Course Syllabus
Psyc 2301 - General Psychology

Revision Date: 1/11/17

Catalog Description: General Psychology is a survey of the major psychological topics, theories and approaches to the scientific study of behavior and mental processes.

Lecture hours = 3, Lab hours = 0

Prerequisites: TSI Reading Complete

Semester Credit Hours: 3
Lecture Hours per Week: 3
Lab Hours per Week: 0
Contact Hours per Semester: 48
State Approval Code: 4201015125

Core Components and Related College Student Learning Outcomes
This course counts as part of the academic requirements of the Panola College Core Curriculum and an Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree. □ Yes  □ No: If no, skip to Instructional Goals.

The items below marked with an X reflect the state-mandated outcomes for this course IF this is a CORE course:

- Critical Thinking Skills – to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, evaluation and syntheses of information
  - CT1: Generate and communicate ideas by combining, changing, or reapplying existing information
  - CT2: Gather and assess information relevant to a question
  - CT3: Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information

- Communication Skills – to include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication
  - CS1: Develop, interpret, and express ideas through written communication
  - CS2: Develop, interpret, and express ideas through oral communication
  - CS3: Develop, interpret, and express ideas through visual communication

- Empirical and Quantitative Skills – to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
  - EQS1: Manipulate and analyze numerical data and arrive at an informed conclusion
  - EQS2: Manipulate and analyze observable facts and arrive at an informed conclusion

- Teamwork – to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal
  - TW1: Integrate different viewpoints as a member of a team
TW2: Work with others to support and accomplish a shared goal

Personal Responsibility – to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making

PR1: Evaluate choices and actions and relate consequences to decision-making

Social Responsibility – to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

SR1: Demonstrate intercultural competence

SR2: Identify civic responsibility

SR3: Engage in regional, national, and global communities

Instructional Goals and Purposes:

The purpose of this course is to... To introduce a general study of the field of psychology, covering the board schools of thought and major issues considered in psychology. The second goal is to familiarize the student with concepts, terminology and important persons in psychology, then to provide an understanding and framework for further study in this area, and to aid the individual in becoming a better consumer of mental health resources.

Learning Outcomes: [from the ACGM catalog]
After studying all materials and resources presented in the course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify various research methods and their characteristics used in the scientific study of psychology.
2. Describe the historical influences and early schools of thought that shaped the field of psychology.
3. Describe some of the prominent perspectives and approaches used in the study of psychology.
4. Use terminology unique to the study of psychology.
5. Describe accepted approaches and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation.
6. Identify factors in physiological and psychological processes involved in human behavior.

Course Content:
A general description of lecture/discussion topics included in this course are listed in the Learning Objectives section of this syllabus.

Students in all sections of this course will learn the following content:

1. The history and basic theories of Psychology.
2. How research is conducted.
3. The biological basis for behavior from the cellular level to the nervous system.
4. How sensory organs send sensations to the brain and how we perceive that information.
5. The nature of consciousness and altered states of consciousness.
6. What is learning and how do we explain it.
7. What is memory and what are the processes involved with creating and retrieving memory.
8. Cognition: Language and how we use information to problem solve.
9. What is motivation and emotions, and how both effect behavior.
10. How we develop from concept through adulthood.
11. How do we understand personality.
12. How our behaviors are influenced by those around us.
13. What is stress, how does it impact us, and what can we do.
14. What is meant by psychological disorders.
15. How do we provide treatment for psychological disorders and mental health.

**Methods of Instruction/Course Format/Delivery:**

In traditional face-to-face classes instruction will consist of lecture, class discussion and class room assignments. For online class instruction will consist of the student completing the readings and assignments for each chapter. Hybrid classes will be a mixture of class room instruction with online assignments to augment classroom work. Class attendance is required for face-to-face class and hybrid class and will be recorded. For online class it will be determined by number and length of log in's and submission of assignments.

**Major Assignments / Assessments:**
The following items will be assigned and assessed during the semester and used to calculate the student's final grade.

**Assignments**
1. Projects: Each semester there will be between 4 to 6 projects to allow the student to explore in greater detail a concept presented. An example of this would be for the chapter on personality the student would complete an online personality assessment and then reflect on how valid they felt the instrument was in describing their personality. Grading for such projects generally follow the length of the response and the depth (how much thought did they put into their response).
2. Essays: Online classes have an essay for each chapter. The topic asks them to think about and reflect on information from the chapter. An example would be from the chapter on learning and behavior modification to describe a time when reward or punishment were used on them. These assignments are briefer than the projects, but again points are rewarded on length and thoughtfulness of response.
3. Chapter Overviews: For Hybrid courses a chapter outline is required to be filled out by each student covering information for the whole chapter. This is to ensure that they are looking over the whole chapter. Grading is based on completeness of information, especially for the areas not covered during face-to-face class time.
4. Quizzes: Each chapter has a quiz bank of questions drawn from the chapter. Students are able to access and/or download these to study. They then have practice quizzes to test themselves as to how well they are learning the information.

**Assessment(s):**
1. There are usually text between 3 – 4 regular tests throughout the semester, generally over 3 – 5 chapters of information. These tests are multiple choice.
2. At the end of the semester a final exam is given that is comprehensive. The test is also multiple choice.
3. Grades on projects, essays, overviews and quizzes also form part of the overall assessment.
4. Class attendance is also a consideration.
Course Grade:
The grading scale for this course is as follows:

- Tests – 50%
- Final Exam – 8%
- Projects - 25%
- Practice Quizzes – 15%
- Attendance – 2%

Texts, Materials, and Supplies:


- You will need to learn to log on to the class in Canvas. Chapter notes, power point, assignments and quizzes will be posted there. Also when writing up several of the projects, I prefer you do this online.

Required Readings:

*Psychology, Themes & Variations 10e*.

Other:

- For current texts and materials, use the following link to access bookstore listings: [http://www.panolacollegestore.com](http://www.panolacollegestore.com)
- For testing services, use the following link: [http://www.panola.edu/elearning/testing.html](http://www.panola.edu/elearning/testing.html)
- If any student in this class has special classroom or testing needs because of a physical learning or emotional condition, please contact the ADA Student Coordinator in Support Services located in the Administration Building or go to [http://www.panola.edu/student-success/disability-support-services/](http://www.panola.edu/student-success/disability-support-services/) for more information.
- Withdrawing from a course is the student’s responsibility. Students who do not attend class and who do not withdraw will receive the grade earned for the course.