

# Syllabus for General Psychology

#### **Course Information**

Semester & Year: Fall 2019

Course ID & Section #: Psychology-1-V7381

Instructor's name: Deanna Herrera

Day/Time or \*Online: Online
Location or \*Online: Online

Number of units: 3

### **Instructor Contact Information**

Office location or \*Online: Online
Office hours: By appointment

Phone number: Provided in emails to students enrolled in the course

Email address: Deanna-Herrerathomas@redwoods.edu

#### **Required Materials**

Textbook Title: Psychology Themes and Variations

Edition: 10

Author: by Wayne Weiten

ISBN:9781305498204

Other requirements: materials, equipment or technology skills

# **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.

#### Course 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.

# **Evaluation & Grading Policy**

### **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 should be 100 words long.

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 (see, Over Sharing above in "Communications"). 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 a quizzes and the points vary depending upon difficulty level. However, there will be no late quizzes accepted and they are 10 points each.

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

# **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 accommodations, please see me or contact <u>Disability Services and Programs for Students</u>. Students may make requests for alternative media by contacting DSPS based on their campus location:

• Eureka: 707-476-4280, student services building, 1<sup>st</sup> floor

• Del Norte: 707-465-2324, main building near library

• Klamath-Trinity: 530-625-4821 Ext 103

#### **Student Access**

These standards are required by federal regulation. Students will have access to this course that complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and College of the Redwoods policies. Course materials will include a text equivalent for all non-text elements; videos will include closed captioning, images will include alt-tags, hyperlinks will use descriptive/meaningful phrases instead of URLs and audio files will include transcripts. All text will be formatted for use with screen readers and all course materials will be understandable without the use of color.

Students who discover access issues with this class should contact the instructor.

#### Student feedback policy

Students are expected to communicate via Canvas email to the instructor and will receive a response within 48 hours. However, the instructor most often will return communications within 24 hours except on weekends and holidays. Weekly announcements are provided by the instructor and comments will be provided to individual students regarding their work in "Grades". Assignments are graded as soon as possible; immediately for quizzes, in one week's time for essays embedded in the Discussions, and comments are provided to the class, within those discussions, that are not grade related, throughout the week. Research papers will be graded within 2 weeks. These require many hours to complete.

#### **Proctored Exams**

There are no proctored exams in this course

Student Accessibility Statement and Academic Support Information

# **Technology Support**

Before contacting Technical Support please visit the Online Support Page at http://www.redwoods.edu/online/Help.

For password issues with Canvas, Web Advisor or your <u>mycr.redwoods.edu</u> email, contact Technical Support at its@redwoods.edu or call 707-476-4160 or 800-641-0400 ext. 4160 between 8:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., Monday through Friday.

\Technology Requirements (computer, other hardware, and software)

Computer Requirements: Most computers and internet providers are adequate. Broadband services from cable,

DSL or satellite providers are recommended. You will need to have access to the internet at least three times a week for 16 weeks. Anticipate problems with your computer and internet access by completing your work early and staying up to date.

## **Necessary Computer Skills**

To be successful in this course you need adequate computer skills. You must be able to navigate the class website, open and down load files and use a word processor. It is the student's responsibility to meet the technology demands of the course. The college utilizes the Canvas learning management system. Support can be found through contacting staff on the Canvas home page. There is also a non-credit class that is providing support with computers on campus.

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### Academic Support and Resources

# **Student Support Services**

The following online resources are available to support your success as a student:

- <u>CR-Online</u> (Comprehensive information for online students)
- Library Articles & Databases
- Canvas help and tutorials
- Online Student Handbook

<u>Counseling and Advising</u> offers academic support and includes academic advising and educational planning

Learning Resource Center includes the following resources for students

- <u>Academic Support Center</u> for instructional support, tutoring, learning resources, and proctored exams.
- <u>Library Services</u> to promote information literacy and provide organized information resources.
- Multicultural & Diversity Center [waiting for hyperlink and Mission]
- Math Lab & Drop-in Writing Center

Special programs are also available for eligible students include

- Extended Opportunity Programs & Services (EOPS) provides financial assistance, support and encouragement for eligible income disadvantaged students at all CR locations.
- The TRiO Student Success Program provides eligible students with a variety of services including trips to 4-year universities, career assessments, and peer mentoring. Students can apply for the program in <a href="Eureka">Eureka</a> or in <a href="Del Norte">Del Norte</a>
- The <u>Veteran's Resource Center</u> supports and facilitates academic success for Active Duty Military, Veterans and Dependents attending CR through relational advising, mentorship, transitional assistance, and coordination of military and Veteran-specific resources.
- Klamath-Trinity students can contact the CR KT Office for specific information about student support services at 530-625-4821
- The Honors Program helps students succeed in transferring to a competitive four-year school.

