Syllabus for: PSYCH 1 – General Psychology	
Semester & Year:	Summer Semester, May 26 – July 16, 2015
Course ID & Section Number:	**V8529**
Number of Credits/Units:	3
Day/Time: **Location:**	Online course, asynchronous mode Virtual Campus
Instructor's Name:	Dr. Philip Mancus
Contact Information:	Office Location: Del Norte Campus, Building E Room 3 Phone: 707-465-2362 Email: Philip-Mancus@Redwoods.edu

Course Description (catalog description as described in the course outline):
A course focusing on 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 the course outline):

1. Analyze psychological research and synthesize information in writing.
2. Analyze how experience, culture, learning and biology affect behavior and cognitive processes.
3. Explain concepts in areas of psychological theory and research while representing appropriate breadth and depth of knowledge.

Accommodations: College of the Redwoods complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you suspect or know that you have a disability and believe that you might benefit from disability related services please notify me AND contact Disabled Students Programs and Services (DSP&S) as soon as you can. In compliance with equal access laws, I am available to discuss the appropriate academic accommodations that you may require, however you are encouraged to visit DSP&S for disability verification to determine the reasonable academic accommodations for which you qualify and to obtain the official paperwork documenting your authorization to receive accommodations (the Support Services Agreement). Students may also make requests for alternative media by contacting DSPS. *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.*

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. The *Student Code of Conduct* is available on the College of the Redwoods website at:
http://www.redwoods.edu/District/Board/New/Chapter5/Ap5500.pdf

Equal Opportunity: 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.

ESL Students: Students whose native language is something other than English are encouraged to contact me to discuss ways to help navigate the course content.

General Psychology
Psych 1–V8529

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Psychology is the scientific study of behavior and mental processes through the exploration of major theories and concepts, methods, and research findings. 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. *Recommended Preparation: English 150.*

Course Learning Outcomes: (1) Analyze psychological research and synthesize information 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.

Required Textbook: Exploring Psychology W/Updates on DSM-5 (2014, 9th Edition) by David Myers. *Worth* publishers. Purchase any format: hardback, paperback, loose-leaf, or ebook.

- You can purchase the text directly from the publisher as hardcover, paperback, loose-leaf, or ebook.
  http://www.macmillanhighered.com/Catalog/product/exploringpsychologywithupdatesondsm-5-ninthedition-myers/studentoptions#tab
- You can purchase the text new or used from the CR Bookstore for new, used, rental, and digital rental at http://bookstore.redwoods.edu/
- You can purchase the text from any commercial online vendor (e.g., amazon.com). *Note: Be sure to order online well before class begins. You must have the text early in the first week of class. Paperback ISBN 1-4641-6336-7. The same text without the update on DSM-5 is acceptable.

The textbook is an important part of the class. Please have it by the first day of class as reading assignments begin immediately. A copy of the text is on two-hour reserve at the LRC on the Eureka campus and the Library on the Del Norte Campus.

COURSE PREPARATION

Computer Skills: Online courses require adequate computer skills. You should be able to navigate the course website, open and download files, use a word processor and be able to convert files, if necessary, into rich text format and portable document format (PDF). It is your responsibility to meet the technological demands of the course.

Internet Service: Most computers and internet providers are adequate. Broadband services from cable, DSL, or satellite providers are strongly recommended. You need to have reliable access to the internet at least three times a week for 8 weeks. Anticipate problems with your computer and internet access. It is your responsibility to meet the class deadlines.

Note: in order to view the links embedded in the lectures, you will need to download Adobe Shockwave as a plug in to your browser. It is your responsibility to find a web browser that is supported by the Canvas website and that supports Adobe Shockwave.

Portable Devices vs. Computers: Although you can use late-model portable devices (such as Android or iOS phones & tablets) for some things, you should plan on doing the majority of your work (especially Quizs and assignments) from a reasonably late-model notebook or desktop computer (Mac or PC). *Do NOT plan to participate in this class solely from a portable device.* If you do decide to use your portable device for some of your class work, use the free Canvas app (called "Canvas by Instructure") available in iTunes (for iOS) and the Google Play Store (for Android) instead of trying to connect to Canvas using a web browser. Your experience will be a lot better if using the app.

