



**Psychology 2301.201 CL**  
**General Psychology**  
**Fall 2023**  
**Wednesday – 6:00 PM to 8:50 PM**

**Instructor Information:** Ona M. Mull, M.A.

**Student hours and location:** Learning Resource Building #8, Room 213 – Instructor will be in classroom approximately 30 minutes before class and will stay after class to meet with students as requested.

**Required Textbook/Materials:** *Psychology 2e*, OpenStax

**Course Description:** This course is designed to introduce the major topics of the discipline of psychology, including history, scientific method, biology of mind, consciousness, nature vs. nurture, developmental psychology, learning, cognitive psychology, motivation, psychological disorders, treatments and social psychology.

**Course requirements:** See pages 3-5

**Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula:** You are held accountable for completing all assignments. All directions for assignments must be closely followed. A variety of means to evaluate student performance will be used throughout the course.

Grade Computation	Points Possible	Your Points
Professionalism	160	
QEP Presentations	100	
Assignment 1	50	
Assignment 2	50	
Study Guides	140	
Quizzes 1 & 2 (50 points ea.)	100	
Quizzes 3 & 4	100	
Quizzes 5 & 6	100	
In Class Activities/Homework	100	
Final Exam	100	
TOTAL	1000	

Letter Grade	Points Possible
A	900-1000
B	800-899
C	700-799
D	600-699
F	<600

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

There will be NO MAKE UP TESTS! If you miss a quiz for any reason, you may complete an alternative format quiz. Study guides will be due at the time of the quiz and will not be considered for credit after that time. Any quiz, assignment or other student work turned in after the due date and time will be considered for up to one half credit. If you are absent when an assignment is due, it should be turned in by hand, another trusted student, or email at, or before, the time it is due. Failure to do so will result in the assignment being considered only for up to half credit.

**Attendance Policy:** Attendance is highly recommended due to class discussions and lectures. It is the student’s responsibility to acquire any information missed. Students having serious issues affecting attendance should discuss them with the instructor. College of the Mainland recognizes **no excused absences** other than those prescribed by law. It is also important that you are actively engaged during class and your cell phone is put away to avoid distraction. **Each absence and/or cell phone use violation will result in a point deduction from the professionalism points awarded each student.** If tardiness is an issue, instructor will deduct professionalism points for this as well.

**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. (Faculty may add additional statement requiring monitoring and communication expectations via D2L or other LMS)

<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	Assignment 1
2. Describe the historical influences and early schools of thought that shaped the field of psychology	Communication Skills	In Class Activities
3. Describe some of the prominent perspectives and approaches used in the study of psychology	Critical Thinking	Quiz 1
4. Use terminology unique to the study of psychology	Communication Skills	Quiz 3
5. Describe accepted approaches and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation	Empirical and Quantitative	Quiz 2
6. Identify factors in physiological and psychological processes involved in human behavior	Critical Thinking	In Class Activities
7. (CS1) Develop, interpret and express ideas through written communication	Communication Skills (Written)	Assignment 2
8. (CS2) Develop, interpret and express ideas through oral communication	Communications Skills (Oral)	Oral Presentation
9. (SR) Demonstrate intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility and the ability to engage	Social Responsibility	Quiz 6

effectively in regional, national and global communities.		
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**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 quizzes – is extremely serious and will result in a **grade of zero** on that quiz 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 Shinya Wakao at 409-933-8107 or swakao@com.edu.

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**Success Tips for Students:**

1. Attend every class
2. Pay attention in class
3. Take detailed notes
4. Study lecture notes after every class
5. Use the study guides
6. Use the study technique that works best for you
7. Read the textbook carefully for retention

**Course Requirements:**

**QEP Presentation - Oral Presentation Guidelines**

Choose a chapter in the textbook to narrow down the topic on which you want to research TED Talks. Then find one TED Talk over which you would like to give your presentation.

Create a work cited page in MLA format. This will be printed and turned in to your professor at the time you present (exceptions will deduct 10% from grade).

Presentation should be **at least 3 minutes and not more than 5 minutes** in your own words covering your topic and TED Talk. Please do not read to us!

\*\*\*Presentations for each chapter will be due to the class on the Tuesday of the week we cover the chapter in class. THERE ARE NO MAKE UP DAYS FOR ORAL PRESENTATIONS.

Grade is based on video/citation, professionalism in verbal presentation (25%), professionalism in physical presentation (25%), content of the presentation (25%) and preparation of the presenter (25%). Each student is expected to be a professional audience member for their fellow students as well.

