

**Bellevue College**  
**General Psychology: PSYC&100 A**  
**Spring 2016 Syllabus**

**Course Basics**

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 Item #: 5400

Credits: 5  
 Class Time: MTWThF 7:30-8:20am  
 Location: A138

**Course Information**

**Description**

Psychology is the science of behavior and mental processes. If you stop and think about that definition, it's quite a bit of material to cover in one course. In the next 10 weeks, you will be exposed to fundamental questions, research methods, concepts, principles, subfields, perspectives, and real-world applications of psychology. Students will engage with the course content through a variety of learning experiences, including lectures, active group and class discussions and activities, videos, in class exam reviews, and written assignments designed to expose students to psychological, empirical research in his or her areas of interest.

I hope that, after taking this class, you will more critically evaluate claims about human behavior made by scientists, other academics, the media, your friends and family, and even me! It is up to each one of us to reach our own conclusions, but I hope that, in these brief 10 weeks, you will develop new ways to consider important issues pertaining to human behavior.

**Outcomes**

After completing this class, students should be able to:

- Describe the purpose, comprehensive scope, and areas of application in the field 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.

**Grading**

**Course Format**

The course will be comprised of 4 units. For each unit, students will earn points for attendance and participation, take an in-class exam, take online chapter quizzes, find an empirical research article and

post a writing assignment on the Canvas “Discussions” page. For the first three units, students will also respond to two other students’ writing assignments on the Canvas website.

### Course Grade

- **Your course grade will be wholly determined by the total number of points you accumulate on the assignments described below.**
- **There will be opportunities to earn extra credit through several in-class activities throughout the semester. These will not be announced and cannot be made up for any reason.**
- **There will be no extra credit assignments offered at the end of the semester.**
- **I will not round up final grades; an 89.9% is a B+ in all cases.**

Assignment	Points	% of Grade
Syllabus Review Quiz	6	1.2%
Chapter Quizzes (best 12/13 @ 6pts)	72	14.4%
Exams (best 3/4 @ 60pts)	180	36.0%
Forum Posts (4 @ 30pts)	120	24.0%
Responses to Forum Posts (6 @ 10pts)	60	12.0%
Completion of Course Evaluation	2	0.4%
Attendance & Participation	60	12.0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100%</b>

The College Grading Policy is located on page 10 of the Course Catalog: [Grading Policy](#)

The course letter grade is related to the point total as follows:

Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
Min. %	93%	90%	87%	83%	80%	77%	73%	70%	67%	63%	60%	0%
Min. Pts	465	450	435	415	400	385	365	350	335	315	300	0-299

### Syllabus Review Quiz

**You should always consult the syllabus first when you have a question about the class.** Chances are, an associated policy is outlined here, and I strictly adhere to my policies. To make sure you have read and understood the policies for this course, you will take a 6-question syllabus review quiz. Learn the points in bold on this syllabus to do well on this quiz. There will be true/false, multiple choice, and fill in the blank questions.

## Chapter Quizzes

Students will complete a short multiple-choice quiz for each chapter we have covered for that unit. These quizzes can be found on the “Quizzes” page of the Canvas website. The due dates for these quizzes can be found on the class schedule. They will open at least one week before the due date and are available to retake as many times as needed to obtain a perfect score. These quizzes have no time limit. **Quizzes cannot be made up for any reason beyond the due date. Take these quizzes early and often well before the due date.**

## Unit Exams

Each unit will culminate in an in-class exam. These exams consist of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. These exams will be administered in class. You will have the entire class period to finish the exam.

## Writing Assignments: Original Forum Posts

For each exam period there will be an open-topic discussion forum. The Canvas “Discussions” will be used to post these assignments. Though you may post at any time after the assignment instructions are posted, original posts are due on unit review days before class starts.

