

Syllabus for *General Psychology – Online*

Semester & Year Spring 2018
Course ID and Section # Psychology -1-V3452
Instructor's Name Deanna Herrera
Number of Credits/Units 3

Contact Information
Office hours By appointment

Email address Deanna-Herrerathomas@redwoods.edu

Title & Edition Psychology Themes and Variations 10th

Author Wayne Weiten 10th edition

Textbook Information
Bookstore ISBN
1305630556

Catalog 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

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Student Learning Outcomes

This course is designed to provide you with an introduction to the field of psychology. Students should be able to accomplish the following goals throughout our semester together:

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.

Necessary Computer Skills

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Detailed Syllabus

General Psychology-Psych. 1- V3452

Instructor: Dr. Deanna Herrera (I prefer to be called Deanna)

Email: Please use your Canvas email or send a message to Deanna-Herrerathomas@redwoods.edu

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assignments based on criterion set in the rubrics (elements that are assigned specific points). I will make every effort to assure that all students are provided with the material in a manner that optimizes success. Some assignments require more time to grade than others do, and grading can take up to two weeks, depending upon the length and quality of papers I receive. Please read over editing comments I supply you with on your papers because this is a great way to develop written communication skills. However, I do not accept rough drafts. It is incumbent upon you to edit your work, have college level reading and writing skills, and obtain support from the student resources noted above if needed. In addition, there is a writing “packet” I supply you with that is complete with online peer editing sites, online writing sites for American Psychological Association Style (APA), model papers completed by students from past classes, research instructions, APA form in a nutshell (what you will need for purposes of the final paper), a very detailed rubric, and topic suggestions. Expect an extra credit assignment or two and this is a great opportunity to bolster your scores on tests or quizzes you may have scored lower on than you hoped.

Academic Dishonesty

Resources will be provided to inform all students about copyright law, plagiarism, and cheating in general. It is up to me to determine if cheating has taken place and if I believe that it was intended. If I determine that academic dishonesty has been intentionally engaged, then I will remove the student from the course for two weeks and this will gravely impact their grade. If the dishonesty is egregious, I reserve the right to contact the administration and give the student an “F” on an assignment or in the course. Please review the Academic Policy on the cover page and ask me any questions you may have regarding the policy.

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Students may withdraw themselves and instructors (AP 5075) are allowed to withdraw students from class for non-participation or excessive absences through the 10th week of class. If a student misses more than half of the time in the four weeks they will be dropped. I highly recommend that you drop yourself before the census date so that you will be dropped from my role. Below you will find important dates, including those for dropping and withdrawing. Be sure to check with admissions if you are considering withdrawing after census so that you will receive a refund.

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Course Requirements and Grading

Discussions

Each week will include a discussion essay and this is worth 10 points. Discussions will also include responses to other students worth a total of 20 points for 2 replies. Responses should be three very thoughtful paragraphs long.

The essays are to be 200 words long and the responses can be of any length.

The essays should be free of grammatical and spelling errors and provide a thoughtful analysis of the question posed or prompt. Citing specific examples is expected. You do not need to relate any material to yourself, but if you choose to do so, this is wonderful. Detailed rubrics are easily accessed by clicking on the gear icon and there you will find the point break-down.

Discussions are worth a total of 260 points

Quizzes

Most weeks will include quizzes. Most will allow for two attempts with no time limits. The highest scores will be tallied. However, there will be no late quizzes accepted.

These are worth 130 points total

Research Assignments

Group Collaboration

Each student will be assigned a group to complete one written assignment. You will be assigned a focus group where you will generate one research paper analysis that will be provided within Assignments and in the Modules. Each group will be given a research paper to critique and through discussion will produce one essay (I will receive the same essay from each group member).

This is collaboration is worth 10 points

Final Research Paper

This assignment requires that each student complete one research paper on an area of their choice. Any topic within the field of psychology is acceptable so long as there is available research to include in the reference section. This requires some research on the library databases. The expectations, rubric and instructions will be provided to you in detail. This is an APA paper and may be the first research paper you have completed on your own. I have ample materials to support you and will give you very detailed instructions with sample student papers to guide you.

This paper is worth 100 points.

Midterm

The midterm is worth 100 points and will cover the topics from Chapters 1-9. The midterm will consist of essay questions that require you to demonstrate a thoughtful integration of concepts learned.

Final

The final will be an essay exam worth 100 points and will cover the second half of the semester material from the mid-term on.

The Final is worth 100 points.

