

Syllabus for: General Psychology – Psych 1

Semester & Year:	Spring 2013
Course ID and Section Number:	Psych 1 – E1981
Number of Credits/Units:	3
Day/Time:	Wednesday 6:05-9:15
Location:	Creative Arts 109
Instructor's Name:	Tonja Speed
Contact Information:	Office location and hours: Creative Arts - Appointment Phone: 707 – 822 -5866 Email: Tonja-speed@redwoods.edu

Course Description: Psychology is the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. The content of the course focuses on the exploration of major theories and concepts, methods, and research findings in psychology. Topics include biological foundations, perception, learning, cognition, emotion, motivation, development, personality, social psychology, psychological disorders and therapies, and applied psychology. This course is transferable to four-year colleges and is a prerequisite for most upper division psychology courses.

Student Learning Outcomes (as described in course outline) :

1. Analyze psychological research and synthesize in writing.
2. Analyze how experience, culture, learning and biology affect behavior and cognitive processes.
3. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding representing appropriate breadth and depth in selected content areas of psychological theory and research.

Special accommodations: College of the Redwoods complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Please present your written accommodation request at least one week before the first test so that necessary arrangements can be made. No last-minute arrangements or post-test adjustments will be made. If you have a disability or believe you might benefit from disability related services and may need accommodations, please see me or contact Disabled Students Programs and Services. Students may make requests for alternative media by contacting DSPS.

Academic Misconduct: Cheating, plagiarism, collusion, abuse of resource materials, computer misuse, fabrication or falsification, multiple submissions, complicity in academic misconduct, and/ or bearing false witness will not be tolerated. Violations will be dealt with according to the procedures and sanctions proscribed by the College of the Redwoods. Students caught plagiarizing or cheating on exams will receive an “F” in the course.

The student code of conduct is available on the College of the Redwoods website at:

<http://redwoods.edu/District/Board/New/Chapter5/AP%205500%20Conduct%20Code%20final%2002-07-2012.pdf>

Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the college catalog and on the College of the Redwoods homepage.

College of the Redwoods is committed to equal opportunity in employment, admission to the college, and in the conduct of all of its programs and activities.

**Psychology 1, General Psychology
Spring 2013
Section E1981
Wednesday 6:05-9:15
Creative Arts Bldg. Rm 109**



Instructor: Tonja Speed, MA
Office & Office Hours: T.B.A
E-mail: Tonja-Speed@redwoods.edu
Phone: (707) 822-5866

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Required Text:

Weiten, W., (2011-2013). Psychology: Themes and Variations (8th/9th.) Wadsworth Cengage Learning

Consideration Code

- Please respect the opinions of fellow students by not insulting or demeaning their comments. Violation of this code may lead to a student's dismissal from the course.
- Please turn off cell phones before class begins. No texting either.
- Arrive to class on time, but if you do arrive late, please enter the class quietly.
- Please don't start packing up your belongings until at least 5 minutes before the class ends, unless you need to leave early.
- Please no eating in class. (Janitors rule)
- Please read the College of the Redwoods student's code of conduct, as those rules apply in this class

Notice

*Chapter readings should be done before the class meeting date. Reading the chapters beforehand is important in order to gain a better understanding of the lectures and discussions for that day/week.

Schedule:

DATES	TOPIC	READINGS/ ASSIGNMENTS
January 16 th	Introduction to Psychology	
January 23 rd	History of Psychology	Chapter 1 – Evolution of Psychology
January 30 th	Research	Reaction Paper Due – Improving Academic Performance Chapter 2 – The Research Enterprise in Psychology
February 6 th	Biological Bases of Behavior	Chapter 3 – The Biological Bases of Behavior
February 13 th	Sensation and Perception Quiz #1	Research Article Summary #1 Due: One Brain or Two Chapter 4 – Sensation and Perception

February 20 th	Consciousness	Chapter 5 – Variations in Consciousness
February 27 th	Operant and Classical Conditioning	Chapter 6 – Learning
March 6 th	Exam #1 Chapters 1-5 Memory	Due: Research Article Summary #2 Chapter 7 – Human Memory
March 13 th spring break	No Classes	Yay!!!
March 20 th	Intelligence	Chapter 8 – Cognition and Intelligence Due: Research Paper Outline
March 27 th	Human Development Quiz #2 Chapters 6-8	Chapter 10 – Human Development Across the Life Span
April 3 rd	Motivation	Chapter 9 – Motivation and Emotion
April 10 th	Exam #2 Chapter 6,7,8,10 Health Psychology	Chapter 12 – Stress, Coping and Health
April 17 th	Personality & Research Paper	Chapter 11 – Personality
April 24 th	Disorders Quiz #3	Chapter 13 – Psychological Disorders Research Paper Due

May 1 st	Treatment	Chapter 14 – Treatment Psychological Disorders
May 8 th	Final Exam (Final Time TBA)	

Notice

*Chapter readings should be done before the class meeting date. Reading the chapters beforehand is important in order to gain a better understanding of the lectures and discussions for that day/week. Quizzes will be given throughout the semester in order to test for reading comprehension.