For each topic forum you will post one original discussion thread related to a topic, concept, or issue discussed in the textbook or lectures assigned for that period. Follow the instructions carefully to earn all possible points. Original posts should always include correct capitalization, spelling, and grammar. Although these are online posts, they should be written in an organized, paragraph form. **There should be no difference in tone between online forum posts and a formal writing assignment.** Of course you should address the comments, topics, and questions of your classmates; however, doing so in a respectful, well-written manner is critically important.

Each forum will require you to explore a topic of interest by summarizing and analyzing a related empirical, scholarly, peer-reviewed research article. Thorough rubrics and specific instructions will be posted on Canvas at least one week before the due date. You must cite and include the reference for your source(s) in your post to receive credit. PsychCentral does not qualify. Wikipedia does not qualify. Plagiarism guidelines do apply; be careful to cite appropriately. We will discuss how to find appropriate academic sources and cite them appropriately early in the quarter. **If you miss the class period in which guidelines for appropriate sources are discussed, it is your responsibility to find the information.**

**A post based on a non-scholarly source will earn a maximum of 15/30 (50%). You must find a published article with Abstract, Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion sections to complete these assignments.**

## Writing Assignments: Forum Post Responses

Again, though you may post at any time, responses are due before the class period following an exam.

In addition to your own original post, you need to provide 2 thoughtful responses to other students' posts for the first three exam periods. Here you might elaborate on the information presented, disagree with the information (respectfully), generate new questions, or extend the topic in some other, useful way. Avoid empty general comments such as, "I agree" or "I think your comments are interesting." In other words, always back up your response with facts. Again, you must reference at least one outside **scholarly, peer-reviewed** source of information in your response following the same guidelines noted in the instructions for your original post. Plagiarism guidelines apply.

## **Attendance & Participation**

It is essential to attend class regularly in order to thoroughly understand and apply the material of the course. **During at least 12 class periods during the semester, up to 5 points will be given for lecture attendance and one of the following: activity completion, homework completion, reading quiz, or review completion.** These activities may only be made up when students have provided advance notice of the dates of religious holidays or can provide legitimate documentation for an absence (doctor's note, exam times, notice of job interview, etc.).

## **Late Policy**

**Forum posts and responses may be submitted up to one week late.** Ten percent will be deducted for each day late (-10%). **Remember, quizzes cannot be made up for any reason.** However, you can retake quizzes as many times as you like until the due date.

## **Make Up Exams**

**If you miss one of the unit exams given during the semester for any reason, that will count as your lowest exam score and will be dropped.** Please be advised that if you miss 2 (or more) exams, you will receive a 0 for the second exam unless there is legal or medical documentation to explain your absence. Exams may be taken early with at least one week's notice and with written documentation for the upcoming absence.

## **Required Text**

Myers, D. G. Exploring psychology with updates on DSM-5. (*9<sup>th</sup> ed*). New York, NY: Worth.

Any format is acceptable, including eBook, notebook, paperback, or loose-leaf edition. An access code is NOT required for this class. ISBNs: 1-4641-6336-7, 1-461-8949-8, 1-4631-8956-0

Students will also be responsible for finding, summarizing, and analyzing research articles related to the course material.

## **Tips for Success**

- **Attend all classes. It is your responsibility to obtain and learn material for classes you miss.**
- Read all material before coming to class. **Read and be able to answer the chapter learning objectives.**
- PowerPoint slides will be available online. **Download the day's material before class.**
- Take advantage of office hours or email if you have questions about the material.
- Google SAFMEDs. Make flash cards of key terms, be able to name terms when given a description, and vice versa.
- Form a study group with other students in the class (but make sure to complete assignments independently).
- Go to Psychology Tutoring in the Academic Success Center (D204).

## **Important Notes About Technology Use**

I will be posting class material (e.g., syllabus, Powerpoints, announcements, readings, assignments, and links to articles) regularly on the Canvas course website. **Plan to check the Canvas website regularly.** If you don't have a home computer with Internet access, an open computer lab is available in N250. You will have plenty of time to complete assignments. Excuses such as "my internet wasn't working," "I couldn't make it to the computer lab this morning," or "I thought I posted on the discussion board" will not be accepted.

