



**PSYC 2301.023 I2  
GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY  
Spring 2025 Online**

Instructor: LaWanda Morales, M.A.  
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Office: COM Main Campus, LRC Bldg. #8, Suite A, Room 226

**Student Hours:**

Monday & Wednesday 8:00-9:20am, Tuesday & Thursday 8:30-11:00am & by appointment

**Required Textbook:** *Psychology 2e (Free online textbook) See the link in D2L under "Textbook"*

**Supplies:** Reliable Computer, internet access, and Computer storage device (to backup files), PULSE app (suggested app to access D2L)

**Course Description:** This course will provide an introduction to the major topic areas of psychology including neuroscience, the nature vs nurture debate, learning, cognitive psychology, motivation, personality theory, psychological disorders, therapeutic approaches and social psychology.

**Course Requirements** Grades are based on points accumulated throughout the semester. A variety of means to evaluate student performance will be used throughout the course. There is the possibility of earning 1000 points from assignments and assessments. You are held accountable for completing all assignments. All directions for assignments must be closely followed. Specific details and directions for each assignment will be on the actual assignment in D2L. *NOTE: If for any reason the college closes, continue to work on the assignments spelled out in your syllabus. For example, complete chapter readings, assignments, assessments etc.*

Grade Computation	Points	Letter Grade	Numeric Grade	Points
Quizzes (14 at 25 points each) (each quiz is 2.5% of grade- all 35%)	350	A	90+	900 or more
Daily Discussion Posts (14 at 20 points each) (each post 2.0% of grade- all 28%)	280	B	80-89	800-899
Weekly Discussion posts (5 at 50 points each) (each 10% of grade- all 25%)	250	C	70-79	700-799
Research Project & Oral Presentation (10% of grade)	100	D	60-69	600-699
Introduction Post	20	F	59 or less	599 or below

**DETERMINATION OF GRADE**

**Methods of Evaluation/Submissions-**

- All work must be typed and submitted in D2L.
- Use **Google Chrome** or **Mozilla Firefox browser** (your work will submit blank using other browsers)
- Type work in Microsoft Software (if you do not have Microsoft products, you can download the programs for FREE at <https://www.com.edu/its/office-365-instructions> )
- Save and upload work as a .PDF or .DOC (do not use MAC or .pages, I cannot open these files)
- All work must be submitted on D2L and attached to the assignment submission page
- Assignments with bulleted and/or numbered items should be a **separate and complete paragraph**
- You are free to write as much as you like on your assignments. If you write a "minimum" amount of information, you should expect to receive the minimum grade.
- Your responses on all assignments must be well thought out with details, explanations, examples and exhibit critical thinking. I am looking for you to make a connection between the assignments, the relevant chapter in the textbook, and your personal experiences and opinions.

**Grading Scale:** 900-1000 points=A; 899-800 points=B, 799-700 points=C, 699-600 points=D, 599 points or less=F

**Grading Rubrics:** Detailed directions and some rubrics for coursework can be found on D2L within the assignment. Please read the directions very carefully and let me know if you have any questions. If you need clarification, please reach out immediately.

- **Quizzes 350 points:** There will be a total of 14 quizzes worth 25 points each. The quizzes are 25 questions in the form of multiple choice. You will have 45 minutes to complete the quizzes. You have 2 attempts at the quiz, and I will accept the highest attempt. All quizzes are timed, taken on D2L and must be submitted before 11:59pm on the deadline date. Once you begin the quiz, you must complete the quiz in one timed session.
- **Daily Discussions 280 points:** You will write 14 Daily Discussion worth 20 points each for each chapter that we will cover. You will type your answers directly in the dialog box. Further directions are posted in D2L.
- **Weekly Postings 250 points:** You will complete 5 assignments worth 50 points each that are an extension of the information we have covered throughout the semester. Directions and details are in D2L.
- **Research Project 100 points:** You will complete a PowerPoint research project and give an oral presentation. Further directions are posted in D2L.
- **Introduction Post 20 points:** You will introduce yourself using the given prompts. Further directions are posted in D2L.

**Extra Credit:** Extra credit can be earned by doing exceptional work on your assignments. The course evaluation at the end of the term is also extra credit.

**Make-Up & Late Work:** There will be no make-up work or late work accepted. All assignments are time-stamped in D2L and Email. Work submitted after the due date deadline will not be graded. Please allow time for your assignments to upload. If your network server is slow, make sure you allow extra time and do not wait until the last minute to submit assignments. There are computers available for students to use at COM in the library and tutoring center if you need access to a computer and/or internet access. A zero will be given for any type of incorrect, unreadable, or blank file submissions. The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the late work policy. However, the student needs to contact the instructor right away if there is an issue. Late work will only be considered under extreme circumstances.

**Attendance Policy:** Regular attendance is a critical component to being successful in courses whether online or face-to-face. You will greatly impact your level of success by attending and participating in class on a regular basis. It is highly encouraged for you to log into D2L once a day to check for updates and announcements and check your COM email. The instructor reserves the right to drop any student who has excessive absences (in person or fails to log in to D2L) or has excessive missing assignments. You must be an active participant in and outside of the class.

