



PSYC 2301-201CL
General Psychology, Fall 2022
LRC 255
Tuesday 6:00 pm – 8:50 pm

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Andrea Phillip, M.S.
afillip@com.edu
409 933-8620

Office hours and location: I will be available 15-20 minutes before class begins in assigned classroom.
I will be available 10-15 minutes after class is completed.

COURSE INFORMATION

Required Textbook: *Psychology in Everyday Life, 5th Edition* – David Meyers & C. Nathan DeWall

Course Description: This is an introduction to the field of psychology, dealing with topics such 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:

Classroom Structure

Students are responsible for reading the chapters from the textbook, taking in-class notes and participating in classroom activities and discussions. This class will not be a PowerPoint lecture class only. Although lecture may be used more on some chapters than others, critical thinking activities, in-class activities, web-based interactive activities, Bright Space activities, games, debates, video clips and other methods may be used to highlight important topics within each chapter. Your chapter exams will cover the information from the textbook as well as any activity, discussion, video, etc. that we cover in the classroom.

Students at COM are expected to participate in every session of all classes for which they are registered. Students are encouraged to respectfully ask questions, offer differing opinions, contribute to group discussions and give personal examples as it pertains to the class lectures.

The instructor reserves the right to revise the course syllabus as required by either judgment or circumstance. Changes will be announced in class and students are responsible for recording changes as announced.

Chapter Exams: 200 points

There will be a total of 5 chapter exams; each exam will count for 50 points towards your final grade. Exams will be in the form of multiple choice, true/false and/or fill in the blank and will cover textbook information, chapter reviews, videos, class activities and discussions, class demonstrations and handouts. Your lowest exam score will be dropped leaving 4 chapter exam grades to calculate toward your final grade. If you miss an exam, you will have the opportunity to make up ONE missed exam upon your request. Please discuss with me to coordinate the details.

Pre-Chapter Questions: 140 points

Before we discuss each chapter, you will be given a Pre-Chapter Questionnaire to complete and turn in. Each Pre-Chapter Questionnaire is worth 10 points. There will be different questions each week for you to answer. This is simply to get you ready for our chapter discussion and to help me get to know you and your thoughts about the topics for the week. **There are no make-ups for this assignment.**

Chapter Review Questions: 140 points

At the end of each chapter, you will find a section titled “Chapter Test”. These are designed as a review and study guide of the material discussed in the chapter. Each “Chapter Test” will be worth 10 points and will be done in the classroom after the chapter discussion has taken place. We will review your answers before we leave class. If you attended class and completed the review, you will receive the 10 points. If you did not attend class, left before this assignment was given or did not complete the review questions in full, you will not receive the 10 points. **There are no make-ups for this assignment.**

Class Activities: 200 points

There will be 5 graded in-class activities totaling 200 points toward your final grade. Activities and grading will be discussed in detail at the beginning of each activity. Activities will focus on topics currently being discussed in class. Although these assignments will be completed and discussed in the classroom, you are expected to contribute ideas related to the topic. **If you are absent on a day that a class activity is completed, you will receive a zero for that activity.** I will walk around the classroom during these activities. If you are not focused on and completing the activity, you will not receive full credit for the activity.

Critical Thinking Assignments: 120 points

You will be assigned four critical thinking assignments worth 30 points each. These will be assigned online through Bright Space D2L. Each assignment will have an “open” date and a “closed” date. You must submit your completed assignment before the closed date in order to receive credit. **No late submissions will be accepted.**

Psychological Evaluation and Presentation: 100 points

Each student will be required to watch a movie from the approved movie list and choose one character on whom to complete your psychological evaluation. Only one student per movie. Movie choices will be finalized on the specified date in the course schedule. Students will create a PowerPoint presentation to be submitted through Bright Space D2L for a project grade (50 points) and then present your findings to the class for a Presentation grade (50 points). Your character must have at least two different diagnoses, but you can add more if you choose to do so. Your PowerPoint and presentation will include diagnosis, symptoms, etiology, treatment and prognosis of your character. You will also discuss how someone with your character’s diagnosis is viewed by our society, and what society can do to combat any stigmas related to the diagnosis. This assignment will allow students to examine the importance of being knowledgeable of their own personal biases and/or stereotypes, and how they can be more informed in their future interactions.

A list of approved movies will be distributed during the first half of the semester. A Grading Rubric and more detailed information will be provided according to the course schedule/calendar. **NO LATE POWERPOINT PRESENTATION SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED. NO MAKE-UPS FOR THE ORAL PRESENTATION WILL BE ALLOWED.** You must have everything completed and submitted by the due date given.

If you do not “present” not only will you receive a zero for the presentation, but you will also receive an additional 20-point deduction toward your final project grade.

Final Exam: 100 points

There will be a cumulative final exam which will cover the material over the entire semester and will count for 100 points of your final grade. **There will be no make-ups for the final. Any student that does not show up for the final exam will receive a 30-point deduction from their final total point accumulation.** The final exam will be given and taken in the classroom on the last scheduled class day of the semester.

DETERMINATION OF COURSE GRADE/DETAILED GRADING FORMULA:

Chapter Exams	200 points
Pre-Chapter Questionnaire	140 points
Chapter Reviews	140 points
Class Activities	200 points
Critical Thinking Assignments	120 points
PowerPoint Presentation Project	100 points
Final Exam	100 points
TOTAL	1000 points

Grading Scale:

Letter Grade	Numeric Grade	Points Possible
A	90+	900+
B	80-89	800-899
C	70-79	700-799
D	60-69	600-699
F	59 or below	599 or below

Late Work/Make-up Work: Late submissions or make-up work on any assignment or exam will not be accepted. If you are not able to attend a class, please discuss with your instructor as soon as possible.