You are required to create a BC student network account [here](#). The student network account may be created any time after you receive your student identification number (SID) and personal identification number (PIN). For students enrolled in credit classes, the SID and PIN are issued after you apply for admissions. For students enrolled in classes through BC Continuing Education, the SID and PIN are established after you register for a class. Continuing Education students may contact the Continuing Education office directly to request this identification information. Once you have your student network account, go to the Bellevue College website and click Canvas under Student Links to log into the course website. Our course homepage can be accessed from the Courses dropdown menu on the left side of the page.

## **Classroom Learning Atmosphere**

### **Affirmation of Inclusion**

Bellevue College is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the campus community feels welcome to participate in the life of the college, free from harassment and discrimination.

We value our different backgrounds at Bellevue College, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect.

### **Religious Holidays**

Students who expect to miss classes, examinations, or any other assignments as a consequence of their religious observance should be provided with a reasonable alternative opportunity to complete such

academic responsibilities. It is the obligation of students to provide faculty with reasonable notice of the dates of religious holidays on which they will be absent, preferably at the beginning of the term. Students who are absent on days of examinations or class assignments should be offered an opportunity to make up the work without penalty (if they have previously arranged to be absent), unless it can be demonstrated that a makeup opportunity would constitute an unreasonable burden on a member of the faculty. Should disagreement arise over what constitutes an unreasonable burden or any element of this policy, parties involved should consult the department chair, or Dean.

### **College Anti-Discrimination Statement (Title IX)**

Bellevue College does not discriminate on the basis of race or ethnicity; color; creed; national origin; sex; marital status; sexual orientation; age; religion; genetic information; the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability; gender identity or veteran status in educational programs and activities which it operates. For further information and contacts, please consult College Anti-Discrimination Statements.

### **Procedures & Guidelines of the Social Sciences Division**

#### **Bellevue College's Affirmation of Inclusion**

Bellevue College is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the campus community feels welcome to participate in the life of the college, free from harassment and discrimination. We value our different backgrounds at BC, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect.

The college's "Affirmation of Inclusion" is in line with the principle of free speech in a free society: we have the right to express unpopular ideas as long as we don't show disrespect for reasonable people who might believe otherwise. In this course, you will be expressing ideas through the medium of the course site as well as face to face in the classroom. In that case, these expectations refer to the courtesy with which you communicate with one another in the classroom and on the course website. Part of this respect involves professional behavior towards the instructor, colleagues, and the class itself.

#### **Plagiarism and Other Conduct Policies**

Plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty that occurs when students use information or material from outside sources and do not properly cite those sources. This is grounds for disciplinary action. It is your responsibility to understand plagiarism and its consequences. Plagiarism occurs if:

1. You do not cite quotations and/or attribute borrowed ideas as references.
2. You fail to enclose borrowed language in quotation marks.
3. You do not write summaries and paraphrases in his/her own words and/or doesn't document his/her source.
4. You turn in work created by another person.
5. You submit or use your own prior work for a current or past course, or work from one current course in another course without express permission from your professors. This may also be considered academic dishonesty.

Consequences: If it is determined that you have plagiarized or engaged in other forms of academic dishonesty, you will likely fail the assignment and possibly the course, despite points earned through other work. Acts of academic dishonesty are reviewed for disciplinary action.

If you are new to writing then please come talk to me during office hours and/or visit the Writing Center. Their website is <http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/asc/writing/> and they are located in D204. Also if you are new to writing in APA format, then refer to the following document:

<http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/asc/writing/essays-guides/documents/apa2010styleessay.pdf>

### **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 behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: Plagiarizing material from the internet and posting rude or personal attacks in discussions. When you are in doubt about any behavior, please consult your instructor. In addition, you may wish to review the general applicable rules of cyberspace, such as in the Core Rules of Netiquette. The instructor reserves the right to remove posted messages, and downgrade assessments as a result of these types of behaviors.

