

PSYC 110: Introduction to Psychology Fall, 2016

T/R 2-3:15PM @ D217

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Office Hours: MW 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM or by appointment

Required Text and Materials

Myers, D. G., & Dewall, C. N. (2016). Exploring Psychology. New York, NY: Worth Publishers

Course Description

This course is designed to present the fundamentals of psychological science to you. Psychology is a vast field of study that covers all aspects of our mind and behavior. Using the scientific method, psychology seeks to explain why we think, feel and act the way we do. This course will cover the major schools of thoughts, theories of the discipline. In addition, this course will explain the different branches of psychology, and give you a better understanding of where the discipline will lead to.

Course Objectives

By the end of this semester, students should become familiar to 1) the major theories of psychology; 2) the scientific method; 3) APA style writing; 4) different branches of psychology; and 5) future education & employment opportunities in psychology.

Grading Procedure: Total (500 pts.)

| 3 Exams (100 pts. each) | 300 pts. |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| 4 Papers (25 pts. each) | 100 pts. |
| 10 In class discussion (10 pts. each) | 100 pts. |

Letter Grades (percentages)

| A: | 100-94 | C+: | 79-77 |
|-----|--------|-----|-------|
| A-: | 93-90 | C: | 76-74 |
| B+: | 89-87 | C-: | 73-70 |
| B: | 86-84 | D+: | 69-67 |
| B-: | 80-83 | D: | 66-60 |
| | | | |

Assignments and Assessments

Exams:

4 exams will be given throughout the semester to assess your understanding of course content. It is imperative that you do all of the readings in your textbook, as not all of the information you will be tested on is provided in the power point notes. All exams will consist of 50 questions (true/false and multiple choice) worth 2 points each.

Papers:

You are required to write four papers which will help you reflect on course-relevant topics and broaden your understanding of psychology. They will be approximately 1-2 pages in length and follow the APA style (1 inch margin, double-spaced, and in 12-point Time New Roman font). Your name and assignment title must only be on the cover page (which is not counted as the body). Please proofread before submitting! Points will be lost for spelling and grammar issues.

In class discussion:

Part of this class will be focusing on discussion of interesting, and/or controversial topics and case studies in Psychology. Your participation is crucial in understanding the full content of this course. I will randomly collect in class discussion reports throughout the semester.

Class Policies

Attendance: No formal attendance will be recorded for this course. However, it is strongly recommended for students to attend every lecture to receive the full benefit of this course. In addition, absent individuals are expected to obtain lecture notes and information on their own (e.g., from class mates).

Makeups: Makeup opportunities for late/missed assignments will only be granted for valid reasons that can be substantiated by students.

In Class Technology: No technology is permitted during exams, the only exception is when student has prior approval from the Disability Services office or other pertinent units on campus. Laptops are permitted for note taking purposes during lectures.

Disability: In accordance with the University policy, if a student has a documented disability and requires accommodations to obtain equal access in this course, he or she should notify the instructor at the beginning of the semester and make this need known. Students with disabilities must verify their eligibility through Disability Services (DS: LRC 609, 715-346-3365). To learn more about DS, go to: http://www.uwsp.edu/disability/Pages/default.aspx. To learn more about the university's policies/procedures, go to:

http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Documents/RightsRespons/ADA/rightsADAPolicyInfo.pdf

Professionalism: The instructor and students in this course will adhere to the University's general Codes of Conduct defined in the University's Community Rights and Responsibilities. The Code of Academic Conduct (Academic Honesty Policy) requires that students do not engage in academic dishonesty. For details, refer to:

- Community Rights and Responsibilities (http://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Documents/CommunityRights.pdf)
- Academic Misconduct Webpage (http://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Pages/Academic-Misconduct.aspx)

<u>My Policy</u>: Be respectful to yourself, your fellow students and your instructor throughout the semester. Disruptive/disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated.

Tentative Schedule

| Wks | Dates | Class Topic | Assignments |
|-------|-------|-------------------------|------------------|
| 1 | 9/6 | Syllabus + Introduction | Paper 1 Assigned |
| | 9/8 | Ch1 | |
| 2 | 9/13 | Ch2 | |
| | 9/15 | | |
| 3 | 9/20 | Ch3 | |
| | 9/22 | Ch4 | |
| 4 | 9/27 | Ch4-cont. | |
| | 9/29 | | Paper 1 Due |
| 5 | 10/4 | Ch5 | Paper 2 Assigned |
| | 10/6 | | |
| 6 | 10/11 | Review | |
| | 10/13 | Exam 1 | |
| 7 | 10/18 | Ch6 | |
| | 10/20 | | |
| 8 | 10/25 | Ch7&8 | |
| | 10/27 | | Paper 2 Due |
| 9 | 11/1 | Ch9 | Paper 3 Assigned |
| | 11/3 | | |
| 10 | 11/8 | Review | |
| | 11/10 | Exam 2 | |
| 11 | 11/15 | Ch10 | |
| | 11/17 | | |
| 12 | 11/22 | Online Activities | |
| | 11/24 | Happy Thanksgiving | |
| 13 | 11/29 | Ch11 | Paper 3 Due |
| | 12/1 | | Paper 4 Assigned |
| 14 | 12/6 | Ch14 &15 | |
| | 12/8 | | |
| 15 | 12/13 | Ch12 &13 | |
| | 12/15 | | |
| Final | 12/16 | 10:15-12:15PM | Paper 4 Due |

^{*}The instructor reserves the right to amend this syllabus as deemed necessary and will communicate any changes to the class.