



PSYCH 2301.103
General Psychology
Spring 2022
M/W 9:30 – 10:50 am

Instructor Information: Jennifer Abshire, M.A.
jabshire3@com.edu
(409)933-8306

Student hours and location: LRC-A 218
Monday – Thursday 11:00am–12:00pm and 2:00–3:00pm
M-TH Virtual Hours by appointment. Friday by appointment

Required Textbook/Materials: *Psychology in Everyday Life, 5th ed.* David G. Myers, C. Nathan Dewall

Course Description: This is an introduction to the field of psychology, dealing with such topics as the scientific method and theories, neuroscience and behavior, perception, consciousness, learning, memory, intelligence, motivation, emotion and stress, personality, psychological disorders, and therapy.

Course requirements:

Mini projects. There will be a variety of mini projects using the concepts covered in class. These will be turned in to Blackboard by the dates given.

Chapter Reviews: There will be 14 Reviews throughout the semester that will consist of an outline or graphic organizer. They will be worth 25 points each and due by 11:59pm on the dates given in the class schedule.

Final Exam will be 100 points and due on the last class day.

Think – Pair - Share: Throughout the semester, questions, videos, and articles will be shown or explained. You will be given a short time to write your opinion, discuss with a partner or group, then share your ideas with the rest of the class.

Social Responsibility Presentation: (in class presentation)

Your grade will be determined by product and presentation for both choice 1 and 2. Three resources will be needed.

Choice 1: Think of a problem in society that concerns you (ex. texting while driving). Create a 3-slide power point. Slide one will be your ‘billboard’ that defines the problem and advertises

your stance. What will make it stand out at people passing by? Why should others care about your concern? Slide 2 will be your researched suggestions to help solve the problem. Slide 3 will be your three references.

Choice 2: Think of an organization you want to bring awareness to. Slide 1 will be the billboard that explains the organization and why they need support. Make sure the name and what they do is clear. What will make it stand out to those passing by? Slide 2 will be details about organization – are they a non-profit/how much do they give back/statistics about them. Slide 3 will be your three references.

Movie Review: Choose a movie to review from a list that will be provided. Use the RCQ given to write down notes as you watch. Write a 5-paragraph essay explaining how the movie relates to Psychology (NOT a summary of the movie itself.) What concepts from psychology can you depict in the movie and what chapter would it be related to? Concepts should be in BOLD print.

Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula:

Assignments	Possible Points	Earned Points	Letter Grade	Points Possible
Mini Projects	400		A	900-1000
Chapter Reviews	350		B	800-899
Final Exam	100		C	700-799
Think -Pair-Shares	25		D	600-699
Social responsibility	75		F	599 and below
Movie Review	50			
Total Points	1000			

Late Work, Make-Up, and Extra-Credit Policy:

20% will be deducted from Chapter Reviews and projects if late. There will be no makeup for the Final Exam.

Attendance Policy: Students will fill out a “**Classroom Daily Thought Card**” each day. **Your name, date, and a thought for the day need to be on the card.** I will use the cards to take attendance. I will not ask for the cards; you are expected to turn them in before class starts each day. Communication with your instructor is extremely important. If you are unable to attend class, if possible, e-mail me prior to class. Students are expected to attend each class! There will be no distinction between an excused and unexcused absence.

Communicating with your instructor: ALL electronic communication with the instructor must be through your COM email. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share any information about performance in the class through other electronic means. The best way to reach me is by email -jabshire3@com.edu.

Academic Dishonesty: Any incident of academic dishonesty will be dealt with in accordance with college policy and the Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty – such as copying someone else’s Reviews or Final is an extremely serious offense and will result in a **grade of zero** on that

exam and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate discipline action.

Student Concerns: If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact me using the contact information previously provided. If, after discussing your concern with me, you continue to have questions, please contact Department Chair Shinya Wakao at swakao@com.edu or (409) 933-8212.

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed via this Assignment
1. Identify various research methods and their characteristics used in the scientific study of psychology	Empirical and Quantitative	Chapter 1 Review
2. Describe the historical influences and early schools of thought that shaped the field of psychology		Chapter 13 Review
3. Describe some of the prominent perspectives and approaches used in the study of psychology	Critical Thinking	Chapter 1 Review
4. Use terminology unique to the study of psychology		Mini Projects
5. Describe accepted approaches and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation	Empirical and Quantitative	Chapter 14 Review
6. Identify factors in physiological and psychological processes involved in human behavior	Critical Thinking	Chapter 11 Review
7. Develop, interpret and express ideas through written communication (CS1)	Communication Skills (Written)	Chapter Reviews
8. Develop, interpret and express ideas through oral communication (CS2)	Communication Skills (Oral)	Think, Pair, Shares
9. Demonstrate intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities. Social	Social Responsibility	Social Responsibility Project