The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Vice President of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Vice President of Student Services.

[http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050\\_Student\\_Code.asp](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050_Student_Code.asp)

### **Incomplete**

If a student fails to complete all the required work for a course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). It is the student's responsibility for maintaining contact and adhering to the agreed-upon actions. Canvas class sites, and material, may not be directly accessible after the end of the quarter so it is important to make arrangements before the quarter ends. The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an "F"). There is a standard form that instructors have access to in their instructor's grade briefcase.

### **F Grade**

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

### **Final Examination Schedule**

Final examinations may involve proctored on-campus arranged exams or may be administrate completely online at the discretion of the instructor and in keeping with the stated policies provided in the course syllabus. Please refer to the syllabus at the start of the quarter for additional details and

contact the instructor directly for any clarifications. A student who is not in compliance with the scheduled format 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 in compliance with 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**

Academic Year: 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. Check the [enrollment calendar](#) for additional details. As with most enrollment deadlines, it is the student's responsibility to be aware of these dates and act accordingly.

### **Hardship Withdrawal (HW)**

Hardship Withdrawal indicates a withdrawal request made because of extenuating circumstances after the official withdrawal period is over. The student must contact the instructor to request this withdrawal option, or the faculty member may initiate the contact. No points are calculated into the grade-point average. 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 Resource Centre (DRC) <http://bellevuecollege.edu/drc/>. The office is located in B132 (telephone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110 email [drc@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:drc@bellevuecollege.edu)). Students will need to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DRC office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter or contact your online instructor directly by email. Students who require accommodation in a course should review the DRC 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 Resource Centre, and review those needs with the instructor as well.

If you are a student with a documented autism spectrum disorder, there is an additional access program available to you. Contact Autism Spectrum Navigators. Email and phone number are on the web page. ASN is located in the Library Media Center in D125.

The DRC office is located in B132 or you can call our reception desk at 425.564.2498. Deaf students can reach us by Skype: the address is DRCatBC (NOTE: There is no @ sign...it is actually DRCatBC). Please visit our website at Disability Resource Center for application information into our program and other helpful links.



**Course Schedule**

Any changes to this calendar will be posted to Canvas announcements.

