

Course Syllabus

General Psychology – Del Norte Campus

Semester & Year	Fall 2017	
Course ID & Section #	PSYCH 1 D2739	
Instructor's Name	Dr. Philip Mancus	
Number of Credits/Units	3	
Day/Time	Mondays and Wednesdays, 12:30 PM – 1:55 PM	
Location	Del Norte Campus, Room DM 29	
Contact Information	<i>Office location</i>	DE-6, Del Norte Campus
	<i>Office hours</i>	Mondays & Wednesdays, 11:00 AM - 12:20 PM
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Textbook Information	<i>Title & Edition</i>	Exploring Psychology, 10 th edition
	<i>Author</i>	Myers and DeWall
	<i>ISBN</i>	978-1-4641-5407-2

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 to me your written accommodation request (your Support Services Agreement) at least one week before the first exam 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 707-476-4280. Please contact me if you have particular physical or learning disabilities so we may discuss your options.

Academic Support and Resources

Academic support is available at [Counseling and Advising](#) and includes academic advising and educational planning, [Academic Support Center](#) for tutoring and proctored tests, and [Extended Opportunity Programs & Services](#), for eligible students, with advising, assistance, tutoring, and more.

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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, Monday through Friday. If for some reason you cannot access the Canvas website, send me an [email](#). Messages, emails, and phone messages will usually not be returned over the weekend.

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 cases, where the instructor determines that a student has demonstrated academic dishonesty, the student may receive a failing grade for the assignment and/or exam and may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee.

Instructor Specific Policy

In this class, all work done for credit must be your own, completed by you without assistance from anyone other than basic editing, unless otherwise directed. Students new to college are sometimes unfamiliar and uncertain of what is acceptable and what isn't. This section establishes my policy for academic dishonesty and its consequences.

One of the biggest problems in an online environment is plagiarism, which is trying to pass off someone else's ideas, data, or text as if they were your own. I treat plagiarism as a form of academic dishonesty. This means it will benefit you to know what it is and how to avoid it. For a quick guide on plagiarism, the [Online Writing Lab](#) at Purdue University is a great resource. *It is your responsibility to know what plagiarism is and to refrain from it entirely.* In addition to plagiarism, academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, collusion, complicity, abuse of resources, computer misuse, fabrication or falsification, unpermitted multiple submissions, and bearing false witness.

Students who are caught committing academic dishonesty on an assignment immediately forfeit all credit for that assignment. For repeat offenses, I will file a formal complaint with the Dean of Students and you may be dropped from the course or receive a failing grade. To learn more about your rights and responsibilities as a student, please familiarize yourself with the [Student Code of Conduct](#), especially pages 10-20. 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; and offensive behavior not otherwise specified. 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 Dean of Students or designee.

Overall, it is important that we each conduct ourselves in a manner fitting for a college classroom. In general, if we all abide by the following rule we should get along just fine: Be respectful when communicating with your fellow students and with your instructor.

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Policy on Hate-Based Communications

In this class I have a zero tolerance policy when it comes to individuals, groups, or organizations professing ideologies that target, intimidate, and/or dehumanize individuals or groups based on their perceived race, color, ethnicity, nationality, national origin, citizenship, language, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, body size, marital status, genetic status, veteran status, assault and trauma survivor status, and/or physical dis/ability. Such expression is antithetical to the spirit of the academy and to the mission of the college. Individual actions that express hatred, contempt, or otherwise degradation of others will not be tolerated. Any and all speech, gestures, adornment, emblems, codes, insignias, signs, symbols, slogans, flags, propaganda, paraphernalia, or other memes that express or represent hate-based ideology or discrimination against protected classes, or otherwise signifies identification with, sympathy for, affiliation with, or membership in a hate group are strictly prohibited from this virtual classroom. Your instructor reserves the right to determine what is acceptable. Any violation of this policy will result in the student(s) having classroom privileges suspended until compliance is assured. Names will be forwarded to the Dean of Students.

Emergency Procedures for College of the Redwoods

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 [Get RAVE](#) 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 at (Eureka) 707-476-4112, (Del Norte) 707-465-2311, or (Klamath-Trinity) 530-625-4821 or email them security@redwoods.edu if you have any questions.

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](#). The Crescent City campus emergency map is available at [Del Norte Map](#) (scroll down to get the campus and safety 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.

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.

Course Overview

Welcome to your online class of General Psychology. This is the official Course Syllabus (or “Course Guide”), which contains vital information you’ll need to know to successfully complete the course, including getting prepared for class, course policies, grading, and the semester schedule. 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 first.

Important Dates

- The semester runs from August 28 through December 16.
- Confirmation Date: August 30. This is the deadline to be in class. Missing this deadline will result in being dropped from the course.
- Census Date: September 11. This is the date that the college certifies the official roster for each section. You must complete all assignments that are due prior to this date in order to make this roster and stay enrolled in the class.
- Withdrawal Date: November 3. This is the last day to withdraw from the class with a “W.”

Attendance and Participation

Attendance and Participation

This is an online course. It is essential that you participate regularly in the class. Participation is defined as regularly attending class, responding to all queries from your instructor, reading assigned material, completing each learning unit, working collaboratively when assigned to peer groups, completing exams when scheduled, and submitting written assignments when due. If you cannot meet these requirements, you should not take this class. Please note the following course policies about lack of course participation:

- Students who do not log on by the Confirmation Date (see above) will be dropped from the course.
- Students who do not complete assignments that are due prior to Census Date will be dropped from the course.
- After the census date, students who show a pattern of excessively missing assignments or otherwise slacking in participation may be dropped from the course. I reserve the right to determine what constitutes “excessive” and will notify you in advance, prior to the Withdrawal Date, if I am considering such action. *If you do not hear from me that I plan on dropping you from the class, it is your responsibility to withdraw from the course by the deadline if you deem it necessary to do so.*

Assessment, Evaluation, and Grading

The course is organized around three modules containing four chapter units each. Each unit contains instructions, notes, assigned readings, activities, a discussion, and a quiz. Your grade for the course will be determined using the following weighted categories:

Discussions (25%)

For each chapter there is a corresponding discussion that takes place during class time. Each discussion is initiated by a prompt from your instructor. You will be randomly assigned to small groups to respond to the prompt as a group. Each group submits one written answer. Missed discussions cannot be made up, but I will drop your two lowest discussion scores at the end of the term.

