

General Psychology

Psychology 100 5400

Spring, 2018

General Course Information

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Office Hours: M-W, 3-5 in Eastern WA University House 1
Class Meets: M-F, 7:30-8:20 am in A138



Text: *Psychology in Everyday Life*, 3rd edition by David Myers & C. Nathan DeWall

This is what the cover of your text should look like.

Course Description

General Psychology broadly surveys the knowledge and methods of the discipline of Psychology. This course will emphasize the development of critical thinking skills, and familiarity with scientific research and reasoning.

Course Overview

This is an introductory-level course, which will survey most of the major issues in the field of psychology. The major goals for this course are:

1. Examine how human behavior is studied and analyzed by psychologists.
2. Gain greater insight into the behavior of ourselves and others.
3. Develop familiarity with the theories describing human behavior.
4. Familiarize ourselves with the symptoms of psychological disorders and the various treatment options.
5. Develop critical thinking skills and prepare ourselves to be cautious and analytical consumers of information that proclaims to be scientific or based on some form of research.

Course Outcomes

Upon completion of Psychology 100, students will be able to:

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

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

8. Use cognitive and creative skills:
 - a. Analyzing (identifying and evaluating problems)
 - b. Synthesizing (interpreting situations, drawing conclusions, and making connections)
9. Improving communications skills:
 - a. Doing research (gathering and documenting information)
 - b. Delivering one or more written, oral and/or visual presentations with formal documentation
10. Applying personal skills: Understanding the influence of stress, nutrition, and life style on personal health and performance

Course Requirements

Participation in Demonstrations:

Several times over the quarter, I will conduct participatory demonstrations. You will earn 5 points for each demonstration, up to the minimum required number of 10 demonstrations. If you are present for more than 10 demonstrations, you will earn 1 extra credit point for each additional demonstration.

Projects:

You will complete five projects, and submit them to the proper Project Dropbox in Canvas by 11:59 pm on Tuesday of the week that they are due. Each project will be worth 25 points.

Preparing Projects:

- You will select one project from the list of several.
- It is NOT permitted to do more than one project from one list, as a substitute for doing another project on a different list. I have designed the projects to supplement the topics that we will be discussing as you concurrently work on the project. Therefore, you must complete them in order.
- The projects will be graded based on three criteria.
 - **Accuracy.** Each project topic requires some factual content. You will lose points for inaccuracies.
 - **Completeness.**
 - You must answer all parts of the assignment that you choose. For example, if a project asks you to solve a problem and then describe your problem-solving strategy, you must do both of those things.
 - Each project has its own unique set of expectations. You'll know that you've completed the project fully when you've answered all of the issues that I raised in the topic's question.
 - A complete project will require **no fewer than 150 words**.
 - **Timeliness.** Projects are not accepted late, under any circumstances.
 - The dropbox will literally **lock you out** when the deadline passes, so be prepared to push the "submit" button no later than 8:29 am on the due date.
 - As a deadline passes, the "submit" button will disappear.
 - Do NOT submit a late project to the next project's dropbox, as that will prevent you from being able to submit the next project to that box, and it won't earn any credit anyway.
 - Do NOT send your project to me via email if you miss the deadline. I will return it unread.
 - I will deduct 20% (5 pts) for spelling errors that should have been picked up by spell check, or grammar errors that are egregious enough that grammar check should have picked them up.
- **Psychological Scales:** In some Projects, I will include a personality scale or other sort of psychological measure for you to complete and score. Your responses on such scales are meant to be kept anonymous, so DO NOT submit your responses or scores to me. All I need is your responses to the questions that I ask about the scale.

Submitting Projects:

You will submit your projects to the Project X Drop box, where X represents the number of the project you're submitting.

- Create your project in your own software, and save it to your computer.
- To submit your project as an attached file:
 - Save your work as a .doc **or** .docx **or** .rtf **or** .txt file.
 - Click on Project X in the Assignments button.
 1. Click on the "Submit Assignment" button on the right side of the screen.
 2. Under the "File Upload" tab, click on the "Browse" button, find your file, and click "Submit Assignment."
- If you can't save in .doc or .docx format:
 - Click on Project X in the Assignments button.
 1. Click on the "Submit Assignment" button on the right side of the screen.
 2. Click on the "Text Entry" tab.
 3. Copy and paste your work into the message box.
 4. Click "Submit Assignment."

The Drop Boxes will limit your access automatically.

- You can only submit one posting to each Drop Box, so make sure that you're submitting your work to the correct drop box.
- The Drop Box will automatically lock when the deadline passes, so you can't submit your work late.

When will I read the projects?

- On the morning after the due date, I will begin reading the projects.
- I will NOT reply to queries about whether I received your project or not. I will send you an email with feedback about your project once I've read it. If you have a question about a project topic, please make sure to put the words "question about" in the subject line of your email to me.

I will return your graded project in the dropbox, and will send an email with your points and my feedback. The points and feedback will also appear in the Grades button.

Exams:

Midterms

There will be three midterms, on the dates indicated on the calendar. They will occur in class, at the start of our class session. Each exam will be allotted 50 minutes, and will cover the material since the last exam.