The Speaking Reading and Writing Center on campus is also a great resource:  
<http://www.com.edu/computer-labs/speaking-reading-writing-center>

**Assignment 1. Do your own research by collecting data and analyzing it:**

- Pick something that you want to further investigate about yourself or someone else. Collect data by conducting an experiment.
- Keep track of your data for 2 weeks (one control week followed by one experimental week) and **INCLUDE A SPREADSHEET WITH YOUR DATA.**
- Type a two-page MLA formatted report presenting the rationale for your research, your hypothesis, how you conducted your research, and how you collected the data. You will include the spreadsheet with your results on a separate page following your report.
- Include information on any extraneous variable(s) that may have skewed your results.
- Include your thoughts of your data collection methods, whether or not they were valid, and explain why or why not.
- Your paper should be printed, stapled, and turned in upon entering the class on the due date to be eligible for full credit.

**Assignment 2. Complete 5 personality tests from links provided and type a 2 page MLA formatted paper.**

- Discuss how physiological and psychological factors (nature and nurture) in your life have influenced your behavior.
- Discuss how the results of the personality tests were influenced by physiological and psychological factors.
- Your paper should be printed, stapled and turned in upon entering the class on the due date.

[http://similarminds.com/personality\\_tests.html](http://similarminds.com/personality_tests.html)

<http://psychcentral.com/personality-test/start.php>

<http://www.outofservice.com/bigfive/>

<http://www.personalitytest.net/>

**Professionalism**

You will earn up to ten points each week during the semester which will be based on the following:

- Punctuality and Attendance
- Preparedness
- Positivity and Attitude
- Cell Phones/Earbuds Put Away

**Course outline: Subject to Change!!!**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Lecture/Discussions</b>	<b>Assignments</b>	<b>Quizzes/Exams</b>
<b>Week 1 8/30</b>	Student Strategies/ Study Skills and Study Guides, Chapter 1, Introduction to Psychology	In Class Syllabus Activity	
<b>Week 2 9/6</b>	Discuss Assignment 1 Chapter 2, Research		
<b>Week 3 9/13</b>	Chapter 3, Biology of Behavior		
<b>Week 4 9/20</b>	Chapter 4, States of Consciousness		Quiz 1 – Study Guides Due
<b>Week 5 9/27</b>	Chapter 5, Sensation and Perception		
<b>Week 6 10/4</b>	Chapter 6, Learning	<i>Assignment 1 due</i>	Quiz 2 – Study Guides Due
<b>Week 7 10/11</b>	Chapter 8, Memory	QEP Presentations	
<b>Week 8 10/18</b>	Chapter 7, Thinking and Intelligence	QEP Presentations	Quiz 3 – Study Guides Due
<b>Week 9 10/25</b>	Chapter 10, Motivation and Emotion	QEP Presentations	
<b>Week 10 11/1</b>	Chapter 14, Stress and Health	QEP Presentations	Quiz 4 – Study Guides Due
<b>Week 11 11/8</b>	Chapter 12, Social Psychology	QEP Presentations	
<b>Week 12 11/15</b>	Chapter 11, Personality	QEP Presentations	Quiz 5 – Study Guides Due
<b>Week 13 11/22</b>	Chapter 11, Personality continued	QEP Presentations	
<b>Week 14 11/29</b>	Chapter 15, Psychological Disorders	<i>Assignment 2 due</i>	Quiz 6 – Study Guides Due
<b>Week 15 12/6</b>	Chapter 16, Therapy and Treatments		
<b>Week 16 12/13</b>			<b>FINAL EXAM</b>

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## 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](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 at 409-933-8119 or [klachney@com.edu](mailto:klachney@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 1<sup>st</sup> 8-week session is October 11. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 28. The last date to withdraw for the 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week session is December 7.

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

**Classroom Conduct Policy:** College of the Mainland requires that students enrolled at COM be familiar with the Standards of Student Conduct, located in the on-line Student Handbook: <https://www.com.edu/student-services/student-handbook> . Students should be familiar with and abide by the Student Code of Conduct. Any violations of the Code of Conduct will result in a referral to the Dean of Students and may result in dismissal from class.

Professionalism, which includes preparedness, a positive attitude, interaction, and respect, is expected. **Place cell phones on silent and put in location designated by professor.** No earphones, earbuds, or laptops (unless as an accommodation through the college) are allowed in the classroom.

**NOTE:** If for any reason the college closes, continue to work on the assignments spelled out in your syllabus. For example, complete chapter readings, study guides, activities, and projects. You are accountable for the work upon the re-opening of the college.