Vocabulary (25%)

For each chapter there will be a vocabulary assignment. For each assignment you will pick ten of the essential vocabulary words from the chapter (your choice), give the textbook definition for each word, and then come up with an example that illustrates each concept. Submissions must be typed and are due at the beginning of the class on the scheduled date, listed below. Missed vocabulary assignments cannot be made up, but I will drop your two lowest scores at the end of the term.

Exams (25%)

For each module, you will take an exam covering the chapter units contained in that module, for a total of three exams in all. Exams will take up the entire class time on the date they are scheduled in the syllabus (see Semester Schedule, below). Students generally will not be allowed to arrange to take an exam at a different time (See policy on *Missed Assignments*, below).

Writing Assignments (25%)

You have two major writing assignments, a midterm research report due halfway through the semester and a reflection essay that you complete at finals. I will accept these written assignments up to 48 hours late, but I will deduct 30 percentage points from all late projects before I begin grading.

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 = 90% and above

B+ = 87-89%

B = 80-86%

C+ = 77-79%

C = 70-76%

D = 50-69%

F = 49% and below

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.

Missed Assignments

All graded assignments in this course will have a due date. Please read the next section, *Assessment, Evaluation, and Grading*, for a summary of assignment categories. When it comes to missed assignments, please take note of the following points:

- In-class discussions cannot be made up. If you miss class, arrive late, or leave early and you miss the discussion you will not receive credit for that assignment.
- Vocabulary assignments cannot be made up. Vocabulary sheets are due at the beginning of class on the scheduled due date. I only accept late submissions during the class period and I will deduct 30% from your submission. After the class period ends I will not accept missed vocabulary sheets. If you miss class, you also will lose the opportunity to turn in your vocabulary for credit.
- Written projects (midterm and final) are due on the scheduled due date. I will allow a 48-hour grace period after the deadline, when I will accept late submissions, but late submissions will be deducted by 30%.

- Exams are scheduled on a specific date in the semester schedule. Everyone is expected to take the exam on that date. The semester schedule is set in advance and it is up to you to make prior arrangements to take the exam with the rest of the class. Exemptions are rarely given.
- If you miss an exam due to unforeseen circumstances, you must provide immediate documentation that one of the following events occurred, otherwise you will not be allowed to make up the missed exam:
 - You became incapacitated due to illness, injury, or traumatic event which prevented you from taking the exam on the scheduled exam date.
 - You were required, on the scheduled exam date, to provide urgent care for an immediate family member, dependent, caregiver, or friend who had no one else to help them.
 - You were called to duty, on the scheduled exam date, in your capacity as a first responder or member of the armed services.

Events such as work schedules, travel, childcare, and other activities of daily life are your responsibility to manage and do not automatically constitute a legitimate excuse for missing class or an exam or being late on an assignment. In the event of an emergency, crisis, or catastrophic event that affects a substantial number of students, I will make allowances for the entire class. I reserve the right to determine what is considered “substantial.”

Returned Work

On average, you can expect graded assignments to be returned within approximately one week’s time. Some assignments take longer to grade, some take less.

Course Syllabus Subject to Change

As your instructor, I reserve the right to make changes to this syllabus and the course content. While I make every effort to follow the policies and schedule laid out herein, there may be times when changes are necessary. I will inform the class of changes using the Canvas Announcements tool.

PSCYH 1 Semester Schedule

This is the schedule for the semester. Please read each assigned chapter (plus additional pages when assigned). Vocabulary assignment dates, exam dates and writing project due dates are shown. Discussion dates are not preassigned and will be announced spontaneously in class.

Module I: The Embodied Psyche (August 28 – September 27)

Unit 1: Foundations of the Discipline: Theory and Method, Chapter 1

Vocabulary Due: 8/30

Unit 2: Biology and Behavior, Chapter 2

Vocabulary Due: 9/6

Unit 3: Consciousness, Chapter 3

Vocabulary Due: 9/13

Unit 4: Sensation & Perception, Chapter 6

Vocabulary Due: 9/20

Module 1 Exam, September 27

Research Report Due, October 4

Module II: Experimental Psychology (October 2 – November 1)

Unit 5: Learning, Ch. 7

Vocabulary Due: 10/4

Unit 6: Memory, Ch. 8

Vocabulary Due 10/11

Unit 7: Thinking, Language, and Intelligence, Ch. 9

Vocabulary Due: 10/18

Unit 8: Motivation & Emotion, Ch. 10

Vocabulary Due: 10/25

Module 2 Exam, November 1

Module III: Interpersonal Psychology (November 6 – December 6)

Unit 9: Stress and Health, Ch. 11

Vocabulary Due: 11/8

Unit 10: Social Psychology, Ch. 12

Vocabulary Due: 11/15

Unit 11: Personality, Ch. 13

Vocabulary Due: 11/22

Unit 12: Disorders, Ch. 14

Vocabulary Due: 11/29

Module 3 Exam, December 6

Reflection Essay Due, December 11

Notes
