

## Syllabus Psyc& 100 On-line

**Instructor: Dr. Helen Taylor**

**Email: Use Vista email in this course**

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

**Office: B100E**

**Office Hours: MW 11:30-12:20, TTh 9:30-11:00**

**Mailbox: Social Science Division Office (D110)**

**Phone: 425-564-2328 (Voicemail) 425-564-2331 (Social Science Division)**

### **FOCUS:**

Psychology 100 is an 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. (2008). *Exploring Psychology*, Seventh 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 assigned films to review.

## **REQUIREMENTS**

### **WEEKLY DISCUSSION FORUM**

The discussion forum is the heart of the course. Students will be responding to my questions, responding to other students, and asking questions of their own, just as they would in a "live" discussion. The discussion sessions will run from Monday to Friday every week (except the first week). All discussions close at 11 p.m. on Friday. Specifically, you are expected to participate in the discussion at least three times a week on at least three different days, and read all student posts. 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 (up to 10 points a week) and points for the quality of participation (up to 30 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, 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 the quiz, you will have 30 minutes to complete it. There will be no make-up quizzes given, but your lowest quiz score will be dropped. The top nine quiz scores will be doubled ( $9 \times 30 \times 2$ ), for a total of 540 possible points, or a little more than half of all points for the quarter.

### **FILM REVIEWS**

Each week you'll be asked to view and write a review on a 30-minute film from the Discovering Psychology series, available free from the Annenberg Foundation. The reviews will include the main themes of the films, connections to text material, and your personal response. The reviews will be worth up to 10 points each or 10% of the total grade.

### **RESEARCH PROJECT**

The major project for this quarter will be the design, execution, and write-up of a psychological experiment. This will involve setting up a "real-life" situation, varying some element of the situation, and measuring the response. The specific assignment will require the submission of a proposal, the collection of data, and a write-up due near the end of the quarter. Specific instructions will be posted when the project is assigned. This project is worth 100 points, or 10% of the final grade. The proposal for this project is worth an additional 10 points.

### **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.

## 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 questions 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.

## 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 @ 10 pts. each + 30 points for overall quality	=	130
Quizzes	10 quizzes @ 30 points each, minus lowest score, x 2	=	540
Film Reviews	10 reviews @ 10 pts. each	=	100
Research Project		=	100
Final Exam		=	100
Personal Introduction		=	10
Research proposal		=	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>  
When more than one film is listed, choose one per week

Week 1/ Unit 1 (First full week)	Ch. 1 Thinking Critically with Psychological Science Films: Past, Present, and Promise; Understanding Research
Week 2/ Unit 2	Ch. 2 Neuroscience and Behavior Ch. 3 Nature and Nurture of Biology (p. 75-80, 83-89) Films: The Behaving Brain; The Responsive Brain
Week 3/ Unit 3	Ch. 4 The Developing Person Films: The Developing Child; Language Development; Maturing and Aging
Week 4/ Unit 4	Ch. 5 Sensations and Perception (p. 165-182) Ch. 6 States of Consciousness 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. 315-336) 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 Film: 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 Community 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 BCC, 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 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) [link to 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 BCC 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.*