COURSE SYLLABUS FOR GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY

VITAL INFORMATION

SEMESTER & YEAR	Spring Semester 2017 (January 14 – May 12)	
COURSE ID AND SECTION #	PSYCH-1-V0941	
INSTRUCTOR'S NAME	Dr. Philip Mancus	
DAY/TIME	Asynchronous mode	
LOCATION	**Virtual Campus (Online)**	
NUMBER OF CREDITS/UNITS	3 units	
CONTACT INFORMATION	*Office location*	Del Norte Education Center, Room E-6
	Office hours	By appointment. Send me a message to schedule: Canvas Conversations.
	Phone number	707-465-2362
	Email address	Philip-Mancus@Redwoods.edu
TEXTBOOK INFORMATION	*Title & Edition*	Exploring Psychology, 10th edition
	Authors	Myers and DeWall
	ISBN	9781464154072

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

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Explain concepts in areas of psychological theory and research while representing appropriate breadth and depth of knowledge within the context of historical trends in psychology.
2. Recognize and understand the impact of diversity on psychological research, theory and application, including (but not limited to): age, race, ethnicity, culture, gender, socio-economic status, disability, and sexual orientation.
3. Demonstrate critical thinking skills and information competence as applied to psychological topics.
4. Analyze how experience, culture, learning and biology affect behavior and cognitive processes.

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 assessment 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 at 707-464-2352.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Academic support is available at Counseling and Advising and includes academic advising and educational planning, the Academic Support Center for tutoring and proctored tests, and Extended

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Opportunity Programs & Services, for eligible students, with advising, assistance, tutoring, and more.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

In the academic community, the high value placed on truth implies a corresponding intolerance of scholastic dishonesty. In cases involving academic dishonesty, determination of the grade and of the student's status in the course is left primarily to the discretion of the faculty member. In such a case where the instructor determines that a student has demonstrated academic dishonesty, the student may receive a failing grade for the assignment and may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct (AP 5500) is available on the College of the Redwoods website at: Student Code of Conduct. 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 website.

DISRUPTIVE CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR

Student behavior or speech that disrupts the instructional setting will not be tolerated. Disruptive conduct may include, but is not limited to: unwarranted interruptions; failure to adhere to instructor's directions; vulgar or obscene language; slurs or other forms of intimidation; physically or verbally abusive behavior. In such cases, where the instructor determines that a student has disrupted the educational process, a disruptive student may be temporarily removed from class. In addition, he or she may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct (AP 5500) is available on the College of the Redwoods website at: Student Code of Conduct. 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 website.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Please review the campus evacuation sites for whenever you are on campus (posted by the exit of each room). Emergency maps are available at District Maps. For more information on Public Safety, go to Public Safety. In an emergency that requires an evacuation of the building:
- Be aware of all marked exits from your area and building.
- Once outside, move to the nearest evacuation point outside your building.
- Keep streets and walkways clear for emergency vehicles and personnel.
- Do not leave campus, unless it has been deemed safe by the campus authorities.

RAVE – College of the Redwoods has implemented an emergency alert system. In the event of an emergency on campus, you can receive an alert through your personal email, and/or phones at your home, office, and cell. Registration is necessary in order to receive emergency alerts. Please go to RAVE Login and use the "Register" button on the top right portion of the registration page to create an account. During the registration process you can elect to add additional information, such as office phone, home phone, cell phone, and personal email. Please use your CR email address as your primary Registration Email. Your CR email address ends with "redwoods.edu."Please contact Public Safety, 707-476-4112, security@redwoods.edu, if you have any questions.

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.
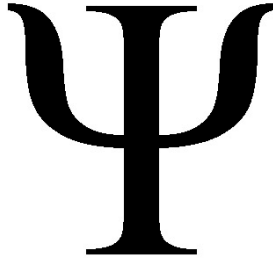
Greek letter Psi, symbol for Psychology

COURSE OVERVIEW

Welcome to your online class of General Psychology. This is the official Course Syllabus, which contains vital information you'll need to know to successfully complete the course, including accessing the Course Management System (CMS), getting prepared for class, course policies, grading, and the course. Please save this document to a safe place and read it in its entirety. Whenever you have a question about how the course works, consult this document.

