

# General Psychology

Psychology 100

Fall, 2013

## General Course Information

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Canvas webpage: <https://bc.instructure.com/>  
Office Hours: M-W, 3-5 in House 1  
Class Meets: M-F, 7:30-8:20 am in A138  
Text: *Exploring Psychology, 9th edition* by David Myers;  
Text website: [http://bcs.worthpublishers.com/exploring9e/#t\\_837283](http://bcs.worthpublishers.com/exploring9e/#t_837283)

## Course Description

General Psychology broadly surveys the knowledge and methods of the discipline of Psychology. This course will emphasize the development of critical thinking skills, and familiarity with scientific research and reasoning.

## Course Overview

This is an introductory-level course, which will survey most of the major issues in the field of psychology. The major goals for this course are:

1. Examine how human behavior is studied and analyzed by psychologists.
2. Gain greater insight into the behavior of ourselves and others.
3. Develop familiarity with the theories describing human behavior.
4. Familiarize ourselves with the symptoms of psychological disorders and the various treatment options.
5. Develop critical thinking skills and prepare ourselves to be cautious and analytical consumers of information that proclaims to be scientific or based on some form of research.

## Course Outcomes

*Upon completion of Psychology 100, students will be able to:*

1. Describe the purpose, comprehensive scope, and areas of application in the field of psychology.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the scientific process by applying and/or critiquing various research methods used by psychologists in the study of behavior.
3. Recognize, compare and contrast various theoretical perspectives used to explain and guide psychological research and application.
4. Identify historical and present-day contributions of major psychologists.
5. Define important psychological terms, concepts, processes and principles.
6. Apply critical thinking to assumptions, claims, and common sense ideas about behavior.
7. Demonstrate the application of psychological principles and findings to one's own life.

*In terms of general education outcomes, students will be able to:*

8. Use cognitive and creative skills:
  - a. Analyzing (identifying and evaluating problems)
  - b. Synthesizing (interpreting situations, drawing conclusions, and making connections)
9. Improving communications skills:
  - a. Doing research (gathering and documenting information)
  - b. Delivering one or more written, oral and/or visual presentations with formal documentation
10. Applying personal skills: Understanding the influence of stress, nutrition, and life style on personal health and performance

# Course Requirements

## Exams:

There will be five midterms, on the dates indicated on the calendar. They will occur in class, at the start of our class session. Each exam will be allotted 50 minutes.

Exams will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions. Each Exam will be worth 50 pts.

- **Materials:** You will need a scantron form and a #2 pencil for all Exams. Neither of these materials will be provided, so be sure to bring them with you. You may use the backs of used scantrons to save on scantrons.
- **Preparing for Exams:**
  - The publisher's quizzes ([http://bcs.worthpublishers.com/exploring9e/#t\\_837228](http://bcs.worthpublishers.com/exploring9e/#t_837228)) will provide a very good basis for the types of questions that will appear on the Exams.
  - In addition, the publisher's website includes excellent study tools that will assist you in preparing for the midterms. There's a "Chapter Review," flashcards, PsychSim tutorials, other simulations & demonstrations, PsychInquiry worksheets, and more.
  - I have posted a study guide for each Exam in Canvas, on the "Home" page.
    - I made a hint for every question on the Exams, so that you will know exactly which topics will be covered.
    - I recommend that you study with this guide, making sure to understand the information as I described it in class, as well as how the text described it.
    - You will find that there are many items on the test/study guide that can only be found in the text, so you will want to use this guide to help you to know which parts of the text are especially relevant.
- **Make-up Exams:**
  - I will allow a make-up of a missed Exam if it was missed for one of the following, documented, reasons:
    - Personal illness or injury, documented by a doctor's note, and with notification to me before the test is missed (via phone or email)
    - Death in the immediate family, documented by a note from the funeral director.
  - Exams must be made up within one week of the test's date.
  - If you know you're going to miss a Exam for an unavoidable reason, we can administer the test before the scheduled date so that you won't miss it.
    - No make-ups after the Exam when the absence is planned.
    - No early Exam 5 to accommodate winter break travel plans.

## Projects:

You will need to complete five projects, and submit them to the proper Project Dropbox by 11:59 pm on Tuesday of the week that they are due. Each project will be worth 25 points.

### Preparing Projects:

- You will select one project from the list of several.
- It is NOT permitted to do more than one project from one list, as a substitute for doing another project on a different list. I have designed the projects to supplement the topics that we will be discussing as you concurrently work on the project. Therefore, you must complete them in order.

