PSYC 2301-021I5 – Summer 2025, 2nd 5 Weeks (7/7-8/8)
GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY (Online)

Instructor Information: Dr. Anne Dickens | adickens1@com.edu | 409-933-8909

Office Hours & Location: ADM Suite 117-01 Visits by appointment.

Required Textbook: *Psychology 2e, by Rose M. Spielman, William J. Jenkins, Marilyn D. Lovett; published by OpenStax.* The textbook is FREE to students and can be found online in our D2L course site. To access the textbook, login to our D2L course and click the Content tab and then the Textbook link.

Course Description: General Psychology is a survey of the major psychological topics, theories and approaches to the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. Topics include scientific method, neuroscience, behavior, perception, learning, memory, intelligence, personality and psychological disorders.

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: Grades are based on points accumulated throughout the semester. There is the possibility of earning 1,000 total points from assignments and assessments. You are held accountable for completing all assignments. Instructions for assignments must be closely followed. Specific details and directions for each assignment will be on the actual assignment in D2L.

UNIT EXAMS:
There will be four (4) unit exams, with a maximum value of 100 points each. Each exam will include 40 multiple choice and/or true/false questions worth a total of 80 points and a short essay section worth 20 points. Exams are timed (120 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 expires, the student will have to complete/submit the exam.

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.

DISCUSSION POSTS:
You will be required to complete one introduction post and a post for each unit throughout the session. These posts are your opportunity to discuss a topic related to the assigned chapter with your peers. You will earn 15 points for an original post and 5 points for responding to one of your classmates. Use these guidelines to structure your original post and response to your classmate.

- Original post: Reply to all questions/statements made by the course professor. Use the required term(s) in your post – these are in bold font in the prompt.
- Response to classmate: Post a thoughtful response that demonstrates your knowledge of the topic. Do not write the words "good job or similar language." The goal is to simulate conversation that would take place in the classroom.
- 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.

PRESENTATION:
Students will have one presentation to complete during the 5-weeks. The presentation will help students examine various psychological disorders and identify how ta fictional character demonstrated symptoms. Students will choose a character from literature, television or movies and provide examples of behaviors that match DSM-V-TR criteria for a psychological disorder. Detailed instructions and a grading rubic can be found under the Discussions tab in D2L.

Each presentation post has the following instructions:
1. Research the assigned topic
2. Develop a 5-7 minute presentation on the topic.
3. Share your presentation with the class.

Your presentation will be worth a maximum of 100 points. You will earn points for quality of information and organization, quality of verbal communication, quality of non-verbal communication and the written summary. More details will be provided.

Determination of Course Grade/ Detailed Grading Formula:

Assignment	*Points Each*	Total Points
Unit Exam (4)	*100*	400
Discussion Posts (5)	*20*	100
Presentation (1)	*100*	100
Total Points:		600

Points Earned		Grade
540-600	90%-100%	A
480-539	80%-89%	B
420-479	70%-79%	C
360-419	60%-69%	D
359 or less	0%-59%	F

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Dates	Chaper/Topic	Task/Assignment to Complete
Week 1 7/7-7/13	Introduction Chapter 1: Intro to Psychology Chapter 2: Psychological Research Chapter 3: Biopsychology Chapter 4: States of Consciousness	Introduction discussion post – **DUE 7/9** Unit 1 discussion post **EXAM 1 (Chapters 1,2,3,4)**
Week 2 7/14-7/20	Chapter 5: Sensation and Perception Chapter 6: Learning Chapter 7: Thinking and Intelligence Chapter 8: Memory	Unit 2 discussion post **EXAM 2 (Chapters 5,6,7,8)**
Week 3 7/21-7/27	Chapter 9: Lifespan Development Chapter 10: Emotion and Motivation Chapter 11: Personality Chapter 12: Social Psychology	Unit 3 discussion post **EXAM 3 (Chapters 9,10,11,12)**
Week 4 7/28-8/3	Chapter 14: Stress, Lifestyle and Health Chapter 15: Psychological Disorders Chapter 16: Therapy and Treatment	Unit 4 discussion post **EXAM 4 (Chapter 14,15,16)**
Week 5 8/4-8/7 **(Note change in due date)**	**All assignments due by Thursday, August 7th: No exceptions.**	**PRESENTATION**

All assignments due to D2L Brightspace by 11:59 PM on due date unless otherwise specified. The instructor reserves the right to make changes to this course schedule. Any changes will be announced in class and through D2L Brightspace and COM student email.
*Please post to the Discussion Board early so that everyone has time to respond to each other.
**NOTE: Students who do not complete any of the Course Introduction assignments by 7/9/25 will be dropped for non-attendaance.