Grading Scale

93%+=A

90-92%=B

87-89%=B+

83-86%=B-

80-82%=C+

77-79%=C+

70-76%=C

6—69%=D

Learning Units	Topic	Assignments
Learning Unit I.		
Foundations of Psychology		
Week 1	Introduction and Welcome!	Read Chapter 1. Discussion/Essay
Jan.15-21		Quiz

Week 2 Jan. 22-38	The Foundations of Psychology	Read Chapter 2. Discussion/Essay Quiz
Week 3 Jan.29- Feb.24	Research Methods	Read Chapter 3. Discussion/Essay Quiz
Week 4 Feb.5-11	Brain and Biology	Read Chapter 4. Discussion/Essay Quiz
Week 5 Feb.12-18	Sensation and Perception	Read Chapter 5. Discussion/Essay Quiz
Learning Unit II.		
Learning and Cognition		
Week 6 Feb.19-25	Consciousness	Read Chapter 6. Discussion/Essay Quiz
Week 7 Feb.26-March 4	Learning	Read Chapter 7. Discussion/Essay Quiz
Week 8 March 5- 11	Memory	Read Chapter 8. Discussion/Essay Collaboration Assignment (Read Assignment Instructions)
Week 9 Spring Break (March 12-18)	Language and Thought	Read Chapter 9. Discussion/Essay
Week 10		Quiz

March 19-25
Learning Unit III.

Human Factors

Week 11	Motivation and Emotion	Read Chapter 10
March 26-April 1		
Week 12	Development	Read Chapter 11. Discussion, Research Paper Overview, Quiz
April 2-8		
Week 13	Personality Theory	Read Chapter 12 Discussion/Essay
April 9-15		Library Research Overview
Week 14		Quiz Read Chapter 13 Discussion/Essay, Quiz
April 16-22	Social Behavior	Work on Research Paper: Choose a Topic, Find 3 Research Articles

Learning Unit IV.

Disorders and Treatment

Week 15	Psychological Disorders	Read Chapter 14. Discussion/Essay
April 23-29		Quiz
Week 16		Read Chapter 15 Discussion/Essay
April 30-May 7	Treatment	Quiz
Week 17		
May 7		Final

The instructor reserves the right to modify the syllabus as the course is in session to accommodate a variety of issues that could arise, with the goal of benefiting students.



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Title & Edition Psychology Themes and Variations 10th

Author Wayne Weiten 10th edition

Textbook Information Bookstore ISBN
ISBN 1305630556

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Course Description

An introduction to the empirical factors that influence human behavior, child development, learning cognition, motivation and emotion, personality, social processes, biology and pathology.

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and depth of knowledge within the context of historical trends in psychology.

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These are worth 130 points total

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Group Collaboration

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This is collaboration is worth 10 points

Final Research Paper

This assignment requires that each student complete one research paper on an area of their choice. Any topic within the field of psychology is acceptable so long as there is available research to include in the reference section. This requires some research on the library databases. The expectations, rubric and instructions will be provided to you in detail. This is an APA paper and may be the first research paper you have completed on your own. I have ample materials to support you and will give you very detailed instructions with sample student papers to guide you.

This paper is worth 100 points.

Midterm

The midterm is worth 100 points and will cover the topics from Chapters 1-9. The midterm will consist of essay questions that require you to demonstrate a thoughtful integration of concepts learned.

Final

The final will be an essay exam worth 100 points and will cover the second half of the semester material from the mid-term on.

The Final is worth 100 points.

Grading Scale

93%+=A

90-92%=B

87-89%=B+

83-86%=B-

80-82%=C+

77-79%=C+

70-76%=C

6—69%=D

Learning Units	Topic	Assignments
Learning Unit I.		
Foundations of Psychology		
Week 1 Jan.15-21	Introduction and Welcome!	Read Chapter 1. Discussion/Essay Quiz Read Chapter 2.
Week 2 Jan. 22-38	The Foundations of Psychology	Discussion/Essay Quiz Read Chapter 3.
Week 3 Jan.29- Feb.24	Research Methods	Discussion/Essay Quiz Read Chapter 4.
Week 4 Feb.5-11	Brain and Biology	Discussion/Essay Quiz Read Chapter 5.
Week 5 Feb.12-18	Sensation and Perception	Discussion/Essay Quiz
Learning Unit II.		
Learning and Cognition		
Week 6 Feb.19-25	Consciousness	Read Chapter 6. Discussion/Essay Quiz
Week 7 Feb.26-March 4	Learning	Read Chapter 7.

		Discussion/Essay
Week 8		Quiz
March 5- 11	Memory	Read Chapter 8. Discussion/Essay
Week 9		Collaboration Assignment (Read Assignment Instructions)
Spring Break (March 12-18)		Read Chapter 9.
Week 10	Language and Thought	Discussion/Essay
March 19-25		Quiz
Learning Unit III.		
Human Factors		
Week 11		
March 26-April 1	Motivation and Emotion	Read Chapter 10
Week 12		
April 2-8	Development	Read Chapter 11. Discussion, Research Paper Overview, Quiz
Week 13		Read Chapter 12 Discussion/Essay
April 9-15	Personality Theory	Library Research Overview
Week 14		Quiz
April 16-22	Social Behavior	Read Chapter 13 Discussion/Essay, Quiz
Learning Unit IV.		Work on Research Paper: Choose a Topic, Find 3 Research Articles
Disorders and Treatment		
Week 15		Read Chapter 14. Discussion/Essay
April 23-29	Psychological Disorders	Quiz

Week 16

April 30-May 7

Week 17

May 7

Treatment

Read Chapter
15 Discussion/Essay

Quiz

Final

The instructor reserves the right to modify the syllabus as the course is in session to accommodate a variety of issues that could arise, with the goal of benefiting students.

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