



**PSYCHOLOGY 100 - General Psychology Syllabus**  
**Section LSP, Item 5421, Winter, 2013**

**TTh - 12:30-2:20 pm, F - 12:30-2.30 pm, Room R101**

Instructor: Michael M. Brislaw, MS, LMHC, Affiliate Psychology Instructor

E-mail: [mbrislaw@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:mbrislaw@bellevuecollege.edu)

Phone: (425) 564-2640 (It is much more efficient to contact me via email)

Office Location: A200F

Office Hours: TThF - 12:00-12:30 pm and TTh - 5:15-6:00 pm by Appointment

***Course Information***

**Course Outcomes**

Psychology 100 is an introductory survey course intended to introduce students to the major concepts, theories, and research findings in the field of psychology. Learning outcomes in Psychology 100 include:

A. Specific outcomes related to psychology as a discipline

1. Describe the purpose, comprehensive scope, and areas of application in the discipline of psychology
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the scientific process by applying, comparing, or critiquing various research methods used by psychologists
3. Recognize, compare, and contrast major theoretical perspectives used to explain human nature, and to guide psychological research and applications
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.
7. Demonstrate the application of psychological principles and findings to one's own life.

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

1. Critical Thinking, Creativity, and Problem Solving: In Introductory Psychology students must learn to apply critical thinking methods in assessing the validity of claims about human behavior. Students learn research design and apply scientific method in the process of identifying problems and issues. Students learn to evaluate credibility of sources based on objectivity and bias. Students demonstrate competency on a test basis.
13. Historical and Intellectual Perspectives: Students learn the contributions of the major Western thinkers in Psychological theory. They examine the cultural values of past and current decades and how the pattern of change influences behavior. Students discuss these issues in class and are tested on their understanding.
15. Cultural Diversity: Students learn about effective mental health functioning in society. Students learn about discrimination, bias and stereotyping through discussion and value clarification activities.
16. The Nature of Science: Students learn the scientific process of inquiry. They are familiar with research design, appropriate data collection and ultimately, discerning validity.
17. Science & the Natural World: Our students examine examples of adaptive characteristics leading to survival and how that can influence modern behavior. Students learn about the central nervous system and how the brain communicates through the process of neurochemistry.

## How Outcomes will be met

### Exams

There will be five multiple-choice unit exams, held at the end of each unit described in the Study Objectives. Please bring a scantron sheet and a #2 pencil to each exam. The tentative schedule for exams will be posted on MyBC.

### Make-up Exams

In the event of an absence, please contact me prior to the regularly scheduled exam time to schedule a time for the makeup exam.

### Homework

The instructor will distribute on MyBC a set of five (5) Critical Thinking Homework Exercises drawn from the chapters in the textbook. Over the course of the quarter, students must complete four (4) of these five (5) Critical Thinking Homework Exercises in order to receive a passing grade for the course. Each of these four Critical Thinking Homework Exercises will be worth 25 points, and will be due on the dates corresponding with the days of the same unit exams. Students may collaborate on these Homework Exercises, in groups of up to five students. One Insurance Point may be earned per week, up to three points per Exercise, for turning in an Exercise early. Note: It is not possible to earn more than the maximum 25 points for any Exercise using Insurance Points. Conversely, penalty points will be subtracted for each day late an Exercise is turned in (2 points per day). Note: This means an assignment turned in two weeks late would be worth no points. Homework Exercises must be typewritten.

### Optional Extra Credit Paper

Students wishing to insure a better grade may choose to do a paper on a pre-approved topic within the field of psychology. In order to foster creativity, a student must develop his/her own topic, and then get it approved by the instructor, prior to beginning the paper. Extra Credit Papers are due by March 12<sup>th</sup>. Such papers should consist of a title page, a blank page for comments, 3,000-4,000 word count of typewritten content, and a works cited page. Papers shorter than the 3,000 word count or longer than a 5,000 word count will not be accepted. The Optional Extra Credit Paper will be worth 40 points. One(1) Insurance Point may be earned per week, up to three (3) points, for turning in the Paper early. Note: It is not possible to earn more than the maximum 40 points for the Paper using Insurance Points. Conversely, penalty points will be subtracted for each day late an Exercise is turned in (4 points per day). Note: This means an assignment turned in on Friday of Finals week would be worth no points.

### Course Evaluation Extra Credit

Later in the quarter (dates will be posted on MyBC), students may earn five (5) extra credit points in the class by completing the course evaluation at the following web site:

<https://bellevuecollege.edu/ClassEval/default.aspx>

After completing the evaluation, each student will need to submit a JPG or PNG file of the screen that the evaluation has been completed, in order to obtain the extra credit points.

## Grading

Each of the Exams will contain 25 items and be worth 50 points. The lowest score for each person among the first four Exams will be thrown out, and not used in computing your final grade for the course. The remaining four Exams (the three of the first four, plus the last one) will account for two thirds of your course grade. The Homework Exercises are worth 25 points each and will count as the remaining one third of your course grade. A student must complete the four required Exams and the four required Homework Exercises in order to receive a passing grade for the course. Any points earned from the Optional Extra Credit Paper will be added to the final point total for that student after end of the quarter grade curves have been calculated.

