

Syllabus for: PSYCH 1 – General Psychology	
Semester & Year:	Fall Semester, 2015
Course ID & Section Number:	V7928
Number of Credits/Units:	3
Day/Time:	Online course, asynchronous mode
Location:	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. Transferable to four-year colleges and a prerequisite for upper division psychology courses.	
Student Learning Outcomes (as described in the course outline):	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analyze psychological research and synthesize information in writing. 2. Analyze how experience, culture, learning and biology affect behavior and cognition. 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. <i>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.</i>	
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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.	
Important Dates at College of the Redwoods	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Last day to drop the class without a 'W': September 4 ➤ Census Date: September 8 ➤ Last day for student and/or faculty initiated withdrawal (to receive a "W"): October 30 ➤ Holidays: Labor Day 09/07, Veteran's Day 11/09, Thanksgiving Break 11/26-27 	

General Psychology

Psych 1–V7928

Instructor: Dr. Philip Mancus

Email: Philip-Mancus@Redwoods.edu

Office: E-6, Del Norte Campus

Class Website: <https://redwoods.instructure.com>

Phone: 707-465-2362

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, 9th Edition, DSM-5 Update* by David G. Myers. Available from Worth publishers [ISBN-10: 1464163367, ISBN-13: 978-1464163364]. 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. The same edition without the DSM-5 update 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.

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. You will also need Flash media player. You should install these as plug-ins to your web browser.*

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 Quizzes 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 (PLEASE READ CAREFULLY): Your commitment will require at least as much time as you would dedicate to a traditional class. This three-credit virtual course covers 16 weeks and requires on average 3 hours of work for each credit per week. That’s about nine hours of study time each week (which may not include time engaged with the lectures and other activities). 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 fourteen **modules**. Each module is active for one week's duration and covers one chapter per week. Chapters will be covered in numerical order (See the Course Schedule, below). Each week begins on a Tuesday and ends the following Sunday night. For example, Week 1 starts Tuesday, August 25 at 12:00 AM and ends at 11:59 PM on Sunday, August 30. We will follow this pattern throughout the semester.

Your grade is divided into four components: **Discussions**, **Quizzes**, an **Analysis Essay** and a **Reflection Essay**.

I. Discussion Forum (120 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. Combined, each week's discussion posts are ten grade points. ***There are no make-ups for missed discussions, but I will drop you two lowest discussion scores.***

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 just summarize or give a personal example.
- Relate the topic to your own personal experience if possible.
- Use correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, complete sentences, and appropriate paragraphing.
- 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, complete sentences, and appropriate paragraphing.
- Post by the deadline.
- Meet the 75 word minimum length.
- Avoid all superfluous wording such as greetings and accolades. For example, "Hi there! Really loved your post. I feel just like you do..." does very little to communicate about the content or quality of the student's original post. Extra phrasing like this will not count toward your minimum word requirement.

The discussion is due by 11:59 PM on the Friday of each week.

II. Quizzes (260 grade points). You will be quizzed on each chapter, for a total of 14 quizzes. Each quiz consists of 20 multiple-choice items, with each item worth one grade point. 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).

Each chapter's quiz can be taken twice, with the higher score of the two recorded in the Canvas gradebook. Quiz scores are available immediately upon submission and correct answers are published on the Monday that follows the end of each week, after the weekly deadline has passed. **There are no make-ups for missed quizzes, but I will drop your lowest quiz score.**

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 (cheating, collusion, plagiarism, etc.) on a quiz will result in a zero for the quiz.

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

III. Analysis Essay (60 grade points). This is a short paper completed during midterms (three to five typed pages, APA style). In it you will analyze a published research article. There are two parts to the assignment, a proposal and the essay itself. Students who complete the essay but not the proposal will lose ten points. Students who do not complete the essay even if completing the proposal will lose all 60 points. For more information, please read the document *Instructions for Writing Your Analysis Essay* on the course modules page.

IV. Reflection Essay (60 grade points). This is a short paper completed during finals week (three to five typed pages, APA style). In it you will respond to a question given to you by your instructor, which will be designed to help you reflect on what you have learned during the semester. For more information, please read the document *Instructions for Writing Your Reflection Essay*, found on the course modules page.

