

**Syllabus  
Psyc& 100 On-line  
Spring Quarter, 2012**

**Instructor: Dr. Helen Taylor**

**E-mail: Use Vista e-mail in this course**

**(if Vista is down, use [htaylor@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:htaylor@bellevuecollege.edu) )**

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**FOCUS:**

Psychology 100 is a general psychology survey course designed to introduce students to the major concepts, theories, and research findings in the field of psychology. Through reading, lectures, discussion, and assignments, students will be exposed to the wide range of research issues addressed by psychologists, and hopefully will gain an appreciation of the importance of psychological research in its application to human life.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to:

- Describe the purpose, scope, and applications of the field of psychology
- Demonstrate knowledge of basic scientific principles by applying research methods used by psychologists.
- Recognize, compare and contrast varying theoretical perspective used to explain psychological phenomenon.
- Identify the historical and present-day contributions of major psychologist.
- Define important psychological terms, concepts, processes and principles.
- Apply critical thinking to "commonsense" ideas and unsubstantiated claims.
- Apply to one's own life some of the findings and principles described by psychologists.

**General Education Outcomes:**

Psyc& 100 meets the following general education outcomes:

**Critical Thinking, Creativity, and Problem Solving:** Introductory Psychology students must learn to apply critical thinking methods in assessing the validity of claims about human behavior.

**Historical and Intellectual Perspectives:** Students learn the contributions of the major Western thinkers in Psychological theory.

**Cultural Diversity:** Students learn about effective mental health functioning in society and learn about discrimination, bias and stereotyping through discussion and homework activities.

**The Nature of Science:** Students learn the scientific process of inquiry.

**Science and the Natural World:** 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.

#### **TEXT:**

Myers, D. G. (2011). *Exploring Psychology*, Eighth Edition. New York, NY: Worth. (new texts may come with a shrink-wrapped CD, but it's optional).

Text Website: <http://www.worthpublishers.com/myers/> .

There are good study tools like practice quizzes and flashcards on this site.

Film Website: <http://www.learner.org/resources/series138.html>

This is where you'll find the films associated with each chapter.

### **REQUIREMENTS**

#### **WEEKLY DISCUSSION FORUM**

The discussion forum is the heart of the course. Students will be responding to my questions and responding to other students, just as they would in a "live" discussion. The discussion sessions will run from Monday to Thursday every week. All discussions close at 11 p.m. on Thursday. Specifically, you are expected to post four times in the discussion, twice on Monday and/or Tuesday and twice on Wednesday and/or Thursday. See the "Course Structure and Expectations" for more details on how the discussion will work. The grade for this portion of the class will be a combination of points for participating (20 points for each discussion) and points for the quality of participation (40 points to be assigned at the end of the quarter).

## **QUIZZES**

There will be 10 weekly quizzes given on-line, at the end of the week following our coverage of the material. Quizzes will be based on the assigned reading, the weekly overview, and the discussions from the week. Each quiz will have 30 multiple choice questions, worth 2 points each, to be answered on-line in a limited time period. Quizzes will be available to take from Friday at 8 a.m. until Saturday at 11 p.m. Once you open each quiz, you will have 30 minutes to complete it. There will be no make-up quizzes allowed, but your lowest quiz score will be dropped. The top nine quiz scores will be doubled (9 x 60), for a total of 540 possible points, or a little more than half of all points for the quarter.

## **ASSIGNMENT**

Students will choose **one** out of three possible written assignments. The assignments selected will be due on the dates noted below and on the calendar. Assignment 1 requires the application of the developmental theories of Piaget and Erikson to a student-designed summer camp for kids. Assignment 2 asks students to take one of the topics from one of the videos we'll be viewing and updating the information from the video using credible sources. Assignment 3 asks students to come up with an experimental design to test one of eight hypotheses in social psychology. Complete details on each assignment will be published in the relevant units.

Assignment 1: Summer Camp Due Monday, April 23

Assignment 2: Update a Video Due Monday, May 14

Assignment 3: Experimental Design Due Monday, June 4

Each assignment will require a short paper in word document form, 4-5 pages double spaced, due by 11 p.m. in the assignment tool of the class. The assignment will be worth 100 points. Assignments will be accepted one day late only with a 5 point deduction. Doing more than one assignment will not result in extra credit, nor can you do extra assignments to improve the grade for the first assignment. .