Week	Plan of Action	What's Due Monday	What's Due Wednesday
1 January	Ch.11, Roots, Big Ideas, and Critical Thinking Tools		1/19
2 January	Ch.2 The Biology of Behavior and Consciousness	1/24 Discuss MP1	1/26 CR 1 CR2
3 February	Ch.3 Developing Through the Life Span	1/31 Mini Project #1	2/2 CR 3
4 February	Ch. 4 Sex, Gender, and Sexuality	2/7	2/9 CR 4
5 February	Ch.5 Sensation and Perception	2/14	2/16 CR 5
6 February	Ch.6 Learning	2/21 Movie Review Due	2/23 CR 6

7 March	Ch.7 Memory	2/28	3/1 CR 7
8 March	Ch.8 Thinking, Language, and Intelligence	3/7	3/9 CR 8
March	SPRING BREAK 14 TH -18 TH		
9 March	Ch. 9 Motivation and Emotion	3/21 Discuss MP2	3/23 CR 9
10 March	Ch.10 Stress, Health and Human Flourishing	3/28 Mini Project #2	3/30 CR10
11 April	Ch.11 Social Psychology	4/4 SRP	4/6 CR 11 SRP
12 April	Social Responsibility Project	4/11 Discuss MP3	4/13
13 April	Ch.12 Personality	4/18 Mini Project #3	4/21 CR 12
14 April	Chapter 13 – Psychological Disorders	4/25 Discuss MP4	4/27 CR 13
15 May	Chapter 14 – Therapy	5/2 Mini Project #4	5/4 CR 14
16 May	Finals Week	5/9 Rough Draft	5/11 Final

This schedule is subject to change at the instructor’s discretion.

Institutional Policies and Guidelines

Grade Appeal Process: Concerns about the accuracy of grades should first be discussed with the instructor. A request for a change of grade is a formal request and must be made within six months of the grade assignment. Directions for filing an appeal can be found in the student handbook. <https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student_Handbook_2019-2020v5.pdf. *An appeal will not be considered because of general dissatisfaction with a grade, penalty, or outcome of a course. Disagreement with the instructor’s professional judgment of the quality of the student’s work and performance is also not an admissible basis for a grade appeal.* https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student_Handbook_2019-2020v5.pdf

Academic Success & Support Services: College of the Mainland is committed to providing students the necessary support and tools for success in their college careers. Support is offered through our Tutoring Services, Library, Counseling, and through Student Services. Please discuss any concerns with your faculty or an advisor.

ADA Statement: Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodations is requested to contact Holly Bankston at 409-933-8520 or hbankston@com.edu. The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is located in the Student Success Center.

Counseling Statement: Any student needing counseling services is requested to please contact Holly Bankston in the student success center at 409-933-8520 or hbankston@com.edu. Counseling

services are available on campus in the student center for free and students can also email counseling@com.edu to set up their appointment. Appointments are strongly encouraged; however, some concerns may be addressed on a walk-in basis.

Textbook Purchasing Statement: A student attending College of the Mainland is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Withdrawal Policy: Students may withdraw from this course for any reason prior to the last eligible day for a “W” grade. Before withdrawing students should speak with the instructor and consult an advisor. Students are permitted to withdraw only six times during their college career by state law. The last date to withdraw from the 1st 8-week session is March 2. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is April 25. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is May 4.

F_N Grading: The F_N grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The F_N grade may be issued for cases in which the student ceases or fails to attend class, submit assignments, or participate in required capacities, and for which the student has failed to withdraw. The issuing of the F_N grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an F_N grade.

Early Alert Program: The Student Success Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program because student success and retention are very important to us. I have been asked to refer students to the program throughout the semester if they are having difficulty completing assignments or have poor attendance. If you are referred to the Early Alert Program you will be contacted by someone in the Student Success Center who will schedule a meeting with you to see what assistance they can offer in order for you to meet your academic goals.

COVID-19 Statement: All students, faculty, and staff are expected to familiarize themselves with materials and information contained on the College of the Mainland’s Coronavirus Information site at www.com.edu/coronavirus. In compliance with Governor Abbott's May 18 Executive Order, face coverings/masks will no longer be required on COM campus. Protocols and college signage are being updated. We will no longer enforce any COM protocol that requires face coverings. We continue to encourage all members of the COM community to distance when possible, use hygiene measures, and get vaccinated to protect against COVID-19. Please visit com.edu/coronavirus for future updates.