Please Note: There are no extra credit assignments.

Determining Your Final Grade. The total possible grade points add up to a **Potential Final Score** of 500. The number of points you have earned during the course determines your final grade in the class.

<i>Component</i>	<i>Highest Possible Score</i>
Discussions	120
Quizzes	260
Essays	120
Potential Final Score	500

The Gradebook in the Canvas course website will show your weighted percentage for the course. From this you can determine your final **letter grade** by consulting the table below.

A = 93 and above
A- = 90-92
B+ = 88-89
B = 83-87
B- = 80-82

C+ = 78-79
C = 70-77
D = 50-69
F = 49 and below

An Overview of the Weekly Pattern/Rhythm of the Course

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Chapter Module Activated: Lecture, Discussion, and Quizzes Become Available			Primary and Response Post for Weekly Discussion Due			Instructor Commentary on Chapter Discussion Released Previous Week's Quiz Answers Released
					Both Attempts at Chapter Quiz Due	
↓ For Weeks 4, 8, and 16 Only ↓						
		Proposal Due Week 4, Analysis Essay Due Week 8, Reflection Essay Due Week 16				

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 using the course announcements feature.

Code of Conduct. Please familiarize yourself with the Student Code of Conduct, found here: <http://www.redwoods.edu/District/Board/New/Chapter5/AP%205500%20Conduct%20Code%20final%2002-07-2012.pdf>. In general, you must abide by the following rules: 1) All work must be your own, completed by you without any assistance from anyone else other than basic editing; 2) Be respectful when communicating with your fellow students and with your instructor. Violations of these rules may result in being dropped from the class or receiving a failing grade.

Questions? For all course related communication *please use the CANVAS Inbox feature*. Please do not use regular email to contact me.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Each week has a **Topic**. Chapter material, both textbook and lecture, are under **Readings**. Discussions, quizzes and essays are listed under **Assessment**.

Dates	Topic	Readings	Assessment
Week 1 August 25 through August 30	Introduction to Psychological Science	Chapter 1: Text and Lecture	Module 1 Quiz and Discussion
Week 2 September 1 through September 6	The Biology of Behavior and Mental Processes	Chapter 2: Text and Lecture	Module 2 Quiz and Discussion
Week 3 September 8 through September 13	Consciousness	Chapter 3: Text and Lecture	Module 3 Quiz and Discussion
Week 4 September 15 through September 20	Lifespan Development	Chapter 4: Text and Lecture	Module 4 Quiz and Discussion Proposals Due Thursday, September 17
Week 5 September 22 through September 27	Sensation and Perception	Chapter 6: Text and Lecture	Module 6 Quiz and Discussion
Week 6 September 29 through October 4	Learning	Chapter 7: Text and Lecture	Module 7 Quiz and Discussion
Week 7 October 6 through October 11	Memory	Chapter 8: Text and Lecture	Module 8 Quiz and Discussion
Week 8 October 13 through October 18			Analysis Essay Due Thursday, October 15
Week 9 October 20 through October 25	Thinking, Language, and Intelligence	Chapter 9: Text and Lecture	Module 9 Quiz and Discussion
Week 10 October 27 through November 1	Motivation and Emotion	Chapter 10: Text and Lecture	Module 10 Quiz and Discussion

Dates	Topic	Readings	Assessment
<u>Week 11</u> November 3 through November 8	Health and Well-Being	Chapter 11: Text and Lecture	Module 11 Quiz and Discussion
<u>Week 12</u> November 10 through November 15	Personality	Chapter 12: Text and Lecture	Module 12 Quiz and Discussion
<u>Week 13</u> November 17 through November 22	Social Psychology	Chapter 13: Text and Lecture	Module 13 Quiz and Discussion
<u>Week 14</u> November 24 through November 29	Psychological Disorders	Chapter 14: Text and Lecture	Module 14 Quiz and Discussion
<u>Week 15</u> December 1 through December 6	Treating Psychological Disorders	Chapter 15: Text and Lecture	Module 15 Quiz and Discussion
<u>Week 16</u> December 8 through December 13			Reflection Essay Due Thursday, December 10

NOTES