



**PSYC 2301.022I2**  
**General Psychology**  
**Fall 2024**  
**Online**

**Instructor Information: Cynthia Montemayor**

**Email:** [cmontemayor1@com.edu](mailto:cmontemayor1@com.edu)

**Phone:** 409-933-8212. This is the number to the Behavioral and Social Sciences Department. Leave a message with the department administrative assistant: Ms. Kerry Kloesel

**Student hours:** M-F by appointment only; online. Virtual meetings will occur via COM approved software.

**Location:** Online

**Required Textbook/Materials:** Psychology 2e, by Rose M. Spielman, William J. Jenkins, Marilyn D. Lovett; published by OpenStax.

**Course Description:** General Psychology is a survey of the major psychological topics, theories and approaches to the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. Prerequisites: TSIA2 945-990 ELAR/CRC test AND 5 or higher on Essay OR 910-944 on CRC with 5-6 on Diagnostic Test + 5 or higher on Essay, or IRW 0320 with a grade of "C" or better. This is an academic transfer course.

**Course requirements and Grading Formula:**

**Grading Formula**

Final Letter Grade Determination	
Final Letter Grade	Points earned AND Presentations (3)
<b>A</b>	• Student earns 1100 or more points/Presentations (3)
<b>B</b>	• Student earns 900-1099 points/Presentations (3)
<b>C</b>	• Student earns 700-899 points/Presentations (3)
<b>D</b>	• Student earns 600-699 points
<b>F</b>	• Student earns 599 or less points
<b>FN</b>	Student stops submitting required coursework – no online activity
	*Submission of 3 presentation posts is required to pass this course with a C and higher

There are 5 modules in PSYC 2301, thus there are 5 benchmarks: after the Orientation Module, after Module 1, after Module 2, after Module 3 and after Module 4-end of course.

As a student completes an assessment, points are earned. Points are added together which results in a sum. This is a "running/current" score that increases each time points are earned. A 0 is a number and does not decrease nor increase one's score.

Once the coursework for the Orientation Module has been evaluated and points posted to D2L:

- The student has a current grade of A if the student has earned 68 points
- The student has a current grade of B if the student has earned 60 points
- The student has a current grade of C if the student has earned 53 points
- The student has a current grade of D if the student has earned 45 points
- The student has a current grade of F if the student has earned 40 points and fewer

Once the coursework for Module 1 has been evaluated and points posted to D2L:

- The student has a current grade of A if the student has earned 326 and more points
- The student has a current grade of B if the student has earned 270-325 points
- The student has a current grade of C if the student has earned 215-269 points
- The student has a current grade of D if the student has earned 184-214 points
- The student has a current grade of F if the student has earned 183 and fewer points

Once the coursework for Module 2 has been evaluated and points posted to D2L:

- The student has a current grade of A if the student has earned 584 and more points
- The student has a current grade of B if the student has earned 480-583 points
- The student has a current grade of C if the student has earned 377-479 points
- The student has a current grade of D if the student has earned 323-376 points
- The student has a current grade of F if the student has earned 322 and fewer points

Once the coursework for Module 3 has been evaluated and points posted to D2L:

- The student has a current grade of A if the student has earned 842 and more points
- The student has a current grade of B if the student has earned 690-841 points
- The student has a current grade of C if the student has earned 540-689 points
- The student has a current grade of D if the student has earned 462-539 points
- The student has a current grade of F if the student has earned 461 and fewer points

Once the coursework for Module 4 has been evaluated and points posted to D2L:

- The student has a current grade of A if the student has earned 1100 and more points and submitted the FWA Paper
- The student has a current grade of B if the student has earned 900-1099 points and submitted the FWA Paper
- The student has a current grade of C if the student has earned 700-899 points and submitted the FWA Paper
- The student has a current grade of D if the student has earned 600-699 points
- The student has a current grade of F if the student has earned 599 and fewer points

**\*\*\*The student who does not submit the three (3) required presentation posts, and yet earns more than 899 points, forfeits the higher grade. The highest grade possible is a final letter grade of C\*\*\***