**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. (Please allow 48 hours for a return phone call or email, except on weekends and holidays)

**General Education Core Objectives (CO's):** Students successfully completing this course will demonstrate competency in the following Core Objectives

1. Critical Thinking Skills: Students will demonstrate creative thinking, innovation, and the ability to analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information.
2. Communication Skills: Develop, interpret, and express ideas through written, oral, and visual communication.
3. Empirical and Quantitative Skills: To include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.
4. Social Responsibility: Students will demonstrate intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

Student Learner Outcome (SLO)	Maps to Core Objective (CO)	Assessed via this Assignment
1. Identify various research methods and their characteristics used in the scientific study of psychology	Empirical and Quantitative	Quiz Chapter 2
2. Describe the historical influences and early schools of thought that shaped the field of psychology		Quiz Chapter 1
3. Describe some of the prominent perspectives and approaches used in the study of psychology	Critical Thinking	Quiz Chapter 2
4. Use terminology unique to the study of psychology		Quiz Chapter 6

5. Describe accepted approaches and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation		Quiz Chapter 16
6. Identify factors in physiological and psychological processes involved in human behavior		Quiz Chapter 15
7. (CS1) Develop, interpret and express ideas through written communication	Communication Skills (Written)	Discussion Post #3
8. (CS2) Develop, interpret and express ideas through oral communication	Communication Skills (Oral)	Presentation
9. (SR) Demonstrate intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility and ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.	Social Responsibility	Quiz Chapter 12

**Academic Dishonesty:** Any incident of academic dishonesty will be dealt with in accordance with college policy in the Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty – such as cheating on exams, quizzes, assignments or other assessments, presenting someone else’s work as your own, using artificial intelligence (AI) websites, or copying someone else’s work is an extremely serious offense and will result in a **grade of zero** on that assignment, discussion board, or assessment 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 Dr. Shinya Wakao, 409-933-8107, [swakao@com.edu](mailto:swakao@com.edu).

**Technology Maintenance:** College of the Mainland websites are scheduled to be down from 12:01-6:00 am on Sundays and D2L is down from 4:00-6:00 am the first Saturday of the month. Make it a point to complete assignments around this time.

**Technology Outage Policy:** In the event you experience a technology problem, it is your responsibility to communicate immediately with your instructor and the DE department at College of the Mainland (COM). It is a good idea to make a screenshot of the error and email it to me as well as the Distance Education Helpdesk. Contacting COM’s Distance Education department can be accomplished by submitting a ticket anytime at <http://desupport.com.edu/requests> or via live chat Monday to Friday from 8 AM to 5 PM. If the issue does not clear up and if there is no way around it, you may email your assignment to me directly before the due date at [lmorales4@com.edu](mailto:lmorales4@com.edu)

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Grade Computation	Points	Letter Grade	Numeric Grade	Points
Quizzes (14 at 25 points each) (each quiz is 2.5% of grade- all 35%)	350	A	90+	900 or more
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		Date	Topic	Assignment due BEFORE 11:59pm
WEEK 1	Tue	3/11	Introduction to the Course	
	Wed	3/12	Chapter 1: Intro to Psychology	Quiz & Daily Discussion Chapter 1 (Extra Credit)
	Thur	3/13	Chapter 2: Psychological Research	Introduction Discussion Board
	Fri	3/14		Quiz & Daily Discussion Chapter 2
SPRING BREAK 3/17 TO 3/23				
WEEK 2	Tue	3/25	Chapter 3: Biopsychology	(CENSUS DAY 3/24)
	Wed	3/26		Quiz & Daily Discussion Chapter 3
	Thur	3/27	Chapter 4: States of Consciousness	
	Fri	3/28		Quiz & Daily Discussion Chapter 4
	Sun	3/30		Weekly Post #1- Why We Dream
WEEK 3	Tue	4/1	Chapter 5: Sensation & Perception	
	Wed	4/2	Chapter 6: Learning	Quiz & Daily Discussion Chapter 5
	Thur	4/3	Chapter 7: Thinking, Language & Intelligence	Quiz & Daily Discussion Chapter 6
	Fri	4/4		Quiz & Daily Discussion Chapter 7
	Sun	4/6		Weekly Post #2- Learn a New Skill
WEEK 4	Tue	4/8	Chapter 8: Memory	
	Wed	4/9		Quiz & Daily Discussion Chapter 8
	Thur	4/10	Chapter 9: Lifespan Development	
	Fri	4/11		Quiz & Daily Discussion Chapter 9
	Sun	4/13		Weekly Post #3- Decade Trivia Quiz
WEEK 5	Tue	4/15	Chapter 10: Emotion & Motivation	
	Wed	4/16		Quiz & Daily Discussion Chapter 10
	Thur	4/17	Chapter 11: Personality	
	Fri	4/18		Quiz & Daily Discussion Chapter 11
	Sun	4/20		Weekly Post #4- Maltreatment: Child of Rage
WEEK 6	Tue	4/22	Chapter 12: Social Psychology	
	Wed	4/23		Quiz & Daily Discussion Chapter 12
	Thur	4/24	Chapter 14: Stress, Lifestyle & Health	
	Fri	4/25		Quiz & Daily Discussion Chapter 14
	Sun	4/27		Weekly Post #5- 5 Part Health Plan
WEEK 7	Tue	4/29	Chapter 15: Psychological Disorders	
	Wed	4/30	(W-DAY)	Quiz & Daily Discussion Chapter 15
	Thur	5/1	Chapter 16: Therapy & Treatment	
	Fri	5/2		Quiz & Daily Discussion Chapter 16
	Sun	5/4		Research & Presentation Project
WEEK 8	Tue	5/6	View Presentations and reply to classmates	
	Wed	5/7		Research & Presentation Project Peer Replies
	Thur	5/8	Last day of the Semester	
	Fri	5/9	Final grades posted	

## 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\\_2023-2024\\_v2.pdf](https://www.com.edu/student-services/docs/Student_Handbook_2023-2024_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 February 26. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is April 21. The last date to withdraw for the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](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.

Professionalism, which includes preparedness, a positive attitude, interaction, and respect, is expected.

**Special note:** You must log into the class and submit at least one assignment by Friday 3/14, or you will be withdrawn from the course. Instructor reserves the right to withdraw students for lack of progress at any time.