Please be aware: There are NO non-passing grades at BCC, other than a Failing grade, which will result in 5 credits of 0.0 being factored into your cumulative grade point average. It is the student's responsibility to keep track of their grade for the class, and to Withdraw before the deadline of Friday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, if s/he feels his/her performance is unsatisfactory.

Exam and course grades will be assigned through curve grading scores, and then converting these scores into letter grade ranges, as follows:

				+ .9s	3.4		-.1s	2.4		-1.1s	1.4
			B+	+ .8s	3.3	C+	-.2s	2.3	D+	-1.2s	1.3
				+ .7s	3.2		-.3s	2.2		-1.3s	1.2
				+ .6s	3.1		-.4s	2.1		-1.4s	1.1
A	+1.5s	4.0	B	+ .5s	3.0	C	-.5s	2.0	D	-1.5s	1.0
	+1.4s	3.9		+ .4s	2.9		-.6s	1.9		-1.6s	0.9
	+1.3s	3.8		+ .3s	2.8		-.7s	1.8		-1.7s	0.8
	+1.2s	3.7		+ .2s	2.7		-.8s	1.7		-1.8s	0.7
A-	+1.1s	3.6	B-	+ .1s	2.6	C-	-.9s	1.6	D-	-1.9s	0.6
	+1.0s	3.5		X	2.5		-1.0s	1.5		-2.0s	0.5

Curve grading will be discussed during the first weeks of class, as part of the discussion of probability distributions and normal curves from the chapter one of our textbook.

In order for a student to request being given an Incomplete as a temporary grade for the quarter, the following conditions must first be met:

The student has completed a minimum of three (3) of the four (4) required exams for the course, with a passing grade, and

The student has completed a minimum of three (3) of the four (4) required homework exercises for the course, with a passing grade.

A student who qualifies for an Incomplete grade must submit a request in writing, preferably via email message. The instructor will print a PDF copy of the contract for his records, and will send a copy of the contract to the student.

The link to the College Grading Policy is located on page 10 of the Course Catalog and also on the web at:

[http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/3/3000\\_grading.asp](http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/3/3000_grading.asp).

## **Books and Materials Required**

### **Textbook**

Psychology, 9th Edition, by Myers

Book Companion Website: [http://bcs.worthpublishers.com/myers9e/#t\\_512463](http://bcs.worthpublishers.com/myers9e/#t_512463) (four underscores)

### **Study Objectives**

A list of objectives will be distributed on MyBC, identifying areas that will be covered on each of the exams. This list of objectives will be used for unit exams, and should be saved.

## **Instructor's Expectation**

### **Attendance/Participation**

Anything covered in the classroom presentations should be considered as testable information, unless otherwise specified. Some information that will be presented is not covered in your textbook. It is each student's responsibility to arrange with classmate(s) to get notes for presentations from which s/he has been absent. Participation is encouraged but not mandatory during classroom discussions. Actual class attendance and participation will not be used as factors in grading.

### **Classroom Learning Atmosphere**

Most class sessions will be a combination of instructor presentations and in-context class discussions. Discussions should be based from a scientific perspective, and information should be related to valid and reliable findings gathered from reputable scientific sources.

## **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.

<http://bellevuecollege.edu/about/goals/inclusion.asp>

## **Student Code**

“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 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 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.” The Student Code, Policy 2050, in its entirety is located at:

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

### **Student Conduct**

Student conduct expectations will be in compliance with policies described in the BC student handbook. Of particular note: Abusive and/or harassing language will not be tolerated towards other students, guests, or the instructor in the class. Also, cell phones and pagers should always be turned off prior to entering class.

If a student is found to be cheating on an exam, that exam score will automatically be graded at zero points, and will be counted as one of the four required grades during the grading process. Subsequent cheating on a second exam will prevent the student from completing four required exams, and will result in a Failing grade in the class.

If a student is found to be plagiarizing information on a homework exercise, that homework exercise score will automatically be graded at zero points, and will be counted as one of the four required grades during the grading process. Subsequent plagiarizing on a second homework exercise will prevent the student from completing four required homework exercises, and will result in a Failing grade in the class.

If a student is found to be plagiarizing information on the optional extra credit paper, that extra credit paper score will automatically be graded at zero points.

### **Bellevue College E-mail and access to MyBC**

All students registered for classes at Bellevue College are entitled to a network and e-mail account. Your student network account can be used to access your student e-mail, log in to computers in labs and classrooms, connect to the BC wireless network and log in to MyBC. To create your account, go to:

<https://bellevuecollege.edu/sam>

BC offers a wide variety of computer and learning labs to enhance learning and student success. Find current campus locations for all student labs by visiting the [Computing Services website](#).