**Course Requirements/Determination of Course Grade**

Assessment Name	Possible Points	Points Earned
<b>Required</b>		
(1) Orientation Module Assignments. 2 at 30/55	85	
(2) Topic (Ch) discussion assignments. 13 at 30 pts each	260	
(3) Topic quizzes. 13 at 15 points each	195	
(4) Module Exams. 4 at 100 points each	400	
(4) Presentation Posts. 3 at 50 points each. Choose 3. 4 are offered with the 4 <sup>th</sup> counting as extra credit	200	
(5) Attendance Discussion Assignments. 8 at 20 pts each	160	
<b>Total Points</b>	<b>1300</b>	
<b>Optional/Extra Credit, if offered</b>		
Orientation "What do you know" Quiz (before course begins)	25	
Presentation Post (4 <sup>th</sup> )	50	
Additional quizzes, discussion assignments	TBD	

**Grade Assessments Explanation:** – The student can see how many points they earn on each assessment by clicking on the Grades link in D2L. Assessments must be submitted to D2L. Coursework will not be accepted via email. Contact the course professor, via email, if one has a question about course requirements or evaluation of coursework. Be sure to read the feedback posted to D2L.

- (R) Required coursework
- (EC) Extra credit/optional coursework

(1) Orientation Module

- (R) Introductions Discussion assignment
- (R) Syllabus/Contract Quiz
- (EC) Pre-course "What do you know about psychology" quiz
- (EC) email communication

(2) Module 1

- (R) Topic/Ch 1 Discussion Assignment and Quiz
- (R) Topic/Ch 2 Discussion Assignment and Quiz
- (R) Topic/Ch 3 Discussion Assignment and Quiz
- (R) Topic/Ch 4 Discussion Assignment and Quiz
- (R) Module 1 Presentation Post
- (R) Exam 1

(3) Module 2

- (R) Topic/Ch 5 Discussion Assignment and Quiz
- (R) Topic/Ch 6 Discussion Assignment and Quiz
- (R) Topic/Ch 7 Discussion Assignment and Quiz
- (R) Module 2 Presentation Post
- (R) Exam 2

(4) Module 3

- (R) Topic/Ch 9 Discussion Assignment and Quiz
- (R) Topic/Ch 10 Discussion Assignment and Quiz
- (R) Topic/Ch 11 Discussion Assignment and Quiz
- (R) Topic/Ch 12 Discussion Assignment and Quiz
- (R) Module 3 Presentation Post
- (R) Exam 3

(5) Module 4

- (R) Topic/Ch 14 Discussion Assignment and Quiz
- (R) Topic/Ch 15 Discussion Assignment and Quiz
- (R) Topic/Ch 16 Discussion Assignment and Quiz
- (R) Module 4 Presentation Post
- (R) Exam 4

**Assessments:**

**Discussion Assignments. Required (R)**

Each student will be required to complete discussion assignments during the term. 22 total. Orientation (1), topic/chapter (13), and weekly attendance (8).

Discussions will take place over course material, articles, and/or videos. To earn points, the student must follow the instructions and the discussion assignment evaluation rubric. The student must respond to the instructor's prompt and reply to a classmate's post. Write in complete sentences, use course required terms, follow APA format. Use the assigned textbook and/or lecture summary only, unless instructions direct one to use a different source.

- **Response 1-Required:** Reply to all questions/statements made by the course professor. Use the required term(s) in your post – these are in bold font. End the response with a question to your classmates that relates to your post.
- **Response 2-Required:** Respond to a post made by a classmate. Begin your response with the classmate’s name. Do not write the words “good job or similar language.” The goal is to simulate conversation that would take place in the classroom.
- Evaluation Rubric. To be used to evaluate a student’s discussion posts.
  - 27-30 points (Excellent response): met word count requirement; answered all questions, used required terms, incorporated definitions into the post, excellent use of course material with direct quotes and correctly applied/ used in-text citations rules (APA format). Review example listed in D2L
  - 24-26 points (Above average response) met word count requirements; answered all questions, used required terms, included all definitions of required terms in the post, excellent use of course material and correctly applied (correct examples), did not follow APA format and/or use in-text quotations (see example listed in D2L)
  - 21-23 points: (Average response): met word count requirements; answered some questions, used some required terms but did not show an understanding of the course material or course assignment; did not follow APA format or use in-text quotations
  - 2-20 (Poor response): responded to the question(s), did not use complete sentences, significant spelling and grammar errors, did not apply course material
  - 1 point: did not submit the two required responses
  - 0 points: Did not attempt

**NOTE:** Responses can be deleted at the discretion of the course professor. Responses will only be deleted if the instructor determines them to be aggressive, rude, degrading, etc., and they may be deleted without notice to the student. All such responses will receive a grade of 0 for the deleted thread. Please refer to the syllabus for more information regarding student conduct and expectations.

