



PSYCH 2301.302CL
General Psychology
Spring 2023
T/TH 7:10 -8:30 am

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

Student hours and location: M/W 11:00 – 12:00pm COM Gym office #123. Virtual hours by Appointment.

Required Textbook/Materials: *Psychology in Everyday Life, 5th ed.* David G. Myers, C. Nathan Dewall

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 13 Reviews due weekly throughout the semester. Details can be found in D2L.

Final Exam: The final will be 100 points and due on the last class day.

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

Think - Pair - Share: Throughout the semester, questions, videos, and articles will be shown or explained. You will be given a short time to write your opinion, discuss with a partner or group, then share your ideas with the rest of the class. Various in class assignments will be done.

Social Responsibility Presentation: (in class presentation) Submitted on D2L

Choose only one option. For either choice, product and presentation will determine your grade, along with 25 points for attendance and feedback to the presenter.

Choice 1: Think of a problem in society that concerns you (ex. texting while driving). Create a 3-slide power point. Slide one will be your 'billboard' that defines the problem and advertises your stance. What will make it stand out at people passing by? Why should others care about

your concern? Slide 2 will be your researched suggestions to help solve the problem. Slide 3 will be your three references.

Choice 2: Think of an organization you want to bring awareness to. Slide 1 will be the billboard that explains the organization and why they need support. Make sure the name and what they do is clear. What will make it stand out to those passing by? Slide 2 will be details about organization – are they a non-profit/how much do they give back/statistics about them. Slide 3 will be your three references.

Movie Review: Submitted on D2L. Use the RCQ given to write down notes as you watch. Write a 5-paragraph essay explaining how the movie relates to Psychology (NOT a summary of the movie itself.) What concepts from psychology can you depict in the movie and what chapter would it be related to? Concepts should be in **BOLD** print.

Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula:

Assignments	Possible Points	Earned Points	Letter Grade	Points Possible
Mini Projects	250		A	900-1000
13 Chapter Reviews	325		B	800-899
Final Exam	100		C	700-799
In Class Assignments	125		D	600-699
Social responsibility	100		F	599 and below
Movie Review	100			
Total Points	1000			

Late Work, Make-Up, and Extra-Credit Policy:

20% will be deducted from Chapter Reviews and projects if late. There will be no makeup for the Social Responsibility Project or Final Exam.

Attendance Policy: Being in class is extremely important to the learning process. We explain and discuss concepts that go beyond the textbook to increase understanding of the material covered. Students will fill out a “**Classroom Daily Thought Card**” each day. **Your name, date, and a thought for the day need to be on the card.** I will use the cards to take attendance. I will not ask for the cards; you are expected to turn them in before class starts each day. Communication with your instructor is extremely important. If you are unable to attend class, if possible, e-mail me prior to class. Students are expected to attend each class! There will be no distinction between an excused and unexcused absence.

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. The best way to reach me is by email -jabshire3@com.edu.

Academic Dishonesty: Any incident of academic dishonesty will be dealt with in accordance with college policy and the Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty – such as copying someone else’s Reviews or Final 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.

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.

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	Chapter 1 Review
2. Describe the historical influences and early schools of thought that shaped the field of psychology		Chapter 13 Review
3. Describe some of the prominent perspectives and approaches used in the study of psychology	Critical Thinking	Chapter 1 Review
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 14 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)	Chapter Reviews
8. Develop, interpret and express ideas through oral communication (CS2)	Communication Skills (Oral)	Think, Pair, Shares
9. Demonstrate intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities. Social	Social Responsibility	Social Responsibility Project

Week	Plan of Action <i>This schedule is subject to change at the instructor's discretion.</i>	What's Due Tuesday	What's Due Thursday
1 January	Ch.1 Roots, Big Ideas, and Critical Thinking Tools	17	19
2	Ch.2 The Biology of Behavior and Consciousness	24	26 CR 1 & 2
3 Jan/Feb	Discuss Mini Projects Movie	31 MP1 Due	2
4 February	Ch.10 Stress, Health, and Human Flourishing	7 Movie Review	9 CR 10
5	Ch. 9 Motivation and Emotion	14 MP 2 Due	16 CR9
6	Ch.3 Developing Through the Life Span	21 MP 3 Due	23 CR3
7 Feb/Mar	Ch.5 Sensation and Perception	28	2 CR5
8 March	Ch.8 Thinking, Language, and Intelligence	7	9 CR 8

	SPRING BREAK	13-17	
9	Ch.6 Learning	21	23 CR6
10	Ch.7 Memory	28	30 CR7
11 April	Ch.12 Personality	4	6 CR12
12	Chapter 13 – Psychological Disorders	11 MP 4 Due	13 CR 13
13	Chapter 14 – Therapy	18 MP 5 Due	20 CR 14
14	Ch.11 Social Psychology	25	27 CR 11
15 May	Social Responsibility Project	2 Presentations	4 Presentations
16	Finals Week	9 Rough Draft	11 Final

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 [Student Handbook 2022-2023 v4.pdf \(com.edu\)](#). *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 (409) 933-8919 or klachnley@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 March 1. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is April 24. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is May 3.

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.