# SYLLABUS GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY

# Winter 2015 Item #5406

**Instructor**: Steffi Schrepfer, Ph.D.

Office Hours: by appointment

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**TEXT:** Hockenbury, D. & Hockecnbury, S. (2014). <u>Discovering Psychology (6th.ed.)</u>. NY: Worth Publishers



#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Psychology plays a major role in our lives, organizations and society. General Psychology is an introductory survey course designed to expose you to the major theories, theorists and concepts in psychology. Central to an understanding of modern psychology is the role that research and the scientific method play in testing and developing theories.

**Learning Outcomes** (at the end of this course students will be able to):

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

- Demonstrate the application of psychological principles and findings to one's own life.
- In terms of general education outcomes, students will be able to

Use cognitive and creative skills:

- Analyzing (identifying and evaluating problems)
- Synthesizing (interpreting situations, drawing conclusions, and making connections)

Improving communication skills:

- Doing research (gathering and documenting information)
- Delivering one or more written, oral and /or visual presentations with formal documentation)

Applying personal skills:

• Understanding the influence of stress, nutrition, and life style on personal health and performance.

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

**Attendance and Participation are required.** You will get 200 points credit for attendance and participation. Attendance will be taken each class. If you miss a class you will lose 10 points. You may miss one class without losing points. Any additional missed class requires a doctor's note or you will lose 10 points for each missed class.

**Readings**: You are expected to read the assigned literature and review the weekly objectives/ study guide.

Assignments: The purpose of assignments is to give you an opportunity to apply knowledge to real life situations. Detailed instructions will be provided for each activity. You need to complete and submit one single subject experiment during the quarter (170 points). In addition you need to submit an Introduction and Technical Plan the first week of class (30points). All assignments are due at the indicated deadline and late papers will lose points (one day late: half a letter grade; two days late: one letter grade).

**Quizzes:** After completing a module you have to take a short quiz of 30 multiple choice questions the following Monday. Each quiz will cover information pertaining to the module only. Total points possible for quizzes is 300 points (30 x 10weeks= 300 points). All quizzes with the exception of the final exam are given online.

*Quiz Rebuttal Policy*: You may rebut, *in writing*, any question on any of the quizzes. Your rebuttals must include:

- 1. The complete question.
- 2. The option you chose.
- 3. Why you chose an incorrect option.
- 4. One reference from your textbook to support your argument.

Rebuttals are due within one week of the quiz.

Class Evaluation: Class evaluations are an important part of the class and you are required to complete the evaluation before you will get access to the final exam.

**Final**: The Final exam, given during finals week, will be comprehensive and will consist of 50 multiple choice and true/false items (50 points).

**Make-up policy:** You can make-up one weekly quiz. Make-ups need to be scheduled with the instructor and will be given during finals week.

#### **GRADING**

# Grades will be determined as follows:

Exams	10@ 30 points	300
Attendance and Participation		200
Single Subject Experiment	Part 1 (50 points), Part 2(50 points), Final Report (100 points)	200
Introduction and Technical Plan		30
Class Evaluation		20
Final Exam		50
Total =		800

# **Grading Scale:**

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Grade	$\boldsymbol{A}$	$\boldsymbol{B}$	C	$\boldsymbol{D}$	F
plus	Not given	696 - 719	616 - 639	536 - 559	< 480
	744 - 800	664 - 695	584 - 615	480 - 535	
minus	720 - 743	640 - 663	560 - 583		

Students with special learning needs should contact the instructor as soon as possible.

# **Tentative SCHEDULE**

# Please check your weekly module in Canvas for any schedule changes or reading assignment changes!!!!

Week/Module	Reading Assignment	Due
Week 1	Chapter 1: History of	Introduction due Friday
	Psychology; Research	
	Methods	Quiz 1: following Monday
Week 2	Chapter 5: Learning	Assignment 2 Part 1:
		Single Subject Research is
		due on Sunday Jan. 18
		Quiz 2: following Monday
Week 3	Chapter 2: Biological basis of behavior	
		Quiz 3: following Monday
Week 4	Chapters 3 & 4	
		Quiz 4: following Monday
Week 5	Chapters 6 & 7	Assignment 2 Part 2:
		Single Subject Research is
		due on Friday
		Quiz 5: following Monday
Week 6	Chapters 8	
		Quiz 6: following Monday
Week 7	Chapters 12	
		Quiz 7: following Monday
Week 8	Chapter 9	
		Quiz 8: following Monday

Week/Module	Reading Assignment	Due
Week 9	Chapter 10	Quiz 9: following Monday
Week 10	Chapter 11	Quiz 10: following Monday
Week 11	Chapter 13 and 14	Assignment 2 Part 3(Single-Subject Research) is due Friday
		Final comprehensive Exam will be March 23.