**Topic/Chapter Quizzes (R):**

13 quizzes each worth 20 points. Quizzes will be assigned for each chapter and each quiz will have a total of 10 questions. Chapter Quizzes may include a combination of true/false, multiple choice, and/or matching questions. Chapter quizzes are untimed with two attempts. Highest attempt is one score. Students will not be given access to quizzes a third time. NO exceptions. All students must complete the online quizzes by the scheduled due date. There are **no make-up quizzes**. Students are offered significant amount of time to take the quizzes, once

the quiz has started it must be completed in that session. The student cannot start and stop the quiz. Plan to complete the quiz in one sitting. Find a quiet location, free of interruptions with secure Internet connection. Plan to complete quizzes on a laptop or desktop. Do not attempt quizzes on one's phone or similar device.

### **Presentation Posts:**

Each student is required to complete 3 short Presentation Posts. 50 points each. Complete a fourth presentation for extra credit (50 points). Presentation posts offer students the opportunity to examine some of the ethical issues within psychology and identify how each impacts society at the community, state and national level. This presentation allows students to acknowledge their personal biases and/or stereotypes, and how they can be more informed regarding their future interactions.

Presentation Post instructions:

1. Review the assigned topic
2. Develop and record a 5-7 minute presentation on a topic based on the instructions listed below
3. Presentation can use any type of presentation software OR use record one's presentation directly to D2L by clicking on the assignment link and selecting the "record video option." See image below
4. Upload file to D2L to designated link or if created in D2L just save the presentation

Instructions for Module Presentation Posts:

1. Review the assigned chapters offered in the assigned module and choose a topic of interest to you to discuss. Introduce the topic/issue, discuss the major ideas around this idea/topic, discuss the importance of discussing and addressing this /issue topic, discuss how this issue/topic impacts society, and the overall benefits to society of addressing this issue/topic.

2. Develop and record a **5-8 minute** presentation on the topic. The information presented should be based on the research conducted by the student. This is not a summary of an assigned chapter.

Use 1-2 sources outside of those provided by the instructor. This means use the textbook as a source and another source. Presentations will be evaluated based on Quality of Information and Organization, Quality of Verbal Communication, and Quality of Non-Verbal Communication, presentation (PPT, etc.) **Presentation must not be less than 5 minutes or more than 8 minutes. Submissions that do not meet this requirements will earn a 0.**

**3.** One can use any type of presentation software – must include audio/video OR use D2L to record one's presentation. How? Click on the assignment link and then select the record video option connected with each assignment link. (See image below)

### Submit Assignment

Files to submit \*

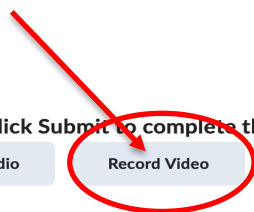
(0) file(s) to submit

After uploading, you must click **Submit** to complete the submission.

Add a File

Record Audio

Record Video



**Exams:**

4 online exams. Each has 50 questions and is worth 100 points. Exams may include a combination of true/false, multiple choice, matching, and/or short answer questions. Exams are timed (130 minutes). Students have ONE (1) attempt to complete the exam, with no second attempts. Complete each exam by the due date. There are **no make-up exams**. Once a student starts an exam, the student must complete the exam – in one session. Once the time limit hits, the student will have to complete/submit the exam. The student who misses an exam may take a comprehensive final exam to take the place of the missed exam. This takes the place of one exam only. This opportunity is for students who miss an exam. Students will not have the opportunity to take this exam for extra credit (for more points).