*This class schedule is subject to change at any time. I will notify the class of any changes and it is the responsibility of the student to update changes via asking another student or contacting the instructor.

Grading:

You can earn a total of 705 points throughout the semester. Points will be divided up accordingly:

Quizzes: 75 points

Exams: 300points

Paper: 135 points

Participation: 80

Outline: 40 points

Research Article: 50

Reaction Paper: 25

Student Withdrawal from class:

Please note that if you decide not to continue with the class you must drop the class officially. Instructors will drop students that do not attend the first 3 weeks of class, after that it must be initiated by the student. The last day to drop without a “W” is 1/27/2013. The last day for a student initiated drop is 3/30/2013.

Attendance

Please be aware that if you decide to not continue with the class you should drop the class and let me know about your decision. An Administrative procedure, (AP) 5075, now allows instructors to withdraw students from class for non-participation through the 10th week of class. Non-participation includes missing 3 classes in a row and not taking test, exams or turning in assignments. If you need to miss class due to illness or emergency please let me know what is occurring. Census date is 1/28, where I will dropping students that have not been participating in class. Please keep me informed of anything that is interfering with your participation/attendance in this class.

Class Participation:

In order for you to learn the material, it is important that you interact with it, by taking part in discussions and listening to the material being presented. I encourage you to ask questions and offer opinions on the subject matter. It is therefore also important that you be present at every class meeting. If you are not present at a class, please make every effort to get notes from another student.

Class Projects (5 points each)

There may be several in-class projects or papers worth 1-5 points each, which will be included as part of class participation. These projects or papers will be exercises designed to stimulate the use of psychological theories into real life applications. If you are absent when a class project or paper is assigned, we should talk.

The topics discussed in class will stimulate class discussions. Discussion will be an important time for learning. For this to happen in a comfortable environment, students need to be respectful of each other. College of the Redwoods has a student code of conduct outlining appropriate classroom behavior. Failure to comply with the code of conduct will result in a request to leave the class.

Quizzes:

We will have 3 quizzes throughout the semester on the material from the text. The quizzes will consist of 25 multiple choice questions worth 1 point each. If you are not able to make it to class on the day of the quiz please let the instructor know as soon as you are aware of this so that arrangements can be made. Make ups will not be given after the quizzes are graded and returned.

Exams: (100 points each)

Two exams and a Final Exam will be given during the semester. They may consist of multiple choice, fill in the blank and short answer/essay questions. You must take the exam on or before the date of the exam. No make-up exams will be given after they have been graded and returned.

Research Article Summary: (25 points each)

This assignment is to provide you with exposure to primary research in the field of psychology. There will be 2 research article assignments. Students will provide a summary of a current peer reviewed scholarly journal article. The assignment will begin with an APA referenced format and include a section regarding the research question, hypothesis, methodology, results, significance of research and a conclusion. The paper will be no longer than a page. A handout will be provided.

Reaction Paper (25 points each)

The purpose of this assignment is utilize critical thinking skills and provide exposure to the personal application of psychology. The paper will be no more than 2 pages long double spaced in APA format. Each paper will include a summary of the reading showing your understanding of the main idea of the readings. In addition, you will describe what provide an analysis or evaluation of the readings and your reaction to the readings. A handout will be provided.

Research Paper:

Research papers are due on **April 24th**. A typed outline of the paper including the topic at least 2 research articles from a peer reviewed journal is due on **March 20th**. The outline is worth 40 points and the paper is worth 125 points. Each day that the paper is late 10 points will be deducted. ***No papers will be accepted after May 1st***. In addition, please **do not e-mail** your research **papers**. A hardcopy must be provided.

Choose a topic from the following list. (Topics that are **not** included on this list **must be approved**.)

1. Research different fields in psychology explain them and then examine what field you are interested and why.
2. Research a major theorist that has contributed to the field of psychology. Give her/his history and describe their theory of counseling along with how individuals change.
3. Research a major psychological disorder and its current recommended treatments.

4. Research sleep and current theories on dreaming.
5. Examine current research on sex differences in the brain.
6. What is the current research on the brain's ability to repair itself after injury?
7. What are the effects of psychological medications on the brain?
8. Research autism and the effects on language, learning, behavior and the current treatments available.
9. Examine the current research on perceptual differences in individuals with a hearing or vision deficit.
10. Research the different ways that behavior modification is being utilized to treat disorders in children.
11. What does research indicate about the correlation between scores on intelligence tests and success?
12. Discuss psychological treatments and research on the effectiveness of these treatments.

The paper needs to be 4-6 pages long, double spaced not including the reference or title page. The paper must be written in APA format including the reference page. The research should be current, relevant and verifiable by author and or organization (peer reviewed journal articles). Utilize the research tools available through the library **not** *Google*. The paper should include 5 sources including **one** book. This project is worth 175 points including the outline.

You can access a handout on APA formatting on the CR library homepage. OWLS at Purdue and Diana Hacker .com are also good online sources for help with formatting.

**Again, I will make every effort to follow the standards and schedule of this syllabus. There may be times when changes are necessary and I will inform the class if this occurs.*

-Please do not hesitate to ask questions regarding the syllabus