- There are no make-ups or early administrations of midterms. If you must miss a midterm, you can make-up for it by taking the OPTIONAL cumulative final.
- Midterms will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions. Each midterm will be worth 50 pts.

OPTIONAL Cumulative Final

There will be an OPTIONAL cumulative final on the date scheduled by the college (see course calendar). It will cover all of the chapters you've been tested on throughout the quarter. It will consist of 100 multiple choice questions.

Materials: You will need a scantron form and a #2 pencil for all Exams. Neither of these materials will be provided, so be sure to bring them with you. You may use the backs of used scantrons to save on scantrons.

Student Rights and Responsibilities:

Attendance:

I expect that you will attend lectures. There is a great deal of information presented in the text, and the lectures will serve to narrow that information down. Also, there will be a large number of demonstrations, film clips, and participatory activities that will enhance your experience. Most importantly, I will administer pop quizzes for extra credit; you must be in class when I begin the quiz to earn any extra credit.

Academic integrity

It is assumed that all students will maintain the highest academic integrity. Cheating of any sort, including copying on exams, falsifying records, plagiarism (e.g. copying and pasting from a website, collaborating on tests), etc. will not be tolerated, and suspected cheaters will be reported to the Dean of Academic Education.

No electronic devices (cell phones, mp3/iPods, dictionaries, laptops, etc) will be allowed during lectures or exams.

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 will be provided with a reasonable alternative opportunity to complete such academic responsibilities. It is the obligation of students to provide me with reasonable notice of the dates of religious holidays on which they will be absent, at least one week before the planned missed day.

College Anti-Discrimination Statement

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.

Confidentiality and Mandatory Reporting

As an instructor, one of my responsibilities is to help create a safe learning environment on our campus. It is my goal that you feel able to share information related to your life experiences in classroom discussions, in your written work, and in our one-on-one meetings. I will seek to keep information you share private to the greatest extent possible. However, I am required to share with the Title IX Coordinator any and all information regarding sexual assault and other forms of sexual misconduct (e.g. dating violence, domestic violence, stalking) that may have occurred on campus or that impacts someone on campus. Students may speak to someone confidentially by contacting the BC Counseling Center at (425) 564-2212. The Title IX Office can be contacted at 425-564-2441 and more information can be found at www.bellevuecollege.edu/titleix/.

Incompletes and Hardship Withdrawals

These options are reserved for students who, through unforeseeable circumstances, cannot complete a course that they were passing. If you wish to request one of these grading options, the following criteria must be met:

1. You are passing the class at the time of the request.
2. You must make your request in writing, explaining the circumstances and including any documentation.
3. In the case of an Incomplete, the circumstances must be acute. That is, they must be something that prevents completion of the course within the current quarter, but that would be resolved in time for the student to complete the course work within the next quarter.
4. In the case of a Hardship Withdrawal, the circumstances must be ongoing, such that the student would not be able to complete the course work within the following quarter. In other words, a student could not request a hardship withdrawal and then retake the course the following quarter.
5. Qualifying circumstances for Incompletes and Hardship Withdrawals are limited to:
 - a. Death in the immediate family (spouse, child, parent) documented by a funeral director's note.
 - b. Significant illness or injury (documented by a doctor's note) of self or a person for whom the student is primarily responsible.
 - c. Relocation outside of the Bellevue College area.

Grade Distribution

A:	95-100%	C+:	77-79%
A-:	90-94%	C:	74-76%
B+:	87-89%	C-:	70-73%
B:	84-86%	D+:	67-69%
B-:	80-83%	D:	60-66%
		F:	<=59%

Grade Breakdown

Demonstrations:	10 @ 5 pts	=	50
Exams:	3 @ 50 pts	=	150
Projects:	5 @ 25 pts	=	125
Total:			325

Reading Assignments:

Week	Date	Chapter
1	4/2-6	1: Thinking Critically with Psychological Science
2	4/9-13	2: The Biology of Mind
	4/13	Project 1 due in Canvas by 7:30 am
3	4/16-19	3: The Developing Person
	4/20	Exam 1 (Chapters 1 - 3) 7:30-8:20
4	4/23-4/25	5: Sensation and Perception
	4/26-27	NO CLASS: Instructor at conference
	4/27	Project 2 due in Canvas by 7:30 am
5	4/30-5/4	6: Learning
		7: Memory
6	5/7-11	8: Thinking/Language/Intelligence
	5/11	Project 3 due in Canvas by 7:30 am
7	5/14	Exam 2 (Chapters 6 - 8) 7:30-9:20
	5/15-18	11: Personality (9:30-10:20)
8	5/21-25	12: Social Psychology
	5/25	Project 4 due in Canvas by 7:30 am
9	5/28	NO CLASS: Memorial Day
	5/29-6/1	13: Psychological Disorders
10	6/4-8	14: Therapy
	6/8	Project 5 due in Canvas by 7:30 am
11	6/11	14: Therapy, cont'd
	6/12	Exam 3 (Chapters 11 - 14)
	6/15	OPTIONAL Cumulative Final Exam @ 7:30-9:20 am (Chapters 1-3, 6-8, 11-14)