### **Disability Resource Center (DRC)**

The Disability Resource Center serves students with a wide array of learning challenges and disabilities. If you are a student who has a disability or learning challenge for which you have documentation or have seen someone for treatment and if you feel you may need accommodations in order to be successful in college, please contact us as soon as possible. If you are a student with a documented autism spectrum disorder, there is a program of support available to you.

If you are a person who requires assistance in case of an emergency situation, such as a fire, earthquake, etc, please meet with your individual instructors to develop a safety plan within the first week of the quarter.

The DRC office is located in B 132 or you can call our reception desk at 425.564.2498. Deaf students can reach us by video phone at 425-440-2025 or by TTY at 425-564-4110. Please visit our website for application information into our program and other helpful links at:

<http://bellevuecollege.edu/drc>

### **Public Safety**

The Bellevue College (BC) Public Safety Department's well trained and courteous non-commissioned staff provides personal safety, security, crime prevention, preliminary investigations, and other services to the campus community, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Their phone number is 425.564.2400. The Public Safety website is your one-stop resource for campus emergency preparedness information, campus closure announcements and critical information in the event of an emergency. Public Safety is located in K100 and on the web at:

<http://bellevuecollege.edu/publicsafety/>

## Academic Calendar

The Bellevue College Academic Calendar is separated into two calendars. They provide information about holidays, closures and important enrollment dates such as the finals schedule.

- Enrollment Calendar - <http://bellevuecollege.edu/enrollment/calendar/deadlines/>. On this calendar you will find admissions and registration dates and important dates for withdrawing and receiving tuition refunds.
- College Calendar - <http://bellevuecollege.edu/enrollment/calendar/holidays/0910.asp>. This calendar gives you the year at a glance and includes college holidays, scheduled closures, quarter end and start dates, and final exam dates.

### Course Calendar

1/22/13 – 3/19/13

Prologue: Psychology's Roots; Psychology's Big Issues; Psychology's Perspectives; Psychology's Subfields; Studying Psychology

Chapter 1: The Need for Psychological Science; Description; Correlation; Experimentation; Statistical Reasoning; Frequently Asked Questions About Psychology

Chapter 2: Neural Communication; The Nervous System; The Brain; The Endocrine System

Chapter 3: Waking Consciousness; Sleep and Dreams; Hypnosis; Drugs and Consciousness; Near-Death Experiences

Chapter 4: Brief Overview

Chapter 5: Prenatal Development and the Newborn; Infancy and Childhood; Adolescence; Adulthood; Reflections on the Major Developmental Issues

Chapter 7: Classical Conditioning, Operant Conditioning; Learning by Observation

Chapter 8: The Phenomenon of Memory; Encoding: Getting Information In; Storage: Retaining Information; Retrieval: Getting Information Out; Forgetting; Memory Construction; Improving Memory

Chapter 11: Motivational Concepts; Hunger; Sexual Motivation; The Need to Belong; Achievement Motivation

Chapter 12: Stress and Illness; Promoting Health

Chapter 14: Perspectives on Psychological Disorders; Schizophrenia; Mood Disorders; Anxiety Disorders; Dissociative Disorders; Somatoform Disorders; Personality Disorders

Chapter 16: Social Thinking; Social Influence; Social Relations

2/15 Last Day to Withdraw

3/19 Last Unit Exam (Chapters 14 & 16), 11:30 am-1:20 pm

3/19 Special Presentation on William Perry's Theory of Intellectual and Ethical Development in College Age Individuals

### Exam Dates

Exam dates, other than the last unit exam date, will be announced in class, and posted on MyBC. Class discussions, and potential days when class will not be held (e.g., school closure due to weather) prevent exact exam dates from being known ahead of time.

## Expansion

Information about Bellevue College's copyright guidelines can be found at:  
<http://bellevuecollege.edu/lmc/links/copyright.html>

A good resource for Plagiarism is the Writing Lab:  
<http://bellevuecollege.edu/writinglab/Plagiarism.html>

## Advising

In-house advising is available for the Social Sciences with Deanne Eschbach in D110C.

## Division Statements

### PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION Winter 2013

#### **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 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 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 and at

[http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050P\\_Student\\_Code\\_\(Procedures\).asp](http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050P_Student_Code_(Procedures).asp)

#### **Email Communication**

Email Communication with instructors must be done through student email accounts only. Instructors cannot communicate with students about their course work or grades through student's personal email accounts.

#### **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 BC 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 Resource Centre (DRC) office located in B132 (telephone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110), to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DRC office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter. Students who require accommodation in class 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.

**Distribution of Grades**

Grades will not be posted in the Social Science Division or in faculty offices, and program assistants or coordinators will not give out grades. Students should access their grades through the BC 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 College Student Discipline and Appeals Procedure (the right to due process) which you may pursue. Contact the office of Division Chair (D110), the Dean of Student Services (B231A) or the Associated Student Body (C212) for information regarding the appeals process.*