Student Commitment: Your commitment will require at least as much time as you would dedicate to a traditional class. This three credit hour class, a normal 16-week class, is taught in 8 weeks and requires about 10-15 hours per week of your time. You will have to carefully read online lectures and textbook chapters, participate in online activities, participate in online discussions, complete weekly quizzes, and write and submit a paper. Self-discipline, attention to details, and skills in reading and writing are critical.

Instructor Commitment: I dedicate as much or more time to this class as compared to a traditional class. I will access the class website regularly and respond to posted questions and messages usually within 24 hours, and no longer than 48 hours. There is also regular instructor-based communication with weekly announcements, lectures, evaluative comments to your discussion posts, and emails/messages to students who fall behind.

EVALUATION AND GRADING

This course is organized around seven **modules**, covering 14 chapters. Each module is one week in length, for a total of seven weeks. Within each module we will cover two **chapters** each week. Chapters will be covered in numerical order (See the Course Schedule, below). Each week begins on a Tuesday and ends the following Monday night. For example, Week 1 starts Tuesday, May 26 at 12:00 AM and ends at 11:59 PM Monday, June 1. Week 7 ends Monday, July 13. The exception to this pattern is the due date for the proposal of your paper, which is Monday, June 22 by 11:59 PM and for the final draft of your paper, which is Wednesday, July 16 by 11:59 PM.

Your grade is divided into three components: **Discussions**, **Quizzes**, and a **Term Paper**

I. Discussion Forum (25 grade points). For each chapter I have assigned a **discussion question**. The discussion question gives you an opportunity to apply the ideas learned in the lecture and reading. You'll do this in the discussion forum in two parts. First, you will write an original, **primary post** in response to the question. Second, you will write a **response post** where you comment on another student's primary post, providing constructive feedback to that student. Each primary post is worth one **grade point** (pass/fail). Each response post is worth one grade point (pass/fail).

In order to get credit for your primary post, it must meet all of the following requirements:
- Your response must be correct and accurately reflect the textbook/lecture.
- React critically/analytically - don't summarize or just give a personal example.
- Relate the topic to your own personal experience if possible.
- Use correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, and complete sentences.
- Post by the deadline.
- Meet the 150 word minimum length

In order to get credit for your response post, it must meet all of the following requirements:
- React thoughtfully to the content of a classmate's primary post. Focus your reply on your classmate's post, not on your personal experiences.
- Use correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, and complete sentences.
- Post by the deadline.
- Meet the 50 word minimum length.

Since we will be covering two chapters a week, there will be two discussions every week. Each discussion is worth 2 points each (primary post and response post), and with 14 chapters, this adds up to 28 discussion points possible). If you miss a discussion deadline you cannot make it up, but I will drop your lowest two discussion scores, and with one point credit that you get for free that makes a total possible of 25 grade points.

The discussion questions for the first chapter of each week are due Thursday of that week, by 11:59 PM. The discussion posts for the second chapter of each week are due Sunday of that week, by 11:59 PM.

II. Quizzes (60 grade points). You will be quizzed on each chapter. Each quiz consists of 20 multiple-choice items, worth one **quiz point** each. You will have 30 minutes total to take each quiz. Quizzes can cover anything from the reading, lecture, or the hyperlinked material embedded in the lecture (including material available through the hyperlinked chapter titles). Since we cover two chapters each week, you will take two quizzes each week, for a total of 14 quizzes.

Each chapter's quiz can be taken twice, with the higher score of the two recorded in the **Gradebook**. Quiz scores are available immediately upon submission and correct answers are published on the Monday at the end of each week, after the weekly deadline. If you miss the deadline for the week's quizzes you cannot make them up, but I will drop your lowest two recorded quiz scores when determining your final grade. The total number of grade points for your quiz component will equal the number of quiz points earned out of your top 12 quizzes, divided by four, for a maximum possible of 60 grade points.

Quizzes are open-book and open-notes, but all work should be your own. Prepare for each quiz as you would for a face-to-face class. Any form of academic dishonesty on a quiz will result in a zero for the quiz. Quizzes can be accessed using the Modules page on the Canvas course homepage for PSYCH 1.

