



**Psychology 2301-221H2**  
**General Psychology**  
**Fall, 2024**  
**Wednesday, 6:00 – 8:50 PM Hybrid**

**Instructor:** Ona Mull, M.A.; [omull1@com.edu](mailto:omull1@com.edu)

**Office (Student) Hours & Location:** Building 8, Room 255 before and after class

**Required Textbook/Materials:** *Psychology 2e*, OpenStax

**Course Description:** This course is designed to introduce the major topics of the discipline of psychology, including history, scientific method, biology of mind, consciousness, nature vs. nurture, developmental psychology, learning, cognitive psychology, motivation, psychological disorders, treatments and social psychology.

**Course requirements:** See pages 3 and 4

**Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula:** You are held accountable for completing all assignments. All directions for assignments must be closely followed. A variety of means to evaluate student performance will be used throughout the course.

Grade Computation	Points Possible	Your Points
Professionalism	150	
Chapter Presentation	100	
Assignment One	50	
Assignment Two	50	
Study Guides (15 @ 10 points ea.)	150	
Quizzes One & Two (50 points ea.)	100	
Quizzes Three & Four	100	
Quizzes Five & Six	100	
In Class Activities/Homework	100	
Final Exam	100	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1000</b>	

Letter Grade	Points Possible
A	900-1000
B	800-899
C	700-799
D	600-699
F	<600

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

Tests/quizzes must be taken in class on the scheduled date. A student may coordinate with professor to take a test EARLY for FULL CREDIT if needed. If students miss a quiz for any reason, a grade equal to the lowest quiz grade will be recorded for that quiz. Study guides will be due at the time of the quiz unless turned in early. Any assignment turned in after the due date and time will be considered for UP TO ONE HALF CREDIT. If a student is absent when an assignment is due, it should be turned in by hand, another trusted student, or email at, or BEFORE, the time it is due. Failure to do so will result in the assignment being late and eligible for up to one half credit. This policy is subject to professor discretion for any emergency circumstances.

**Attendance Policy:** Attendance is highly recommended due to class discussions and lectures. It is the student’s responsibility to acquire any information missed. Students having serious issues affecting attendance should discuss them with their professor. College of the Mainland recognizes **no excused absences** other than those prescribed by law. It is also important that students are **actively engaged** during class and cell phones/devices are put away to avoid distraction. **Each absence, engagement issue, or electronic device violation will affect points awarded for professionalism on that day.** If a student arrives to class late, leaves during class, or leaves early, one half professionalism points will be awarded that day regardless of the reason.

**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.

<b>Student Learner Outcome</b>	<b>Maps to Core Objective</b>	<b>Assessed via this Assignment</b>
1. Identify various research methods and their characteristics used in the scientific study of psychology	Empirical and Quantitative	Assignment 1
2. Describe the historical influences and early schools of thought that shaped the field of psychology	Communication Skills	In Class Activities
3. Describe some of the prominent perspectives and approaches used in the study of psychology	Critical Thinking	Quiz 1
4. Use terminology unique to the study of psychology	Communication Skills	Quiz 3
5. Describe accepted approaches and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation	Empirical and Quantitative	Quiz 2
6. Identify factors in physiological and psychological processes involved in human behavior	Critical Thinking	In Class Activities
7. (CS1) Develop, interpret, and express ideas through written communication	Communication Skills (Written)	Assignment 2
8. (CS2) Develop, interpret, and express ideas through oral communication	Communications Skills (Oral)	Oral Presentation
9. (SR) Demonstrate intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.	Social Responsibility	Final Exam

### **Academic Dishonesty:**

Any incident of academic dishonesty will be dealt with in accordance with college policy and the Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty – such as cheating on quizzes – is extremely serious and will result in a **grade of zero** on that quiz. Additionally, 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 concerns persist after discussing them with your professor, please contact Shinya Wakao at 409-933-8107 or [swakao@com.edu](mailto:swakao@com.edu).

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### **Success Tips for Students:**

1. Attend every class
2. Pay attention in class
3. Take detailed notes
4. Study lecture notes after every class
5. Use the study guides
6. Use the study technique that works best for you
7. Read the textbook carefully for retention

### **Course Requirements:**

#### **Presentation - Oral Presentation Guidelines**

Choose a chapter in the textbook to narrow down the topic on which you want to research TED Talks. Then find one TED Talk over which you would like to give your presentation.

Create a work cited page in MLA format. This will be printed and turned in to your professor at the time you present (exceptions will deduct 10% from grade).

Presentation should be **at least 3 minutes (no more than 5 min.)** in your own words covering your topic and TED Talk. Preparation is key! Please do not read from notes or PowerPoint!

\*\*\*Presentations for each chapter will be due to the class of the week we cover the chapter in class. THERE ARE NO MAKE UP DAYS FOR ORAL PRESENTATIONS.

Grade is based on video/citation, professionalism in verbal presentation (25%), professionalism in physical presentation (25%), content of the presentation (25%), and preparation of the presenter (25%). Each student is expected to display **professionalism as an audience member** for their peers as well. This includes attention, eye contact, and taking notes as needed.

