



PSYCH 2301.122H2
General Psychology
Spring 2025
8:00am –9:20am T/TH

Instructor Information: Jennifer Abshire, MA jabshire3@com.edu

Student hours and location: 9:30 -10am T/TH

Required Textbook/Materials: *Psychology 2e* (OER imbedded in D2L), note cards

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: Various in-class assignments, D2L discussions, mini-projects, and final presentation.

Discussions:

Discussions represent the interactive component of this course. The graded topics are related to the readings, presentations, and/or current events taking place in psychology today. These forums are a way of exchanging information with your fellow students. You will receive a grade for your thoughtful participation in the discussions associated with each of the topics. Remember you need to be able to support your position with knowledge and research on a particular topic with reliable sources if necessary.

Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula:

| Assignments | Possible Points | Letter Grade | Points Possible |
|------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 8 Mini Projects (50pts each) | 400 | A | 900-1000 |
| 15 discussions (30pts each) | 450 | B | 800-899 |
| Critical Thinking Research | 150 | C | 600-799 |
| Total Points | 1000 | F | 599 and below |
| | | | |

Late Work, Make-Up, and Extra-Credit Policy: 20% will be deducted from any assignment or project if late.

Attendance Policy: Students will fill out a “Classroom Daily Thought Card” each day. Your name, date, along with 1 thing you are grateful for. You may add anything else after that 😊 . I will use the

cards to take attendance. 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.

NOTE: If for any reason the college closes, continue to work on the assignments spelled out in your syllabus and refer to D2L for further instructions.

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

| Student Learner Outcomes | Maps to Core Objective | Assessed via this Assignment |
|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Identify various research methods and their characteristics used in the scientific study of psychology | Empirical and Quantitative | Discussion Board |
| Describe the historical influences and early schools of thought that shaped the field of psychology | | Mini project |
| 3. Describe some of the prominent perspectives and approaches used in the study of psychology | Critical Thinking | Final Project |
| 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 | Discussion board |
| 6. Identify factors in physiological and psychological processes involved in human behavior | Critical Thinking | Final Project |
| 7. Develop, interpret and express ideas through written communication (CS1) | Communication Skills (Written) | Discussion Board |
| 8. Develop, interpret and express ideas through oral communication (CS2) | Communication Skills (Oral) | Oral Presentation |
| 9. Demonstrate intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities. Social | Social Responsibility | Final Project |

Academic Dishonesty: Any incident of academic dishonesty will be dealt with in accordance with college policy and the Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty – **such as using AI** to write any assignments, copying someone else’s Reviews or projects is an extremely serious offense and will result in a grade of zero on that assignment 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 409-933-8107.

Course outline:

| Tuesday/Thursday | Content Folder | Topics <i>This schedule is subject to change at the instructor's discretion.</i> | To Do | Assignments Due by Thursday |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| March 11 | *Syllabus and class schedule | Look around in D2L! Explore the Free online textbook Ch.1 Introduction to Psychology | Explore! Read Ch. 1 | Survey |
| March 13 | Psychological Research | Ch. 2 Psychological Research | Read Ch. 2 | Mini Project 1 applying research |
| March 17-21 | | SPRING BREAK | REST | RELAX |
| March 25 | Biopsychology | Ch. 3 Biopsychology | Read Ch. 3 | Mini Project 2 your brain on tv |
| March 27 | Stress, Lifestyle, and Health | Ch. 14 Stress, Lifestyle, and Health | Read Ch. 14 | Mini Project 3- Values |
| April 1 | States of Consciousness | Ch. 4 States of Consciousness | Read Ch. 4 | Mini Project 4 – Meaningful Photos |
| April 3 | Motivation and Emotion | Ch. 10 Motivation and Emotion | Read Ch. 10 | |
| April 8 | Lifespan Development | Ch. 9 Lifespan Development | Read Ch.9 | Mini Project 5 |
| April 10 | Sensation and Perception | Ch.5 Sensation and Perception | Read Ch. 5 | |
| April 15 | Thinking and Intelligence | Ch. 7 Thinking and Intelligence | Read Ch. 7 | Mini Project 6 Learning & Intelligence |
| April 17 | Learning | Ch. 6 Learning | Cont. Read Ch. 6 | |
| April 22 | Memory | Ch. 8 Memory | Read Ch. 8 | Mini Project 7 Personality Tests |
| April 24 | Personality | Ch. 11 Personality | Read Ch. 11 | |
| April 29 | Social Psychology | Ch. 12 Social Psychology | Read Ch. 12 | Mini Project 8 Favorite |
| May 1 | Psychological Disorders | Ch. 15 Psychological Disorders | Read Ch. 15 | |
| May 6 | Therapy and Treatment | Ch. 16 Therapy and Treatment | Read Ch. 16 | |
| May 8 | Oral Presentation | | Critical Thinking Oral Presentations | |

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://www.com.edu/student-services/docs/Student_Handbook_2024-2025_v6.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.*

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:

Kimberly Lachney, Student Accessibility Services Coordinator

Phone: 409-933-8919

Email: AccessibilityServices@com.edu

Location: COM Doyle Family Administration Building, Student Success Center

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 February 26. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is April 21. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is April 30.

FN Grading: The FN grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The FN 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 FN grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an FN 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.

Resources to Help with Stress:

If you are experiencing stress or anxiety about your daily living needs including food, housing or just feel you could benefit from free resources to help you through a difficult time, please click here <https://www.com.edu/community-resource-center/>. College of the Mainland has partnered with free community resources to help you stay on track with your schoolwork, by addressing life issues that get in the way of doing your best in school. All services are private and confidential. You may also contact the Dean of Students office at deanofstudents@com.edu or communityresources@com.edu.

Nondiscrimination Statement:

The College District prohibits discrimination, including harassment, against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, veteran status, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender (including gender identity and gender expression), or any other basis prohibited by law. Retaliation against anyone involved in the complaint process is a violation of College District policy.