**NOTE:** Please be aware that although you have one full week to take the exam, once the exam has been started it must be completed in **one timed session**. Do not plan to start the exam and then walk away and then return to the exam. Find a quiet location free of interruptions with a secure Internet connection. Plan to complete the exam on a laptop or desktop. Do not attempt to take the exam on one's phone or similar device.

**Attendance Discussion Assignments:** Each week, for a 7-day period only, an assignment will appear under the Attendance Discussion tab. This assignment, and only this assignment, will be used to take attendance each week. Be sure to answer the question(s) asked by the course instructor and reply to a classmate following the instructions. Review the discussion assignment evaluation rubric for evaluation of this assignment.

**Late Work/Make-Up Work:** Students should strive to complete the assigned coursework each week. However, as long as weekly coursework is completed by the module due date, there is no penalty. Students have a couple of weeks to complete coursework for each module (not Orientation). This set up allows the student flexibility, as needed. However, if a student finds that they have fallen behind and needs "a little extra time" to catch up the student will be offered a "late pass." Each student is offered a 1 time "extension" – no matter the reason. The student must request the extension before the due date/deadline. take advantage of extra credit offered in another module to "make up missed points." If there is a medical emergency that prevents a student from submitting coursework by the due date/deadline, contact the course professor. At times, the course instructor may offer a "free extension to all students." Take advantage of these offers. They are not guaranteed; they are not without deadlines.

Once a deadline has passed, do not attempt work that has been awarded a score in the D2L. **Once a score has been entered into the D2L gradebook, the student's grade will not be changed (unless feedback directs otherwise).** Plan to complete coursework before the due date/deadline listed on the course calendar for each assessment.

### **Optional/Extra Credit Assessments**

Optional/extra credit assignment may be offered in this course. These are marked as (EC). It might be a quiz, or it might be a discussion. Same instructions and requirements as required for quizzes/discussions offered in each module. Read the instructions. These will not be re-opened or reset as these are optional/extra credit.

**Attendance Policy:** Students are counted present only when they complete the designated attendance discussion assignment each week. These are different from the topic discussion assignments are located under the “Weekly Attendance Discussion Assignment” tab. Review the Student Handbook regarding your responsibility to “attend class” and be engaged as an active learner.

**Communicating with course 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. Be sure to include the course name and number AND section number in one’s email. This information is listed at the topic of this document and in D2L. Generally, student email is responded to M-F – College business days. Communication sent on the weekend, on a college holiday, or any other day the College is closed will be responded to when the College officially reopens for business.

### **Student Learning Objectives/Core Objectives:**

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. **Social Responsibility\*:** Students will demonstrate intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.
4. **Empirical and Quantitative Skills\*:** To include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.



<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	Discussion Assignments, Quizzes and Exams
2. Describe the historical influences and early schools of thought that shaped the field of psychology		Discussion Assignments, Quizzes and Exams
3. Describe some of the prominent perspectives and approaches used in the study of psychology	Critical Thinking	Discussion Assignments, Quizzes and Exams
4. Use terminology unique to the study of psychology		Discussion Assignments, Quizzes and Exams
5. Describe accepted approaches and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation	Empirical and Quantitative	Discussion Assignments, Quizzes and Exams
6. Identify factors in physiological and psychological processes involved in human behavior	Critical Thinking	Discussion Assignments, Quizzes and Exams
7. (CS1) Develop, interpret and express ideas through written communication	Communication Skills (Written)	Discussion Assignments and Presentations
8. (CS2) Develop, interpret and express ideas through oral communication	Communication Skills (Oral)	Discussion Assignments and Presentations
9. (SR) Demonstrate intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.	Social Responsibility	Discussion Assignments and Presentation

**Academic Dishonesty:** Any incident of academic policy will be dealt with in accordance with college policy and the Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty – such as cheating on exams is an extremely serious offense and will result in a **grade of zero** on that exam and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate discipline action.

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is using someone else's words or ideas and claiming them as your own. Plagiarism is a very serious offense. Plagiarism includes paraphrasing someone else's words without giving proper citation, copying directly from a website and pasting it into your paper, using someone else's words without quotation marks. Any assignment containing any plagiarized material will receive a **grade of zero** and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate discipline action.