The last week of class will be a short week with all assignments due no later than 11:59 PM on THIRSDAY, AUGUST 7th. No exceptions.

Late Work & Make-Up Policies: All assignments for each module will be due by 11:59 PM each Sunday. You have all week to complete all required assignments and should avoid waiting until the last minutes to begin your work. Set aside time each week to work on this class as if you were attending class at a specific time.

Assignment Submission & Extra Credit Policies: Assignments must be submitted to D2L as .doc/.docx (Word), .pdf, or .jpeg files. It is good practice to double-check after submitting an assignment (resubmit the correct document if needed). It is ultimately your responsibility to submit work in the proper format on time.

Attendance & Classroom Conduct Policies: Although this is an online course, regular "attendance" and participation are critical to being successful. This course is conducted entirely online, which means that you must be diligent about working on assignments to meet the deadlines. You should expect to spend 2-3 hours each week reading and completing assignments, just as you would in a face-to-face class. The biggest danger to successfully completing an online course with a grade you can be proud of is procrastination.

It is expected that everyone treats each other with mutual respect. In an online class, we demonstrate respect to one another by being mindful of the words and tone used in online correspondence (i.e., emails, discussion board). Online discussions in this course may include sensitive topics. It is ok to disagree with others, but it is not ok to verbally attack someone because of their ideas or beliefs.

Communicating With Your Instructor: ALL electronic communication with the instructor must be through your COM email. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share information about performance in the class through other electronic means. Students are expected to check their COM email and D2L course page regularly. Communicate with your instructor in a timely manner so that your instructor can best help you. Your instructor should respond within 24-48 business hours.

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.

Table Mapping SLOs, Core Objectives and Assignments

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	Unit 1 Exam, Discussion
2. Describe the historical influences and early schools of thought that shaped the field of psychology	Critical Thinking	Unit 1 Exam, Discussion
3. Describe some of the prominent perspectives and approaches used in the study of psychology	Critical Thinking	Unit 3 Exam, Discussion
4. Use terminology unique to the study of psychology	Communication Skills (Oral) Communication Skills (Written)	Unit 2 Exam, Discussion
5. Describe accepted approaches and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation	Empirical and Quantitative	Presentation, Discussion
6. Identify factors in physiological and psychological processes involved in human behavior	Critical Thinking	Unit 1 Exam, Discussions

7. (CS1) Develop, interpret and express ideas through written communication	Communication Skills (Written)	Discussions, Presentation
8. (CS2) Develop, interpret and express ideas through oral communication	Communication Skills (Oral)	Presentation

Academic Dishonesty: Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, deliberately copying word-for-word another person's work without proper quotation and attribution (direct plagiarism), submitting your own work from another class (self-plagiarism), and failing to correctly cite sources or unintentionally using the same words as another source without proper quotation and attribution (accidental plagiarism). Academic dishonesty also includes unauthorized use or attempted use of material, information, devices/technology (e.g., Artificial Intelligence), or communication during an academic exercise (i.e., assignment, paper). **Any form of academic dishonesty may result in a reduction of points (up to a zero with no make-up) at the discretion of the instructor.** Additionally, an academic dishonesty report may be filed.

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

Technology Outage Policy: In the event you experience a technology problem, refer to the *Troubleshooting Guide* available on D2L. It is your responsibility to actively try to resolve the problem and communicate in a timely manner with your instructor and the College of the Mainland (COM) Distance Education (DE) department. You can submit a help ticket to COM's DE department anytime at **http://de-support.com.edu/requests**. If you have trouble submitting assignments via D2L, you may email your assignment directly to the instructor.

NOTE: If for any reason the college closes, continue to work on the assignments as scheduled below and check D2L for announcements.

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, *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 from the 1st 5-week session is June 30. The last date to withdraw from the 10-week session is July 29. **The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 5-week session is August 1.**

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.