



**Psychology 2301.201 CL**  
**General Psychology**  
**Spring 2024**  
**Wednesday – 6:00 PM to 8:50 PM**

**Instructor Information:** Ona M. Mull, M.A., omull1@com.edu

**Student hours and location:** Learning Resource Building #8, Room 213 – Instructor will be in classroom before class and will stay after class to meet with students.

**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 for FULL CREDIT. A student may coordinate with professor to take a test EARLY for FULL CREDIT if needed. If students miss a quiz for any reason, it can be taken late for up to one half credit. Study guides will be due at the time of the quiz unless turned in early. Any quiz, assignment or other student work 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 only for up to one half credit.

**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 tardiness is an issue, professionalism points will be affected by this.

**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.

| 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     | 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.

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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 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 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.
- 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 2-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.
- 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.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
- Preparedness (Take out notebooks, etc. and be ready to start class on time.)
- Positivity and Attitude
- Cell Phones/Earbuds/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</b><br>1/17  | Student Strategies/ Study Skills and Study Guides, Chapter 1, Introduction to Psychology | In Class Syllabus Activity                     |                            |
| <b>Week 2</b><br>1/24  | Discuss Assignment One Chapter 2, Research   | <i>Discuss Assignment One</i>                  |                            |
| <b>Week 3</b><br>1/31  | Chapter 3, Biology of Behavior   |  | Quiz 1<br>Study Guides Due |
| <b>Week 4</b><br>2/7   | Chapter 4, States of Consciousness   |  |                            |
| <b>Week 5</b><br>2/14  | Chapter 5, Sensation and Perception  |  | Quiz 2<br>Study Guides Due |
| <b>Week 6</b><br>2/21  | Chapter 6, Learning  | QEP Presentations<br><i>Assignment One due</i> |                            |
| <b>Week 7</b><br>2/28  | Chapter 7, Thinking and Intelligence   | QEP Presentations                              | Quiz 3<br>Study Guides Due |
| <b>Week 8</b><br>3/6   | Chapter 8, Memory  | QEP Presentations                              |                            |
| <b>Week 9</b><br>3/20  | Chapter 9, Lifespan Development  | QEP Presentations                              | Quiz 4<br>Study Guides Due |
| <b>Week 10</b><br>3/27 | Chapter 10, Motivation and Emotion   | QEP Presentations                              |                            |
| <b>Week 11</b><br>4/3  | Chapter 14, Stress and Health  | QEP Presentations                              | Quiz 5<br>Study Guides Due |
| <b>Week 12</b><br>4/10 | Chapter 11, Personality  | QEP Presentations                              |                            |
| <b>Week 13</b><br>4/17 | Chapter 12, Social Psychology  | QEP Presentations                              | Quiz 6<br>Study Guides Due |
| <b>Week 14</b><br>4/24 | Chapter 15, Psychological Disorders  | <i>Assignment Two due</i>                      |                            |
| <b>Week 15</b><br>5/1  | Chapter 16, Therapy and Treatments   |  |                            |
| <b>Week 16</b><br>5/8  |  |  | <b>FINAL EXAM</b>          |

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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\\_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 at 409-933-8919 or [klachney@com.edu](mailto:klachney@com.edu). The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is located in the 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 28. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is April 22. The last date to withdraw for the 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week session is May 1. The last date to withdraw for spring mini session is May 29.

**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).