You can take the chapter quizzes anytime during the week beginning Tuesday at 12:00 AM until the following Sunday by 11:59 pm.

III. Term Paper (15 grade points). This is a short paper (4 to 6 typed pages) on any psychological topic of your choice. By the end of week four (Monday, June 22) you will submit a proposal worth 5 grade points and by the end the term (Wednesday, July 16) you will submit the final draft worth grade 10 points. See the *Directions for Writing Your Term Paper,* found on the Modules page on the CANVAS course website, for more information on how to write your proposal and your term paper.

Determining Your Final Grade. The total possible grade points add up to a **Potential Final Score** of 100. The number of points you have earned during the course determines your final grade in the class.

Component	*Highest Possible Score*
Quizzes (Sum of 12 chapter quiz scores ÷ 4)	60
Discussions (Sum of 25 chapter discussion scores)	25
Paper (Sum of proposal and final draft)	15
Potential Final Score	100

The **Letter Grade Equivalent** to your final score is shown below.

A = 93 and above	**C+** = 78-79
A- = 90-92	**C** = 65-77
B+ = 88-89	**D** = 60-64
B = 83-87	**F** = 59 and below
B- = 80-82	

> *Please Note: There are no extra credit assignments.*

An Overview of the Weekly Pattern/Rhythm of the Course

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Lecture, Discussion, and Quizzes for Both Chapters Activated		Primary and Response Posts for First Chapter's Discussion Due			Primary and Response Posts for Second Chapter's Discussion Due	Review Previous Module / Begin Reading Next Chapter
					Both Quizzes Due By Today	
← Quiz for Either Chapter Can be Taken at Any Time During This Period →						Quiz Answers Published

Miscellaneous

Course Syllabus Subject to Change. While I make every effort to follow the standards and schedule of this syllabus there may be times when changes are necessary. I will inform the class through the announcement board and/or class email or messages of any changes.

Code of Conduct. Please familiarize yourself with the Student Code of Conduct found at the CR website online. In addition to the Code of Conduct, as an online class I have two additional requirements. First, you must do your own work, completed by you, without any assistance other than basic editing. Second, be respectful of your fellow students. Be kind and considerate in all of your postings and responses to the discussion forum.

Questions? Please contact me ASAP at the CANVAS Inbox feature.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Each week covers that week's **Topics**, which include two chapter's worth of material. The chapter material is listed under **Readings** (text and lecture) and **Assessment** takes place using discussions and quizzes.

Dates	Topics	Readings	Assessment
Week 1 **May 26 – Jun 1**	Introduction; Biology of Mind	Chapter 1: Text and Lecture Chapter 2: Text/Lecture	Chapter 1 Quiz and Discussion Chapter 2 Quiz and Discussion
Week 2 **June 2 – June 8**	Consciousness; Human Development	Chapter 3: Text and Lecture Chapter 4: Text and Lecture	Chapter 3 Quiz and Discussion Chapter 4 Quiz and Discussion
Week 3 **June 9 – June 15**	Sensation and Perception; Learning	Chapter 6: Text and Lecture Chapter 7: Text and Lecture	Chapter 6 Quiz and Discussion Chapter 7 Quiz and Discussion
Week 4 **June 16 – June 22**	Memory; Thinking, Language, and Intelligence	Chapter 8: Text and Lecture Chapter 9: Text and Lecture	Chapter 8 Quiz and Discussion Chapter 9 Quiz and Discussion **Paper Proposal Due June 22**
Week 5 **June 23 – June 29**	Motivation and Emotion; Health and Well-Being	Chapter 10: Text/Lecture Chapter 11: Text/Lecture	Chapter 10 Quiz and Discussion Chapter 11 Quiz and Discussion
Week 6 **June 30 – July 6**	Personality; Social Psychology	Chapter 12: Text/Lecture Chapter 13: Text/Lecture	Chapter 12 Quiz and Discussion Chapter 13 Quiz and Discussion
Week 7 **July 7 – July 13**	Psychological Disorders; Treatment of Disorders	Chapter 14: Text/Lecture Chapter 15: Text/Lecture	Chapter 14 Quiz and Discussion Chapter 15 Quiz and Discussion
Semester's End **July 14 – July 16**			**Research Paper Due July 16**