

Syllabus for: Psych 1 – General Psychology	
Semester & Year:	Fall 2015
Course ID and Section Number:	Psych-1 E7918
Number of Credits/Units:	3
Day/Time:	M-W 4:30 – 5:55
Location:	Science Bldg. Rm. 210
Instructor's Name:	Tonja Speed
Contact Information:	Office location and hours: Creative Arts Email: Tonja-speed@redwoods.edu
Course Description (catalog description as described in course outline):	
<p>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. This course is transferable to transferable four-year colleges and is a prerequisite for most upper division psychology courses.</p>	
Student Learning Outcomes (as described in course outline) :	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analyze psychological research and synthesize 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. 	
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://www.redwoods.edu/District/Board/New/Chapter5/Ap5500.pdf>

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.

**Psych - 1
General Psychology
Fall 2015**

Section E7918

M – W 4:30 – 5:55pm

Science Bldg. Rm. 210



**Instructor: Tonja Speed, MA Psychology
Office & Office Hours: T.B.A**

E-mail: Tonja-Speed@redwoods.edu

Course Description:

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. This course is transferable to transferable four-year colleges and is a prerequisite for most upper division psychology courses.

Course Learning Objectives:

1. Analyze psychological research and synthesize 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.

Required Text:

Weiten, W. (2011-2013). Psychology: Themes and Variations Briefer Version, 9th Edition. Wadsworth Cengage Learning

Recommended Text:

Publication Manual American Psychological Association 6th Edition. (2012). American Psychological Association

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 refrain from texting during class.
- Please, arrive to class on time, but if you do arrive late, please enter the class quietly.
- Please, refrain from packing up your belongings until at least five 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 completed 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
August 24 th & 26 th	<i>Introduction</i>	Chapter 1 Evolution of Psychology
August 31 st & Sept 2 nd	Research Research Tutorial Meet in Library September 2nd	Chapter 2 – – The Research Enterprise in Psychology Reaction Paper Due –

		Improving Academic Performance (Personal Application – pg. 23 of textbook)
September 7 th & 9 th	Nervous System Quiz #1	Chapter 3 – The Biological Bases of Behavior
September 14 th & 16 th	Sensation and Perception	Chapter 4 – Sensation and Perception
September 21 st & 23 rd	Consciousness	Chapter 5 – Variations in Consciousness Research Article Summary #1
September 28 th & 30 th	Exam #1 Chapters 1-4 Classical Conditioning	Chapter 6 – Learning Research Topic Due
October 5 th & 7 th	Operant Conditioning & Memory Quiz #2	Chapter 7 – Human Memory
October 12 th & 14 th	Memory	Share Research Article
October 19 th & 21 st	Intelligence, Problem Solving, Decision Making Exam #2 Chapters 5-7	Due: Research Article Summary #2 Oct. 19th Chapter 9 – Cognition and Intelligence
October 26 th & 28 th	Human Development	Chapter 11 – Human Development Across the Life Span
November 2 nd & 4 th	Health Psychology Quiz #3	Chapter 14 – Stress, Coping, and Health Motivation and Emotion Research Paper Outline Due
November 9th	Holiday!	
November 11 th	Personality	Chapter 12 – Personality
November 16 th & 18 th	Personality & Disorders Exam #3 Chapters 9,11,14	Chapter 15 -Psychological Disorders
November 23 rd & 25 th	Disorders & Treatment	Chapter 16 – Treatment of Disorders
Nov. 30 th & Dec. 2 nd	Treatment	Research Paper Due
December 9th	Final	Enjoy Your Holiday!

*****All assignments must be typed and a hard copy turned in.*****

******Please do not e-mail your assignments******

Notice

*Chapter readings should be completed 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 may earn a total of 805 points throughout the semester. Points will be divided up accordingly:

Quizzes: 75 points

Exams: 300 points

Final Exam: 100 points

Paper: 100 points

Participation: 135

Outline: 25 points

Research Topic: 10

Research Articles: 50 points

Reaction Paper: 25

*** 5 point penalty for late assignments ***

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” and receive a refund is 09/04/2015 (term fees are not refunded). The last day for a student initiated withdrawal is 10/30/2015 (no refund).

Attendance

Participation in class includes 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 three classes in a row and not taking exams or turning in assignments. If you need to miss class due to illness or emergency please let me know. **Census date is 09/09/15, where I will be dropping students that have not been participating in class. If you are absent on the census date you will be dropped.** Please keep me informed of anything that is interfering with your participation/attendance in this class.

In-Class Projects/Participation (5 points each)

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. Again, please keep me informed of anything that is interfering with your participation/attendance in this class.

There may be several in-class projects or assignments, which will be included as part of class participation. These projects or assignments will be exercises designed to stimulate the use of psychological theories into real life applications. If you are absent when an in-class project or assignment 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: (25 points each)

We will have three 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)

Three exams and a final exam will be given during the semester. The exams may consist of multiple choice, fill in the blank and/or 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 exams have been graded and returned. In addition, an arrangement with the instructor is required in order to take the exam early.

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 two 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 two than pages double spaced not including a title 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 two pages long double spaced in APA format and will include a title page 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 and provide an analysis or evaluation of the readings and your reaction to the readings. A handout will be provided.

Research Paper (100 points)

Research papers are due on **November 30th**. A typed outline of the of your paper and **at least two research articles** from a peer reviewed journal is due on **November 4th**. The outline is worth 25 points and the paper is worth 100 points. ***No papers will be accepted after the due (November 30th)***. A handout will be provided. 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 brains 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 **3-5** pages long, **no longer than five pages** double spaced **not including** the reference and title page. The paper must be written in APA format including the reference page and title 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 **four** sources. This project is worth 125 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