IMPORTANT DATES

- The course runs from January 14 through May 12.
- Due date to log on and introduce yourself to class is January 17
- Census Date is January 30.
- Last Day to Drop with a "W" is March 31
- Holidays: Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday (1/16), President's Day (2/20), Spring Break (3/13-18)

THE CANVAS COURSE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (COURSE WEBSITE)

This course is taught 100% online. We will not meet face to face. All instruction will take place using the Canvas Course Management System. Here are login instructions for Canvas:

1. Open your web browser and go to https://redwoods.instructure.com. Or, go to http://www.redwoods.edu and click on "Canvas."
2. Enter your username and password.
    a. Your username is your Web Advisor login (e.g., **flast**123 – **f**irst initial + **last** name + last three digits of your student ID number).
    b. The initial password for everyone is **your eight-digit birthday** (**mmddyyyy**).
4. Once logged in, find the link for this class. Click the link to enter the course. If you need assistance logging in please go to the following webpage: https://redwoods.instructure.com/courses/739/pages/student-login.

CONFIRMING YOUR PRESENCE IN THE VIRTUAL CLASSROOM

After you have logged on for the first time, **you must confirm your presence in the online classroom. Go to the "Introductions" discussion forum and follow the instructions given there by no later than 11:59 PM, January 17, 2016**. This will establish your enrollment in the course and you will avoid being dropped as a "no show." Students may be dropped from the class if they do not log in and post to the "Introductions" discussion forum by the above deadline. If you are on the waitlist you will be added to the class Monday prior to the beginning of classes.

COMMUNICATION

My preferred method of communication is the messaging feature within Canvas. When you first log on you'll see an icon that says "Inbox." In it, find our class and send me a message. I will usually reply within 24 hours Sunday through Thursday and within 48 hours Fridays and Saturdays. If for some reason you cannot access the Canvas website, send me an email.

GETTING PREPARED FOR CLASS

Are you ready for online classes? Please take about 15 minutes to review what it means to take an online class by watching the Introduction to Online Learning presentation at: Introduction to Online Learning. In addition, here are some other resources to help you.

- What to expect when taking an online course: CR Online Course Information
- Learn more about the Canvas Course Management System: Canvas Overview
- See what other community college students have to say about what it takes to be a successful online student: Student Advice on Taking an Online Class.

TIME MANAGEMENT AND STUDENT COMMITMENT

Good time management is a key to success in college, especially in your online classes. Students are often surprised by how much time it takes to complete the work in an online course. With that said, expect to spend 9 to 12 hours per week working on this class. Conscientiousness, attention to detail, and skills in reading and writing are critical for success. Your commitment will require at least as much effort as you dedicate to a traditional class. For example, you may be required to:

- Read online lectures and textbook chapters
- Participate in online activities and watch online videos
- Participate in online discussions, and
- Complete online quizzes and exams.

COMPUTER SKILLS

Online courses require adequate computer skills. It is your responsibility to meet the technological demands of the course. You must be able to:

- Navigate the Course Management System (Canvas)
- Receive and respond to your CR email. Course related messages will go to your "mycr" email address
- Download and upload files to the Canvas website
- Use a word processor

- Download and open PowerPoint files (pptx)
- Download and open Microsoft Word documents (docx)
- Use Adobe Reader to read PDF documents (.pdf)
- Convert word processing files to PDF format
- Download and listen to mp3 digital audio files
- Activate and use your **mycr.redwoods.edu**

COMPUTER REQUIREMENTS

It is your responsibility to ensure that your computer and internet service provider are adequate and reliable to take this online course. You should have, at the least, broadband services from cable, DSL, or satellite providers. You need reliable and sufficient access to the internet for the entire semester. Anticipate problems that may arise with your computer or internet access (including laptop failures and power outages) by not waiting until the last minute to submit assignments. **Having a technical issue will not count as a legitimate excuse for missed deadlines.**

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 exams and assignments) from a reasonably late-model notebook or desktop computer (Mac or PC). If you 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). It is unadvised to try to connect to Canvas using a web browser on a portable device. Your experience with Canvas will be a lot better using the app.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

The *required* textbook for this course is *Exploring Psychology*, 10th edition (DSM-V update), by David G. Myers and Nathan DeWall, from Worth Publishers. It is available from the CR bookstore and from sellers online. There is also an electronic edition. Use this info when ordering your copy: ISBN-13: 978-1464154072.

POLICIES

CLASS ETIQUETTE, ACCEPTABLE USE, AND ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

While we all have a unique set of social norms for how to act on social media and amongst our peer groups, the digital world is quickly developing social conventions for how to conduct oneself in a public or semi-public virtual environment, like in an online class. Being online requires paying attention to the way we communicate because our messages often lack important cues such as tone of voice, eye contact, facial expression, gesture, immediate context, etc. We've probably all had the experience where an email was poorly received because someone read it the wrong way. So, the online community has developed a set of guidelines for how to act in cyberspace. To learn more, check out this source on "Internet etiquette" or Netiquette.

College of the Redwoods also has an acceptable use policy, which governs what kinds of activities are allowed (or prohibited) on CR computing resources. Even if you are working from your home computer, you are still restricted from using the class website in ways that violate the college's policy.

