I recognize the potential for artificial intelligence (AI) tools, such as ChatGPT. You are more than welcome to explore AI tools as supplementary resources in assisting with assignment completion, in addition to other online resources. I want to simply remind you to do so in a responsible and ethical manner. Please make sure, as with all resources that you cite your sources and follow guidelines for uses when submitting your own assignments. As an example: you can NOT ask CHATGPT to respond to an assignment and then copy and paste all of the information gathered as your own. If you copy and past pieces, you still need to cite your sources. If you have any questions, please reach out.

- Please see WMCC's [Academic Integrity and Plagiarism Policy](#) [Links to an external site.](#)
- Please see WMCC's [Course Drop and Withdrawal Policy](#) [Links to an external site.](#) [Links to an external site.](#)
- Please see WMCC's [Discrimination Policy](#) [Links to an external site.](#) and [Title IX Policy](#) [Links to an external site.](#)

## Participation and Attendance Policy

Please see above Course Expectations

- Please see WMCC's [Participation and Attendance Policy](#) [Links to an external site.](#)
- Please see WMCC's [Cancellation/Delayed Start Classes Policy](#) [Links to an external site.](#)

## Communication Policy

My contact information is posted on the course homepage. Additionally, I have created an "Ask the Professor" discussion board located within the course resource module. This is in addition to email, the Canvas inbox, and phone calls. This discussion board (DB) allows you to ask a specific question about an assignment, link, etc. within the course. Please check this DB prior to reaching out, as someone may have had the same question and I may have already answered it.

## Grading Policy and Timeframe

Grades will be posted on Canvas within one week of submission of the assignment. Advance notice will be given if this will not occur. Feel free to let me know if you have any questions about your grades. I will also be checking in with you individually throughout the semester to see how you are progressing. All work requirements for the course must be submitted **ON TIME** for **FULL CREDIT**! Assignments will drop ten points for every three days it exceeds the due date, up to two-weeks, at which time it will be assigned a zero.

## Late Work, Revisions, and Extra Credit Policy

As stated above, all work requirements for the course must be submitted **ON TIME** for **FULL CREDIT**! Assignments will drop 10 points for every three days it exceeds its due date, up to 2 weeks (at which time it becomes a 0). There may be exceptions granted based on instructor discretion as long as you reach out and communicate the issue prior to the due date!

- See WMCC's [Policy for Incomplete Grades](#) Links to an external site.
- See WMCC's [Grade Reporting Policy](#) Links to an external site.

## Support

See WMCC's [Accessibility Services](#) Links to an external site.

See WMCC's [Counseling Services](#) Links to an external site.

See WMCC's [Academic Support Services](#) Links to an external site.

See WMCC's [Services for Student Basic Needs](#) Links to an external site.

## Course Timetable

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
August 25- August 31	Course Intro	1.1 - Meet 'n Greet DB	1 - 8
	Chapters #1 and #2	1.2 - Week #1 DB	
	The History and Science of Psychology	1.3 - Syllabus Self-Check 1.4 - Chapter #2 Quiz	
September 1- September 7	Chapters #3 and #5	2.1 - Week #2 DB	4, 6
	The Body, Brain and Mind	2.2 - Application Assignment #1	
September 8- September 14	Chapters #6 and #8	3.1 - Week #3 DB	6
	Learning about Learning / Memories	3.2 - Chapter #6 Quiz	
		3.3 - Current Event #1	
September 15-September 21	Chapters #4 and #7	4.1 - Week #4 DB	5
	Thinking, Intelligence, and Consciousness	4.2 - Application Assignment #2	
September 22- September 28	Chapter #9	5.1 - Week #5 DB	7
	Psychology Across the Lifespan	5.2 - Application Assignment #3	
September 29- October 5	Chapters #10 and #14	6.1 - Week #6 DB	8
	Emotions, Motivation, Stress and Health	6.2 - Chapter #14 Quiz	
		6.3 - Current Event #2	

October 6-October 12	Chapters #11 and #12 Social and Personality	7.1 - Week #7 DB 7.2 - Application Assignment #4	7
October 13- October 18	Chapters #15 and #16 Psychological Disorders and Treatments Course Wrap up	8.1 - Week #8 DB 8.2 - Course Reflection	1-8