Extra-Credit Policy: Extra credit assignments **may** be given throughout the semester if requested by student. To be eligible for extra-credit assignments, student must have missed no more than three class periods, must have submitted all assignments, and must have missed no more than one chapter exam. If these criteria are met, student has the option to speak with the instructor about completing an extra-credit assignment to supplement their final grade. No more than one extra-credit assignment can be requested.

Attendance and Participation Policy: Communication with your instructor is extremely important. If you are unable to attend class, call or e-mail your instructor prior to class if possible. Students are expected to attend each class. I will take attendance each class period. Regular attendance, classroom professionalism and participation are all critical components to being successful in college.

Tardiness Policy: Students are expected to come to class on time and stay for the entire class period. Three or more tardies or leaving class early three or more times will result in a student/teacher discussion and possible point deduction from your final grade. If you feel that there is a legitimate reason that you must be consistently late for class, please discuss the situation with me as soon as possible. If we have not had a discussion, you will be counted tardy.

Communicating with your instructor: ALL electronic communication with your 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. You may, however, communicate with your instructor via Bright Space D2L.

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed via this Assignment(s)
1. Identify various research methods and their characteristics used in the scientific study of psychology	Empirical and Quantitative	Chapter Exams, Chapter Reviews, Final Exam
2. Describe the historical influences and early schools of thought that shaped the field of psychology		Chapter Exams, Chapter Reviews
3. Describe some of the prominent perspectives and approaches used in the study of psychology	Critical Thinking	Chapter Exams, Group Activities, Critical Thinking Activities
4. Use terminology unique to the study of psychology		Chapter Exams, Paper, Presentation, Group Activities, In Class Discussion Topics
5. Describe accepted approaches and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation	Empirical and Quantitative	Chapter Exams, Psychological Disorder Group Activity, Final Exam

6. Identify factors in physiological and psychological processes involved in human behavior	Critical Thinking	Chapter Exams, Group Activities, Chapter Reviews, Psychological Disorder Assignment, Final Exam
7. (CS1) Develop, interpret and express ideas through written communication	Communication Skills (Written)	Chapter Reviews, Group Activities, Movie Discussion Paper, Critical Thinking Assignments
8. (CS2) Develop, interpret and express ideas through oral communication	Communication Skills (Oral)	Presentation, Group Activities, Class Participation
9. (SR) Demonstrate intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national and global communities	Social Responsibility	Presentations, Group Activities, Movie Discussion Paper, Class Discussions, Critical Thinking Assignments

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 exams or assignments is an extremely serious offense and will result in a **grade of zero** on that exam or assignment and the student will be referred to the Dean of Students for the appropriate disciplinary action.

Plagiarism: The practice of taking someone else’s work or ideas and passing them off as one’s own is known as plagiarism. Any assignment, quiz, test, or project containing any plagiarized material will receive a **grade of zero** and the student will be referred to the Dean of Students for the appropriate disciplinary action.

Student Concerns/Questions Statement: 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 409-933-8107.

COURSE OUTLINE (Tentative Class Schedule – if change is needed, instructor will give proper and fair notice):

Week	Date	Lectures/Discussions	Assignment Due	Quizzes/Exams
Week 1	8/23/22	Introductions/Syllabus Intro to Psychology True/False		
Week 2	9/30/22	Chapter 1 Andrea Yates: Class Activity Chapter 2	Textbook: Chapter 1 Chapter 2	
Week 3	9/6/22	Chapter 3	Textbook: Chapter 3	

Week 4	9/13/22	Chapter 4 Psych Evaluation/Presentation Project - Details	Textbook: Chapter 4	Chapter Exam 1-3
Week 5	9/20/22	Chapter 5 Class Activities Critical Thinking Assignment 1 is open on D2L 9/20/22 – 9/26/22	Textbook: Chapter 5	
Week 6	9/27/22	Chapter 6 Critical Thinking Assignment 2 (in class)	Textbook: Chapter 6	Chapter Exam 4-5
Week 7	10/4/22	Chapter 7 Chapter 8	Textbook: Chapter 7 Chapter 8	
Week 8	10/11/22	Chapter 9 Class Activity	Textbook Chapter 9	Chapter Exam 6-8
Week 9	10/18/22	Chapter 10 Critical Thinking Assignment 3 10/18/22 – 10/24/22	Textbook: Chapter 10	
Week 10	10/25/22	Chapter 11 Cults: Class Activity	Textbook: Chapter 11	
Week 11	11/1/22	Chapter 12 Chapter 13 Psych Disorders: Class Assignment Critical Thinking Assignment 4 11/1/22 – 11/7/22	Textbook: Chapter 12 Chapter 13	Chapter Exam 9-11
Week 12	11/8/22	Class Cancelled		
Week 13	11/15/22	Psychological Evaluations/PowerPoints	PowerPoint due on D2L; Presentation to Class	Chapter Exam 12-13
Week 14	11/22/22	Psychological Evaluations/PowerPoints	Presentation to Class	
Week 15	11/29/22	Review for Final		
Week 16	12/6/22	Final		Final Chapters 1-13

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://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student_Handbook_2019-2020v5.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.* https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student_Handbook_2019-2020v5.pdf

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 Michelle Brezina at 409-933-8124 or mvaldes1@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 1st 8-week session is October 5. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 18. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is December 1.

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