The academic community places a high value on honesty, especially on work submitted for credit. Students new to college are sometimes unfamiliar and uncertain of what is acceptable and what isn't. One of the biggest problems in an online environment is plagiarism, which is loosely defined as trying to pass off someone else's ideas, data, or text as if they were your own. For a quick guide on what plagiarism is and how to avoid it, the Online Writing Lab at Purdue University is a great resource.

In addition to plagiarism, academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, collusion, complicity, abuse of resources, computer misuse, fabrication or falsification, multiple submissions, and bearing false witness. Violations will be dealt with according to the procedures and sanctions proscribed by the College of the Redwoods.

Overall, it is important that we each conduct ourselves in a manner fitting for a college classroom, just as if we were assembled together in a physical setting. In general, if we all abide by the following rules we should get along just fine:

- All work must be your own, completed by you without assistance from anyone, other than basic editing;
- Be respectful when communicating with your fellow students and with your instructor.

Students who are caught committing academic dishonesty on an assignment immediately forfeit all credit for that assignment and I will file a formal code of conduct complaint. If the problem persists you may end up being dropped from the course or receive a failing grade in this class. To learn more about your rights and responsibilities as a student, please familiarize yourself with the Student Code of Conduct, especially pages 10-20.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

This is an online course. It is essential that you participate in the class. Participation in this class is defined as fully completing each learning unit, including all quizzes and discussions, working collaborative with assigned peer groups, and completing both exams. You must you have reliable access to the Internet and be able to log in to the class on a predictable basis, including on any day an event occurs or an item is due. Also, please be sure that you keep up with the assigned textbook readings and participate in all discussions. If you cannot meet these requirements and participate in the class, you should not take this class. Please note my policies about lack of course participation.

- Students who do not log on by the confirmation date will be dropped from the course.
- Students who do not complete all assignments by census will be dropped from the course.
- Students who show a pattern of excessively missing assignments will be dropped from the course.

I will notify you using the Canvas Conversations tool (Inbox) if I detect an issue with attendance or participation.

Assessment, Evaluation, and Grading

The course is organized around units, accompanied by chapter readings. Each unit is activated on a Saturday and runs for one week. Each unit has a corresponding discussion and quiz. In addition, you'll take three exams and write a final reflection essay.

Quizzes (200 points) For each unit there will be quiz. Quizzes are timed, open-book, and open-notes.

Discussion Forum (200 points) For each unit there is a discussion forum. You respond to a weekly prompt and then respond to each other. The forum is a weekly writing assignment where your fellow students, in addition to your instructor, will see your work.

Exams (150 points) The course is sectioned into three parts. You will take three exams, each one covering the material for a specific part.

Reflection Paper (50 points) You'll take a three- to five-page reflection essay at the end of the term. More details can be found in the modules.

Grading The Canvas website will show your current grade in the class as a percentage. The following is the grading scale that I use in determining your final letter grade:

A = 93% and above	**C+** = 78-79%
A- = 90-92%	**C** = 70-77%
B+ = 88-89%	**D** = 50-69%
B = 83-87%	**F** = 49% and below
B- = 80-82%	

An **Incomplete (I)** is given at your instructor's discretion and will only be granted to those students who continue to participate in class, have completed all prior work, and who have made arrangements with me by the end of the 15th week. This is a rare privilege and is not granted lightly.

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 Announcements tool.

(*Continued on the next page*)

COURSE SCHEDULE

OVERVIEW OF THE WEEKLY PATTERN/RHYTHM OF THE COURSE

Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Weekly Start Date: Unit module activated		Initial post for weekly discussion is due by 9:00 PM		All responses for weekly discussion are due by 9:00 PM		Weekly quiz due by 11:59 PM, Unit closes

CLASS CALENDAR

Below is the calendar for the term. Each week starts on a Saturday, noted by the "Weekly Start Date." Topics are listed, along with textbook pages from *Exploring Psychology*, (10th edition)*.* Due dates for major assignments in the right hand column. (Quizzes and discussions not shown.)

Weekly Start Date	Unit Topic
Part I: The Embodied Psyche	
January 14	Psychological Science
January 21	Neurobiology
January 28	Consciousness
February 4	Development
February 11	**Exam I due February 14**
Part II: Experimental Psychology	
February 18	Sensation & Perception
February 25	Learning
March 4	Memory
March 13-17	*Spring Break*
March 18	Thinking, Language, & Intelligence
March 25	**Exam II due March 28**
Part III: Interpersonal Psychology	
April 1	Motivation & Emotion
April 8	Health Psychology
April 15	Social Psychology
April 22	Personality
April 29	**Exam III due May 2**
May 6	**Reflection Essay due May 9**