## **FINAL EXAM**

A comprehensive final exam will be given on-line at the end of the quarter (see the calendar for date and time). This exam will include multiple-choice and matching questions, and will be worth 100 points or 10% of the grade. A study guide will be posted well in advance of the final.

## PERSONAL INTRODUCTION

You will be asked to post a personal introduction in the Getting Started section of the class; see "Introductory Assignments." This will be worth 10 points.

## SELF-ASSESSMENT

At the end of the quarter, you will be asked to submit an assessment of your participation in the discussion portion of the class. This will be worth 10 points.

## GRADING:

Grades will be determined on the basis of points earned, rather than on a curve. Possible points for each part of the class are as follows:

Discussion Participation	10 weekly discussions @ 20 pts. each + 40 points for overall quality	=	240
Quizzes	10 quizzes @ 60 points each, minus lowest score	=	540
Assignments	1 out of 3 @ 100 points	=	100
Final Exam		=	100
Personal Introduction		=	10
Self-Assessment		=	10
	Total	=	1000

## FINAL GRADE BREAKDOWN

A	940-1000	C+	770-799
A-	900-939	C	740-769
B+	870-899	C-	700-739
B	840-869	D+	670-699
B-	800-839	D	600-669

## QUARTERLY CALENDAR: READING/ FILM SCHEDULE

All films are available on-line from the Annenberg Series "Discovering Psychology" (Updated Version) at

<http://www.learner.org/resources/series138.html>

Week 1/ Unit 1	Ch. 1 Thinking Critically with Psychological Science Films: Past, Present, and Promise; Understanding Research
Week 2/ Unit 2	Ch. 2 The Biology of Mind  Ch. 4 Nature, Nurture, and Human Diversity (p. 105-112, 117-126) Films: The Behaving Brain; The Responsive Brain
Week 3/ Unit 3	Ch. 5 Developing Through the Life Span Films: The Developing Child; Maturing and Aging
Week 4/ Unit 4	Ch. 6 Sensation and Perception (p. 205-220)  Ch. 3 Consciousness and the Two-Track Mind Films: Sensation and Perception; The Mind Awake and Asleep
Week 5/ Unit 5	Ch. 7 Learning Film: Learning
Week 6/ Unit 6	Ch. 8 Memory Film: Remembering and Forgetting
Week 7/ Unit 7	Ch. 9 Intelligence (p. 313-334)  Ch. 10 Motivation Film: Testing and Intelligence; Motivation and Emotion
Week 8/ Unit 8	Ch. 11 Emotions, Stress, and Health Film: Health, Mind, and Behavior
Week 9/ Unit 9	Ch. 13 Psychological Disorders Ch. 14 Therapy Films: Psychopathology; Psychotherapy
Week 10/ Unit 10	Ch. 15 Social Psychology Films: The Power of the Situation; Constructing Social Reality

#### ONLINE PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION

Revised Spring 2009

#### Bellevue Community 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 an online course, you will be expressing ideas through the medium of the course site rather than face to face in the classroom. In that case, these expectations refer to the courtesy with which you communicate with one another through e-mails and e-discussions. Part of this respect involves professional behavior towards the instructor, colleagues, and the class itself.

#### Cheating, Stealing, and Plagiarizing\* and Inappropriate Behavior

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 Community 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 Community 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, [link to Student Code](#).

#### 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. Vista 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 administrated 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

College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter during the standard academic year (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course. Check [Enrollment Calendar Deadlines, Refunds/Withdrawals](#), 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)

From page 9 of the current course catalog, [2008-2009 online catalog](#), HW 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 contact the Disability Resource Centre (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.

### Distribution of Grades

Students should access their grades through the BC Web site. Any returned material should be accessed prior to the end of the quarter. After the end of the quarter, Vista class sites may not be accessible by students. Individual instructors may use non-Vista tools for recording and maintaining the students' progress. Questions about grades assigned should be initially directed to your instructor.

### Submission and Returning of Papers, Assignments and Assessments:

Specific guidelines for taking exams and submitting assignments are published in the syllabus. Please contact instructor at the start of the quarter for any clarifications.

### Technical Assistance

Vista-related or technical issues should be referred to Distance Education, [link to Distance Education web resources](#). You may also email them at [landerso@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:landerso@bellevuecollege.edu) or call 425-564-2438 (1-877-641-2712). Vista tutorial help and basic instructions can be found at <http://bellevuecollege.edu/distance/studentguide/>

*\*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 (D110), the Vice President of Student Services (B231A) or the Associated Student Body (C212) for information regarding the appeals process.*