PSYC 2301.023IN
General Psychology
Summer 2024

Instructor Information: Jennifer Abshire, M.A.   jabshire3@com.edu

Student hours and location: Virtual by TEAMS - T/TH 8:30-9am

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

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:
Chapter Reviews: There will be 5 Chapters in Review due weekly throughout the semester. Details can be found in D2L.

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. "Participation" means that for each topic, you should post an Initial Post as well as a Response Post to 1 other student for full credit. **Please note that some points may be deducted if the posts are insufficient. There is not a word count – quality over quantity!** Graded course Discussions employ a "post first" setting that requires students to post their Initial Post before gaining access to read other students' posts. Attempts to subvert this setting by submitting a blank initial post, or by any other methods will result in a grade of "0" for the discussion. All graded discussion posts are due by 11:59pm on the due date listed on the course schedule.

> Ground Rules for Online Discussion:
> 1. We will respect each other's confidentiality. Though it is unlikely that sensitive personal information will be discussed in this course, please be aware that any

personal information revealed on D2L must be held in strict confidence.
2. In the interest of promoting critical thinking, and serious discussion, students should be prepared tohave their views challenged by the instructor and/or fellow students. Respect the right of others to have differing beliefs and attitudes. We do not all have to agree. However, we do need to be respectful in the way we disagree.
3. Disruptive behavior, which interferes with teaching and/or learning, will not be tolerated.

Mini projects: There will be a variety of mini projects expanding on the concepts covered in class. These will be turned into D2L by the dates given.

Critical Thinking Research Oral Presentation Final Project:
 The research should look objectively at both sides of an issue or problem in society, and you will present your findings in an unbiased manner at the end of the semester with a video presentation. (More information can be found within D2L assignment link.)
This will be a PowerPoint Presentation with voice recording. Your device must have a microphone enabled to record audio:
Select Record Audio. Type in a name for your audio file, select Record, and then speak. To review your recording, select Stop and then select Play. Select Record to re-record your clip or select OK if you're satisfied. To move your clip, select and drag the audio icon to where you want it on the slide.
 (https://www.com.edu/tutoring), for more information on obtaining assistance. Videos must be saved and uploaded in one of the following formats: .avi, .m4v, .mp4, or .wmv. **Videos saved in any other format may not be viewable by the instructor.** If you need assistance, please contact the Education Technology Department for help by filling out a Support Ticket.

Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula:

Assignments	Possible Points	Letter Grade	Points Possible
5 Chapters in Review (30pts each)	150	A	900-1000
5 Mini Projects (60pts each)	300	B	800-899
10 discussions (40pts each)	400	C	700-799
Critical Thinking Research	150	D	600-699
Extra Credit Discussion post	20	F	599 and below
Extra Credit – video summary	20		
Total Points	1000		

Late Work, Make-Up, and Extra-Credit Policy:
20% will be deducted from Chapters in Review and projects if late.
Extra Credit opportunities can be found within D2L.

Attendance Policy:
If you want to pass, come to class 😊 . In an online environment, this means that you are **expected to log into the course a minimum of 3 times per week.** You should expect to spend

several hours a week in the course reviewing lessons, and other course material, and completing assignments, and discussions. The discussion component of the course also requires you to engage your fellow students in "conversation," which requires you to regularly read and respond to posts.

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. I generally respond to emails within 24-48 hours, weekends and holidays excluded. 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 or make an appointment for virtual office hours if you cannot make it to campus.

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.

<u>Disclaimers/Additional Policies:</u>
Technology Compliance Policy
This class uses a Learning Management System called D2L Brightspace for lectures, assessments, and other course-related materials and links. Each student must maintain Internet access throughout the duration of this course. Additionally, students are expected to maintain a state of technical compliance, including (but not limited to):
- up-to-date browsers,
- multiple (minimum of 2) browsers (recommended: Chrome & Firefox),
- appropriate and adequate computer hardware,
- a stable Internet connection,

Computer and internet access are necessary to complete assignments. If you do not have your own computer and internet access, you may utilize the computers in the Computer Lab and the library.
You are expected to be familiar with the technology and software used for this course, including the D2L Brightspace Learning System and any word-processing technology.
You are expected to be able to upload assignments in the proper file format according to assignment directions without instructor assistance. Problems with technology, including

computer problems and power outages, will not justify extending the deadline unless the issue is with the college network.

In the event you experience a technology problem or error, it is your responsibility to communicate with your instructor as soon as possible using a working form of technology, via email at jabshire3@com.edu If you experience any technology problems or errors with *college* software (D2L, etc.), notify the DE department at College of the Mainland (COM) by submitting a ticket as soon as possible. Make a screenshot of the error and email it to your instructor as well as the Distance Education Helpdesk. Contacting COM's Distance Education department can be accomplished by submitting a ticket at http://de-support.com.edu/requests .

