

Syllabus Psych. 100 On-line

Instructor: Dr. Helen Taylor

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FOCUS:

Psychology 100 is an introductory 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:

Psych.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).

New texts come with an access code for Psych Online. *If you purchased a used text, you will need to purchase a Psych Online access code in the BCC Bookstore.*

Optional study guide.

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 (starting the first full week). All discussions close at 11 p.m. on Friday (except the last week of the quarter). 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 15 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 9 weekly quizzes given on-line, at the end of each week. 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. (or the date indicated on the calendar). Once you open the quiz, you will have 25 minutes to complete it. There will be no make-up quizzes given, but your lowest quiz score will be dropped. The top eight quiz scores will be doubled ($8 \times 30 \times 2$), for a total of 480 possible points, or almost half of all points for the quarter.

PSYCH-ONLINE ACTIVITIES

Each week you will also be asked to select 3 interactive activities from "Psych-Online," a web-based resource that accompanies the text. The most useful activities will be recommended, but you will be able to select any appropriate activities related to that week's reading that interest you, including tutorials, critical thinking activities, and simulated demonstrations. To earn credit, you will need to write a brief 3-6 paragraph summary of what you did and what you learned from each activity and post it in the unit by 11 p.m. Wednesday of each week. Each write-up of your 3 activities will be worth up to 10 points per week. No points will be assigned for late posts.

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.

FINAL EXAM

A comprehensive final exam will be given on-line at the end of the quarter (see the calendar). This exam will have 100 multiple-choice and matching questions and one 10-point essay question, and will include questions from the entire quarter as well as on the last unit. 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.

FIRST DAY ASSIGNMENT

You will be asked to answer an essay question the first day of class to establish a baseline of your understanding.

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.

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 @ 15 pts. each + 30 points for overall quality	=	180
Quizzes	9 quizzes @ 30 points each, minus lowest score, x 2	=	480
Psych Online Write-ups	10 weeks @ 10 points each	=	100
Research Project	Includes submitting proposal, response to another student	=	100
Final Exam		=	110
Personal Introduction		=	10
First Day Assignment		=	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 SCHEDULE

Week 1/ Unit 1	
	Ch. 1 Thinking Critically with Psychological Science
Week 2/ Unit 2	
	Ch. 2 Neuroscience and Behavior

	Ch. 3 Nature and Nurture of Biology (p. 75-80, 83-89)
Week 3/ Unit 3	
	Ch. 4 The Developing Person
Week 4/ Unit 4	
	Ch. 5 Sensations and Perception (p. 165-182)
	Ch. 6 States of Consciousness
Week 5/ Unit 5	
	Ch. 7 Learning
Week 6/ Unit 6	
	Ch. 8 Memory
Week 7/Unit 7	
	Ch. 9 Intelligence (p. 315-336)
	Ch. 10 Motivation
Week 8/ Unit 8	
	Ch. 11 Emotions, Stress, and Health
Week 9/ Unit 9	
	Ch. 13 Psychological Disorders
	Ch. 14 Therapy
Week 10/ Unit 10	
	Ch. 15 Social Psychology

PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION

Revised Winter 2006

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 Community 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 Community 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.

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, or receive the default grade of "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 BCC 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 Support Services (DSS) office located in B132 (telephone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110), to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DSS office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter. Students who require accommodation in class should review the DSS 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 Support Services, 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 secretaries will not give out grades. Students should access their grades through the BCC 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.

**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 Dean of Student Services (B231A) or the Associated Student Body (C212) for information regarding the appeals process.*