- The projects will be graded based on three criteria.
  - **Accuracy.** Each project topic requires some factual content. You will lose points for inaccuracies.
  - **Completeness.**
    - You must answer all parts of the assignment that you choose. For example, if a project asks you to solve a problem and then describe your problem-solving strategy, you must do both of those things.
    - Each project has its own unique set of expectations. You'll know that you've completed the project fully when you've answered all of the issues that I raised in the topic's question.
    - A complete project will require no fewer than 150 words.
  - **Timeliness.** Projects are not accepted late, under any circumstances.
    - The dropbox will literally **lock you out** when the deadline passes, so be prepared to push the "submit" button no later than 11:58 pm on the due date.
      - As a deadline passes, the Dropbox will disappear.
      - Do NOT submit a late project to the next project's dropbox, as that will prevent you from being able to submit the next project to that box, and it won't earn any credit anyway.
    - Do NOT send your project to me via email if you miss the deadline. I will return it unread.
  - I will deduct 20% (5 pts) for spelling errors that should have been picked up by spell check, or grammar errors that are egregious enough that grammar check should have picked them up.
- Psychological Scales: In some Projects, I will include a personality scale or other sort of psychological measure for you to complete and score. Your responses on such scales are meant to be kept anonymous, so DO NOT submit your responses or scores to me. All I need is your responses to the questions that I ask about the scale.

### Submitting Projects:

You will submit your projects to the Project X Drop box, where X represents the number of the project you're submitting.

- Create your project in your own software, and save it to your computer.
- To submit your project as an attached file:
  - Save your work as a .doc **or** .docx **or** .rtf **or** .txt file.
  - Click on Project X in the Assignments button.
    1. Click on the "Submit Assignment" button on the right side of the screen.
    2. Under the "File Upload" tab, click on the "Browse" button, find your file, and click "Submit Assignment."
- If you can't save in .doc or .docx format:
  - Click on Project X in the Assignments button.
    1. Click on the "Submit Assignment" button on the right side of the screen.
    2. Click on the "Text Entry" tab.
    3. Copy and paste your work into the message box.
    4. Click "Submit Assignment."

The Drop Boxes will limit your access automatically.

- You can only submit one posting to each Drop Box, so make sure that you're submitting your work to the correct drop box.

- The Drop Box will automatically lock when the deadline passes, so you can't submit your work late.

When will I read the projects?

- On the morning after the due date, I will begin reading the projects.
- I will NOT reply to queries about whether I received your project or not. I will send you an email with feedback about your project once I've read it. If you have a question about a project topic, please make sure to put the words "question about" in the subject line of your email to me.

I will return your graded project in the dropbox, and will send an email with your points and my feedback. The points and feedback will also appear in the Grades button.

## Attendance:

I expect that you will attend lectures. There is a great deal of information presented in the text, and the lectures will serve to narrow that information down. Also, there will be a large number of demonstrations, film clips, and participatory activities that will enhance your experience.

## Academic integrity

It is assumed that all students will maintain the highest academic integrity. Cheating of any sort, including copying on exams, falsifying records, plagiarism (e.g. copying and pasting from a website, collaborating on tests), etc. will not be tolerated, and suspected cheaters will be reported to the Dean of Academic Education.

No electronic devices (cell phones, mp3/iPods, dictionaries, laptops, etc) will be allowed during lectures or exams.

## Grade Distribution

A:	95-100%
A-:	90-94%
B+:	87-89%
B:	84-86%
B-:	80-83%
C+:	77-79%
C:	74-76%
C-:	70-73%
D+:	67-69%
D:	60-66%
F:	<=59%

## Grade Breakdown

Exams:	5 @	50 pts =	250 pts	67%
Projects:	5 @	25 pts =	125 pts	33%
Total:			375 pts	100%

## Incompletes and Hardship Withdrawals

These options are reserved for students who, through unforeseeable circumstances, cannot complete a course that they were passing. If you wish to request one of these grading options, the following criteria must be met:

1. You are passing the class at the time of the request.
2. You must make your request in writing, explaining the circumstances and including any documentation.
3. In the case of an Incomplete, the circumstances must be acute. That is, they must be something that prevents completion of the course within the current quarter, but that would be resolved in time for the student to complete the course work within the next quarter.
4. In the case of a Hardship Withdrawal, the circumstances must be ongoing, such that the student would not be able to complete the course work within the following quarter. In other words, a student could not request a hardship withdrawal and then retake the course the following quarter.
5. Qualifying circumstances for Incompletes and Hardship Withdrawals are limited to:
  - a. Death in the immediate family (spouse, child, parent) documented by a funeral director's note.
  - b. Significant illness or injury (documented by a doctor's note) of self or a person for whom the student is primarily responsible.
  - c. Relocation outside of the Bellevue Community College area.