Academic support is available at <u>Counseling and Advising</u> and includes academic advising and educational planning, <u>Academic Support Center</u> for tutoring and proctored tests, and <u>Extended Opportunity Programs & Services</u>, for eligible students, with advising, assistance, tutoring, and more. The following resources are available to support your success as a student:

- o CR-Online (Resources for online students): http://www.redwoods.edu/online
- o Library (including online databases): <a href="http://www.redwoods.edu/library/">http://www.redwoods.edu/library/</a>
- o Canvas help and tutorials: <a href="http://www.redwoods.edu/online/Canvas">http://www.redwoods.edu/online/Canvas</a>

 Student Online Hand Book: <a href="http://www.redwoods.edu/Portals/72/Documents/Students/CR-OnlineStudentHandbook.pdf">http://www.redwoods.edu/Portals/72/Documents/Students/CR-OnlineStudentHandbook.pdf</a>

Expectations for your Instructor

I will get back to you as soon as is feasible and in no later than 48 hours, except for on the weekends and holidays. Every assignment I grade I do so with equanimity, meaning that, I do not judge my students for the work they turn in or the grades they earn. I only judge the 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.

# **Expectations and Commitments of Students**

It is necessary to keep up with the reading that is embedded in the Modules provided on Canvas and additional unit discussions. Each chapter will include assignments related to it, as well as additional materials that support the information (such as videos, images, PowerPoint, research articles etc...). Please give yourself the best opportunity to succeed by participating in discussions and take extra credit assignments seriously and get your work in on time. This three credit-hour class will require about nine hours per week of your time. You must carefully read textbook chapters, submit thoughtful writing assignments, complete a research paper analysis, and successfully demonstrate your learning in exams. Conscientiousness, courteousness, attention to details, reading writing and study skills are critical to your success. It is highly recommended that you have taken English 1A to take this course and be successful in it. Because there is flexibility built into the schedules of online courses you will need to monitor when and how much you read and work on assignments. Creating a weekly study schedule is helpful.

If for any reason there are issues impacting your ability to complete work it is incumbent upon you to contact me, and I encourage you to do so, before you fall behind. Reach out and let's see what we can do together to keep you up-to-date with assignments.

Online communications can create a sense of social distance and perceived anonymity, impacting both the sender of messages and the receivers. Because of this, it is very important to be mindful to communicate respectfully to one another. Be aware that comments without facial expressions, vocal tone, or body language to inform meaning and intention can be interpreted as being harsh, so, please let's keep all communications supportive and kind. And this is especially true if you are critiquing the work of another student. Keep it positive!!!!!!! If a student calls another student a name or personally attacks another, I will suspend them from the course temporarily and consult with the Behavioral Intervention Team and notify the administration. This is important because the content of this course can bring up strong feelings as we cover many concepts related to human variability. It is every student's right to feel respected and safe to take intellectual risks and to participate openly.

Syllabus dates are provided in the Canvas course, once students are enrolled and have access to the class.

**Assignments** 

Topic

Learning Units

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Learning Unit I.		
Foundations of Psychology		
Week 1	Introduction and Welcome!	Read Chapter 1. Discussion/Essay
Week 2	The Foundations of Psychol	Read Chapter 2.  logy Discussion/Essay
		Quiz

Week 3	Research Methods	Read Chapter 3.  Discussion/Essay  Quiz
Week 4	Brain and Biology	Read Chapter 4.  Discussion/Essay  Quiz
Week 5	Sensation and Perception	Read Chapter 5.  Discussion/Essay  Quiz
Learning Unit II.		
<b>Learning and Cognition</b>		
Week 6	Consciousness	Read Chapter 6.  Discussion/Essay  Quiz
Week 7	Learning	Read Chapter 7.
Week 8	Memory & Begin Language and Thought	Read Chapter 8,9. Discussion/Essay  Collaboration Assignment (Read Assignment Instructions)

Week 9 Midterm Quiz (on Chapter 9) Read Chapter 10 Motivation and Emotion Week 10 Discussion/Essay Quiz (10) Learning Unit III. **Human Factors** Read Chapter 11. Discussion, Research Week 11 Development Paper Overview, Quiz Read Chapter 12 Discussion/Essay Week 12 Quiz **Personality Theory** Library Research Overview Quiz Read Chapter 13 Week 13 Discussion/Essay, Quiz Social Behavior

Choose a Topic, Find 3 Research Articles,

XX 1 14		Develop an Outline
Week 14	Holiday	
		Work on Research Paper
Learning Unit IV.		
<b>Disorders and Treatment</b>		
Week 15	Psychological Disorders	Read Chapter 14 Discussion/Essay, Quiz
Week 16	Treatment	Research Papers Due  Read Chapter 15 Discussion/Essay
		Quiz
		Finals Week
Week 17		That's Week
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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.

College of the Redwoods complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. As far as testing is concerned, I generally give students plenty of time to assure that the time frames for due dates accommodate most, if not all, students who require extended testing. If you have a disability or believe you might benefit from disability related services and may need accommodations, please see me or contact <u>Disabled Students Programs and Services</u>. Students may make requests for alternative media by contacting DSPS at 707-476-4280.

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.