Success Tips for Students
1. **Read your syllabus**, re-read your syllabus and become familiar with D2L content 😊
2. **Don't procrastinate**. Determine the amount of time you are going to need to spend on each portion of the course. Make sure you give yourself enough time to complete the assignments.
3. **Stay organized** & dedicate a quiet workspace to complete course readings and assignments.
4. Break readings & course work down into **manageable goals**. Set personal deadlines and stick to them.
5. **Create a calendar of due dates** for this and all your courses using a digital calendar (Google calendar, smartphone calendar, etc.) or an old-fashioned paper.
6. Follow the Course Schedule 😊

Student Learner Outcomes	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 2 Review
2. Describe the historical influences and early schools of thought that shaped the field of psychology		Chapter 1 Review
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	Chapter 16 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)	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

	Content Folder	Topics *This schedule is subject to change at the instructor's discretion.*	To Do	Assignments Due
Monday July 8	*Syllabus and class schedule *Psychology 2e	– Class opens - Look around in D2L! Explore the Free online textbook	Explore! Introduction Post and Survey	Survey
Tuesday July 9	Introduction to Psychology	Ch.1 Introduction to Psychology	Read Ch.1 Watch: "The Joy of being Wrong"	Introduction post Suggested: Discussion #1
Wednesday July 10	Psychological Research	Ch. 2 Psychological Research	Read Ch. 2 Watch: Change your Mindset, Change the Game"	
Thursday July 11	Biopsychology *Videos to review	Ch. 3 Biopsychology	Read Ch. 3 Watch: "The 3 M's" and "Exercise and the Brain"	Suggested: Discussion #2 and #3
Friday July 12	Stress, Lifestyle, and Health *Videos to Review	Ch. 14 Stress, Lifestyle, and Health	Read Ch. 14 Watch "How to Make Stress your Friend"	Suggested: Discussion #4 Mini Project 1
Sunday July 14				11:59pm: Chapters in Review
Monday July 15	States of Consciousness	Ch. 4 States of Consciousness	Read Ch. 4 Watch: "What would happen if you didn't sleep?"	
Tuesday July 16	Motivation and Emotion *Videos to Review	Ch. 10 Motivation and Emotion	Read Ch. 10	Suggested: Mini Project 2
Wednesday July 17	Motivation and Emotion	Ch. 10 Motivation and Emotion	Watch: "You aren't at the Mercy of your Emotions, your Brain Creates Them"	Suggested: Discussion #5
Thursday July 18	Lifespan Development	Ch. 9 Lifespan Development	Read Ch.9 Watch: How Every Child Can Thrive by Five"	
Friday July 19	Lifespan Development *Videos in Review	Ch.9 Lifespan Development	Cont. Reading: Ch. 9 Watch "What I Learned from Being a Stay-at-Home Dad"	Suggested: Discussion #6 -Extra Credit Discussion post
Sunday July 21				11:59pm: Chapters in Review
Monday July 22	Sensation and Perception	Ch.5 Sensation and Perception	Read Ch. 5 Watch "Optical Illusions show how we see" and "What color is Tuesday"	Suggested: Discussion #7

Tuesday July 23	Thinking and Intelligence *Information to Review	Ch. 7 Thinking and Intelligence	Read Ch. 7	
Wednesday July 24	Thinking and Intelligence	Ch. 7 Thinking and Intelligence	Cont. Ch. 7	
Thursday July 25	Learning	Ch. 6 Learning	Read Ch. 6	Suggested: Mini Project 3
Friday July 26	Learning	Ch. 6 Learning	Cont. Read Ch. 6 Watch "The Bobo Beatdown"	
Sunday July 28				**11:59pm Chapters in Review**
Monday July 29	Memory	Ch. 8 Memory	Read Ch. 8 Watch "Feats of Memory anyone can do"	Suggested: Discussion #8
Tuesday July 30	Memory	Ch. 8 Memory	Cont. Ch. 8 Watch "Dory meets Marlin" Look over Brain Website	*Last Day to turn in late work
Wednesday July 31	Personality	Ch. 11 Personality	Read Ch. 11 Watch "The Power of Introverts"	Suggested: Mini Project 4
Thursday August 1	Social Psychology *Videos to Review	Ch. 12 Social Psychology	Read Ch. 12 Watch "What it takes to be Racially Literate"	Suggested: Discussion #9
Friday August 2	Social Psychology	Ch. 12 Social Psychology	Cont. Ch. 12	W- Day
Sunday August 4			*Extra Credit Video Summary Deadline	11:59pm Chapters in Review
Monday August 5	Psychological Disorders	Ch. 15 Psychological Disorders	Read Ch. 15 Watch "Living with ADHD"	Discussion #10
Tuesday August 6	Psychological Disorders	Ch. 15 Psychological Disorders	Cont. Ch. 15	Critical Thinking Oral Presentations
Wednesday August 7	Therapy and Treatment	Ch. 16 Therapy and Treatment	Read Ch. 16 Watch "Why we should all try Therapy" (extra- "How to do laundry when your depressed")	Mini Project 5
Thursday August 8				
Friday August 9				By noon: Chapters in Review

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. *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 for the 2nd 5-week session is August 2.

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.