Follow APA format when citing sources:

[Purdue OWL APA Format](#)

**Link(s) to resource(s) about avoiding plagiarism:**

[Tips on avoiding plagiarism](#)

**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(s) with me, you continue to have questions, please contact Department Chair, Shinya Wakao at 409-933-8107 or [swakao@com.edu](mailto:swakao@com.edu).

### **PSYC 2301 Course Calendar**

The College does not offer "complete at your own pace courses." Coursework will be assigned and opened on a weekly basis. Coursework will be released to students on the **Monday** of the assigned week. Due dates/times listed on the calendar refer to 11:59PM CST at the "end of the designated week" (Sunday). Because Week 8 ends on Wednesday, the coursework for Week 8 will be released early. PSYC 2301 is an information heavy course with a significant amount of coursework due every 2 weeks. Students are strongly encouraged to put coursework due dates in a calendar and create a plan to complete coursework by due dates/deadlines.

Calendar starts on next page

Date	Chapter/Topic	Task/Assessment to Complete
Week 1: 10/14- 10/20	<b>Monday – Sunday</b> Orientation Module Chapter 1: Intro to Psychology Chapter 2 Psychological Research	* Orientation Assignments Discussion and Quiz *Ch 1 Discussion and Quiz *Ch 2 Discussion and Quiz *Complete Week 1 Attendance Discussion Assignment
Week 2: 10/21- 10/27	<b>Monday – Sunday</b> Chapter 3: Biopsychology Chapter 4: States of Consciousness <b>All Module 1 coursework are due at the end of this week</b>	*Ch 3 Discussion and Ch 3 Quiz *Ch 4 Discussion and Ch 4 Quiz <b>*Presentation Post</b> <b>*Exam 1</b> *Complete Week 2 Attendance Discussion Forum
Week 3: 10/28- 11/3	<b>Monday – Sunday</b> Chapter 5: Sensation and Perception Chapter 6: Learning	*Ch 5 Discussion and Ch 3 Quiz *Ch 6 Discussion and Ch 4 Quiz *Complete Week 3 Attendance Discussion Forum
Week 4: 11/4- 11/10	<b>Monday – Sunday</b> Chapter 7: Thinking and Intelligence <b>All Module 2 coursework are due at the end of this week</b>	*Ch 7 Discussion and Ch 7 Quiz **Presentation Post Exam 2 *Complete Week 4 Attendance Discussion Forum
Week 5: 11/11- 11/17	<b>Monday - Sunday</b> Chapter 9: Lifespan Development Chapter 10: Emotion and Motivation Chapter 11: Personality	*Ch 9 Discussion and Ch 3 Quiz *Ch 10 Discussion and Ch 4 Quiz *Ch 11 Discussion and Ch 3 Quiz *Complete Week 5 Attendance Discussion Forum
Week 6: 11/18- 11/24	<b>Monday - Sunday</b> Chapter 12: Social Psychology <b>All Module 3 coursework is due at the end of this week</b>	*Ch 6 Discussion and Ch 6 Quiz * Module 3 Presentation Post *Complete Week 6 Attendance Discussion Forum
Week 7: 11/25- 12/1	<b>Monday - Sunday</b> Chapter 14: Stress, Lifestyle, and Health Chapter 15: Psychological Disorders  <b>College is closed for Thanksgiving Holidays: 11/28, 11/29, 11/30, 12/1</b>	<b>*11/26/2024: Last day to drop w/o a grade</b> *Ch 14 Discussion and Ch 3 Quiz *Ch 15 Discussion and Ch 4 Quiz *Complete Week 7 Attendance Discussion Forum
Week 8: 12/2-12/4	<b>Monday - Sunday</b> Chapter 16: Therapy and Treatment <b>All Module 4 coursework is due at 11:59PM <u>Wednesday</u> of this week</b>	*Ch 16 Discussion and Ch 3 Quiz *Module 4 Presentation Post *Module 4 Exam *Complete Week 8 Attendance Discussion Forum

## **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 2. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 15. The last date to withdraw for the 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week session is November 26.

**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.