## Reading Assignments, Video Assignments, and online lectures:

Our **text** is the most popular introductory psychology text in the world. There's a reason: It's well written and comprehensive. I know David Myers, and he's a consummate educator and absolutely loves psychology.

I have prepared online versions of my Power Point **lectures**. You can access them in 6-13 minutes segments through the link on my webpage called "Online Lectures." If you miss class, or I go too fast in class, these lectures can be really helpful.

# Course Calendar

Week	Date	Chapter
1	9/23-27	1: Thinking Critically with Psychological Science
		2: The Biology of Mind
2	9/30-10/3	3: Consciousness and Two-Track Mind
	10/4	Exam 1 (Chapters 1, 2, & 3)
3	10/7	Project 1 due in Canvas by 7:30 am
	10/7-10	4: The Developing Person
		5: Gender & Sexuality
	10/11	NO CLASS: Instructor at seminar
4	10/14-17	6: Sensation and Perception
	10/18	Exam 2 (Chapters 4, 5, & 6)
5	10/21	Project 2 due in Canvas by 7:30 am
	10/21-22	7: Learning
	10/23	NO CLASS: College Issues Day
	10/24-25	8: Memory
6	10/28-11/1	9: Thinking/Language/Intelligence
	11/1	Project 3 due in Canvas by 7:30 am
7	11/4	Exam 3 (Chapters 7, 8, & 9)
	11/5-8	10: Motivation & Emotion
8	11/11	NO CLASS: Veterans' Day
	11/12-14	11: Stress, Health, & Human Flourishing
9	11/18-21	12: Personality
	11/22	Exam 4 (Chapters 10, 11, & 12)
10	11/25	Project 4 due in Canvas by 7:30 am
	11/25-29	13: Social Psychology
	11/28-29	NO CLASS: Thanksgiving
11	12/2-6	14: Psychological Disorders
		15: Therapy
12	12/6	Project 5 due in Canvas by 7:30 am
	12/9	Exam 5 (Chapters 13, 14, & 15)

**PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION**  
**Revised Winter 2006**

Cheating, Stealing and Plagiarizing\*

Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue Community College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue Community College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Dean of Student Services.

Incomplete

If a student fails to complete all the required work for a course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an "F").

F Grade

Students who fail a course will receive a letter grade of "F."

Final Examination Schedule

The Social Science Division will adhere to the final examination schedule as stated in the BCC Schedule. Final examinations will be held at the end of each quarter at fixed times. Instructors will not give examinations in advance of the regular schedule. A student who is absent from any examination held at any time during the quarter may forfeit the right to make up the examination. If, for illness or some other circumstance beyond the student's control, the student is unable to be present at any scheduled examination and has contacted the instructor on a timely basis, the student may be permitted to take such examination at a time designated by the instructor.

Withdrawal From Class

College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course.

Hardship Withdrawal

Instructors may assign the grade of "HW" (hardship withdrawal) at their discretion in the event that a student cannot complete the coursework due to extreme and exceptional circumstances. Students may also contact the Enrollment Services office BEFORE grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

Students Who Require Disability Accommodations:

Students with disabilities who have accommodation needs are encouraged to meet with the Disability Support Services (DSS) office located in B132 (telephone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110), to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DSS office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter. Students who require accommodation in class should review the DSS accommodation letter with each instructor during the first week of the quarter.

Students with mobility challenges who may need assistance in case of an emergency situation or evacuation should register with Disability Support Services, and review those needs with the instructor as well.

Distribution of Grades

Grades will not be posted in the Social Science Division or in faculty offices, and secretaries will not give out grades. Students should access their grades through the BCC Web site.

Return of Papers and Tests

Paper and/or Scantron score sheet returns will be arranged in the following ways ONLY: by mail, if student supplies the instructor with stamped, self-addressed envelope (with appropriate postage); or by the instructor designating a time and place whereby the student may retrieve his/her papers. Unclaimed papers and/or Scantron score sheets must be kept by the instructor for a minimum of sixty (60) instructional days following the end of the quarter.

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*\*If you are accused of cheating, stealing exams and/or plagiarism, there is a Bellevue Community College Student Discipline and Appeals Procedure (the right to due process) which you may pursue. Contact the office of Division Chair (A251), the Dean of Student Services (B231A) or the Associated Student Body (C212) for information regarding the appeals process.*