The Speaking Reading and Writing Center on campus is also a great resource:  
<http://www.com.edu/computer-labs/speaking-reading-writing-center>

**Assignment One - Do your own research by collecting data and analyzing it:**

- Pick something that you want to further investigate about yourself or someone else. Collect data by conducting an experiment.
- Keep track of your data for 2 weeks (one control week followed by one experimental week) and **INCLUDE A SPREADSHEET WITH YOUR DATA.**
- Type a two-page full MLA formatted paper presenting the rationale for your research, your hypothesis, how you conducted your research, how you collected the data, and analysis of your results. You will include the spreadsheet with your results on a separate page following your report.
- It should consist of at least five paragraphs including an opening paragraph, three or more body paragraphs, and a closing paragraph. Remember that a college paragraph should be five to eight substantial sentences. No headings should be used.
- Include information on any extraneous variable(s) that may have skewed your results.
- Include your thoughts of your data collection methods, whether or not they were valid, and explain why or why not.
- Your paper should be printed, stapled, and turned in upon entering the class on the due date to be eligible for full credit.

**Assignment Two - Complete 5 personality tests from links provided and type a two full page MLA formatted paper.**

- Discuss how physiological and psychological factors (nature and nurture) in your life have influenced your behavior.
- Discuss how the results of the personality tests were influenced by these physiological and psychological factors.
- Paper should consist of at least five paragraphs including an opening paragraph, three or more body paragraphs, and a closing paragraph.
- Remember that a college level paragraph should be five to eight substantial sentences. No headings should be used.
- Your paper should be printed, stapled, and turned in upon entering the class on the due date.

[http://similarminds.com/personality\\_tests.html](http://similarminds.com/personality_tests.html)

<http://psychcentral.com/personality-test/start.php>

<http://www.outofservice.com/bigfive/>

<http://www.hitostat.com>

<http://www.personalitytest.net/>

**Professionalism**

You will earn up to ten points each week during the semester which will be based on the following:

- Punctuality and Attendance (be in class from beginning to dismissal)
- Preparedness (Take out notebooks, etc. and be ready to start class on time.)
- Positive Attitude and Participation (always be fully focused on the class activity)
- Cell Phones/Earbuds/Headphones, Tablets, Laptops, and Other Devices Put Away

**Course outline: Subject to Change!!!**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Lecture/Discussions</b>	<b>Assignments</b>	<b>Quizzes/Exams</b>
<b>Week 1 10/16</b>	Student Strategies/ Study Skills and Study Guides, Chapter 1, Introduction to Psychology Chapter 2, Research Discuss Assignment One	Syllabus Activity <b><i>Discuss Assignment One</i></b>	
<b>Week 2 10/23</b>	Chapter 3, Biology of Behavior Chapter 4, States of Consciousness		Quiz 1 Study Guides Due
<b>Week 3 10/30</b>	Chapter 5, Sensation and Perception Chapter 6, Learning		Quiz 2 Study Guides Due
<b>Week 4 11/6</b>	Chapter 7, Thinking and Intelligence Chapter 8, Memory	<b><i>Assignment One due</i></b> QEP Presentations	Quiz 3 Study Guides Due
<b>Week 5 11/13</b>	Chapter 9, Lifespan Development Chapter 10, Emotion and Motivation	QEP Presentations <b><i>Discuss Assignment Two</i></b>	Quiz 4 Study Guides Due
<b>Week 6 11/20</b>	Chapter 11, Personality Chapter 12, Social Psychology	QEP Presentations	Quiz 5 Study Guides Due
<b>Week 7 11/27</b>	Chapter 14, Stress and Health Chapter 15, Psychological Disorders Chapter 16, Therapy and Treatment	<b><i>Assignment Two due</i></b> QEP Presentations	Quiz 6 Study Guides Due
<b>Week 8 12/4</b>		QEP Presentations	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>

**The Tutoring Center** provides free tutoring services to students, staff and faculty seeking assistance for writing, reading and oral presentations for academic and non-academic assignments/projects. Located in the Industrial Careers Building, Room 104, the center provides face-to-face and online tutoring sessions in a welcoming environment. Make appointments in person or online at <https://com.mywconline.com>.

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## **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\\_v2.pdf](https://www.com.edu/student-services/docs/Student_Handbook_2024-2025_v2.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](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> 8-week session is October 2nd. The last date to withdraw from the 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week session is November 26th. The last date to withdraw for the 16-week session is November 15.

**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](mailto:deanofstudents@com.edu) or [communityresources@com.edu](mailto: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.

**Additional Information**

**Classroom Conduct Policy:** College of the Mainland requires that students enrolled at COM be familiar with and abide by the Standards of Student Conduct, located in the on-line Student Handbook: <https://www.com.edu/student-services/student-handbook.html>. Any violations will result in a referral to the Dean of Students and may result in dismissal from class.