<b>Day/Date</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Readings and Assignments Due</b>
M 4/4	Introductions & Syllabus	Obtain textbook and read syllabus carefully
T 4/5	What is Psychology? Subfields!	Arnett pp. 2-14, Appendix C
W 4/6	Scientific Method & Research Designs I	Myers Ch 1 pp. 15-31
Th 4/7	Scientific Method & Research Designs II	Myers Ch 1 pp. 15-31
F 4/8	Scientific Method & Research Designs III	<b>In-class syllabus quiz @ 7:30am</b> Myers Ch 1 pp. 15-31
M 4/11	Biology of Behavior I	Myers Ch 1 pp. 36-40
T 4/12	Biology of Behavior II	Myers Ch 2 pp. 46-70
W 4/13	Biology of Behavior III	Myers Ch 2 pp. 46-70
Th 4/14	Forum post expectations	
F 4/15	<b>NO CLASS</b>	<b>Chapter 1 Quiz due on Canvas @ 7:30am</b> <b>Chapter 2 Quiz due on Canvas @ 7:30am</b>
M 4/18	Consciousness & the Two-Track Mind I	Myers Ch 3 pp. 78-82
T 4/19	Consciousness & the Two-Track Mind II	Myers Ch 3 pp. 83-96
W 4/20	Consciousness & the Two-Track Mind III	Myers Ch 3 pp. 97-113
Th 4/21	Unit 1 Review	<b>Forum post due @ 7:30am</b>
F 4/22	<b>NO CLASS</b>	<b>Chapter 3 Quiz due on Canvas @ 7:30am</b>
M 4/25	<b>Exam 1 (Chs 1-3)</b>	
T 4/26	Classical Conditioning I	<b>Forum Responses due @ 7:30am</b> Myers Ch 7 pp. 237-245
W 4/27	Classical Conditioning II	Myers Ch 7 pp. 237-245
Th 4/28	Operant Conditioning I	Myers Ch 7 pp. 242-260
F 4/29	Operant Conditioning II	Myers Ch 7 pp. 242-260
M 5/2	Operant Conditioning III	Myers Ch 7 pp. 242-260
T 5/3	Observational Learning I	Myers Ch 7 pp. 261-267
W 5/4	Observational Learning II	Myers Ch 7 pp. 261-267
Th 5/5	Memory I	Myers Ch 8 pp. 271-301
F 5/6	Memory II	<b>Chapter 7 Quiz due on Canvas @ 7:30am</b> Myers Ch 8 pp. 271-301
M 5/9	Memory III	Myers Ch 8 pp. 271-301
T 5/10	Motivation	Myers Ch 10 pp. 351-371
W 5/11	Emotion	Myers Ch 10 pp. 372-386
Th 5/12	Unit 2 Review	<b>Forum post due @ 7:30am</b>
F 5/13	<b>Exam 2 (Chs 7, 8, 10)</b>	<b>Chapters 8 &amp; 10 Quizzes due on Canvas @ 7:30am</b>
M 5/16	Developmental Psychology I	<b>Forum Responses due @ 7:30am</b> Myers Ch 4 pp. 117-131

T 5/17	Developmental Psychology II	Myers Ch 4 pp. 132-151
W 5/18	Developmental Psychology III	Myers Ch 4 pp. 132-151
Th 5/19	Gender & Sexuality	Myers Ch 5 pp. 163-188
F 5/20	Social Psychology I	<b>Chapter 4 &amp; 5 Quizzes due on Canvas @ 7:30am</b> Myers Ch 13 pp. 458-465
M 5/23	Social Psychology II	Myers Ch 13 pp. 465-475
T 5/24	Social Psychology III	Myers Ch 13 pp. 465-475
W 5/25	I/O Psychology I	NOBA reading on Canvas; Powerpoint on Canvas
Th 5/26	I/O Psychology II	NOBA reading on Canvas Powerpoint on Canvas
F 5/27	Unit 3 Review	<b>Forum post due @ 7:30am</b> <b>Chapter 13 &amp; I/O Quizzes due on Canvas @ 7:30am</b>
M 5/30	<b>Holiday. NO CLASS!</b>	<b>None</b>
T 5/31	<b>Exam 3 (Chs 4, 5, 13, &amp; I/O)</b>	
W 6/1	Psychological Disorders I	<b>Forum Responses due @ 7:30am</b> Myers Ch 14 pp. 505-512
Th 6/2	Psychological Disorders II	Myers Ch 14 pp. 513-535
F 6/3	Psychological Disorders III	Myers Ch 14 pp. 536-537
M 6/6	Therapy I	Myers Ch 15 pp. 545-567
T 6/7	Therapy II	Myers Ch 15 pp. 545-567
W 6/8	Stress, Health, & Human Flourishing I	Myers Ch 11 pp. 389-410
Th 6/9	Stress, Health, & Human Flourishing II	Myers Ch 11 pp. 410-419
F 6/10	Unit 4 Review	<b>Forum post due @ 7:30am</b> <b>Quizzes 11, 14, &amp; 15 due @ 7:30am</b>
F 6/17 7:30- 9:20am	<b>Exam 4 (Chs 11, 14, &amp; 15)</b>	<b>Proof of Course evaluation completion uploaded to Canvas due @ 7:30am</b> <b>No late work accepted after 7:30am.</b>