

## Syllabus for *General Psychology* – Online

Course Basics	
<b>Semester &amp; Year</b>	<b>Spring 2024</b>
<b>Course ID and Section #</b>	Psychology -1-V6000
<b>Instructor's Name</b>	Deanna Herrera
<b>Number of Credits/Units</b>	3
<b>Contact Information</b>	<i>Office hours</i> By appointment (please) send me an e-mail to make one
	<i>Email address</i> <a href="mailto:Deanna-Herrera@redwoods.edu">Deanna-Herrera@redwoods.edu</a>
<b>Textbook Information</b>	<i>Title &amp; Edition</i> Psychology Themes and Variations 11 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Author</i> Wayne Weiten
	<i>Bookstore ISBN</i> 978-0357-482-5

### 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.

### 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.

## Accessibility

College of the Redwoods is committed to making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you have a disability or believe you might benefit from disability-related services and accommodations, please contact your instructor or [Disability Services and Programs for Students](#) (DSPS). 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

During COVID19—DSPS will email approved accommodations for distance education classes to your instructor. In the case of face-to-face instruction, please present your written accommodation request to your instructor at least one week before the needed accommodation so that necessary arrangements can be made. Last minute arrangements or post-test adjustments usually cannot be accommodated.

## General Accessibility

**Your instructor makes every effort to make this class accessible for all students. All assignments are designed with due dates that allow students at least three times the time expected to complete them. This means that the assignments are designed for students who require three times the amount of time expected to complete any of them; including the final, midterm, quizzes, discussions, the paper, and quizzes. Most often assignment due dates allow for days to complete assignments that should take hours. The reading is what requires the most time, so please, if reading is one of the areas that you might need extra time to do, then get started early. Keep in mind that comprehending material takes time for everyone, so don't be afraid to read pages over a few times, and please do not try to game the class by looking up concepts in the index to answer questions without reading and reviewing the chapter first!**

## 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 download 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.

### **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 early before the due date and staying up to date.

### **Canvas Information**

This link is from the Canvas Instructure Community site for students. I love it and use this regularly.

[Student Guide - Instructure Community](#)

## Technology Support

### Canvas Information

Log into Canvas at [Login Canvas](#)

Password is your 8 digit birth date

For tech help, email [Tech Help](#) or call 707-476-4160

Canvas Help for students: [Canvas Help](#)

Canvas online orientation workshop: <https://www.redwoods.edu/online/Home/Student-Resources/Canvas-Resources>

Tech equipment and skills are required for student success, and of equal importance as required textbooks and materials,

Students can obtain a free [Office 365 license](#) (includes Word, Excel, PowerPoint and more) with a valid CR email.

I must let you know that I search for Canvas tutorials regularly, but not on YouTube, I use Duck Duck Go but Google works too. I find the explanation easily by looking for Canvas and the Canvas icon in the website title. If these are in the website title, then you can find the information you need with step-by-step instructions. It is easy, fast and the information is great. You can be very specific about what you are looking for and the information will most likely be available.

Before contacting Technical Support please visit the Online Support Page at [Tech Help](#).

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

### **Community College Student Health and Wellness**

Resources, tools, and trainings regarding health, mental health, wellness, basic needs and more designed for California community college students, faculty and staff are available on the California Community Colleges [Health & Wellness website](#).

[Wellness Central](#) is a free online health and wellness resource that is available 24/7 in your space at your pace.

Students seeking to request a counseling appointment for academic advising or general counseling can email [counseling@redwoods.edu](mailto:counseling@redwoods.edu).

### **Regular Effective Contact**

Online office hours will be provided by appointment. I will meet with students by appointment. It is a good idea to make an appointment with me to assure that ample time is given to your needs. In respect to email communications, I will get back to students as soon as possible and in no later than two days with weekends and holidays off. Discussions will be used to keep the student community in touch with one another and with me. There will be a “Gripe” discussion posted halfway through the course to give students an opportunity to address problems that have arisen over the first portion of the class and I will respond with appropriate changes if needed. Gripping and complaining are OK during the time posted, but no harsh or mean language. Think...helpful and kind when you are making suggestions to me or other students. I will make available three Zoom meetings to discuss tricky terminology, and these are voluntary.

### **Diversity and Respect in our Community**

As instructors and learners, we grow in our commitment to diversity equity, inclusion. We actively reduce barriers to learning so that all people may participate in our classroom communities. In this course, we welcome the varied experiences that brings each person here, including experiences, identities, ways of expression, interests, cultural difference, abilities, and worldviews. The broad spectrum of human differences represented by our students enrich everyone’s experiences, and we strive to meet each perspective with openness and respect. Creating an environment of care and civility opens the doorway for students to engage fully in the process of learning new skills and taking intellectual risks.

**Academic  
Support and  
Resources**

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

**Student Support Services**

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

- [CR-Online](#) (Comprehensive information for online students)
- [Library Articles & Databases](#)
- [Canvas help and tutorials](#)
- [Online Student Handbook](#)
- [Multicultural & Diversity Center](#)

Special programs are also available for eligible students include

- [Extended Opportunity Programs & Services \(EOPS\)](#) provides services to eligible income disadvantaged students including textbook award, career academic and personal counseling, school supplies, transportation assistance, tutoring, laptop, calculator and textbook loans, priority registration, graduation cap and gown, workshops, and more!
- 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 [Eureka](#) or in [Del Norte](#)
- Klamath-Trinity students can contact the CR KT Office for specific information about student support services at 530-625-4821

I know that technology is not always easy to master, so I tend to be fairly flexible when issues arise for students because they come up for me too. But because I have lots of students my time can be limited, so be sure to check with the resources posted above when you are having problems. The Canvas tutorials are EXTREMELY HELPFUL and do a far better job than I can when explaining how to navigate Canvas. My suggestion is to go to those FIRST when reasonably applicable to your tech. problems.

## **Course Communication**

I will be sending out Announcements weekly to keep you informed. I am available by email. It is important that this course integrates fluidity in communication so that students communicate with me and with one another in a way that creates community. Alternate discussion assignments will be made available if requested. I will read all discussion posts and join in regularly, but my goal is for Discussion pages to be focused on student communications so that you have a format to build a community with one another.

Student work groups will be created on a shared assignment so that you can share skills and community.

Communications will be civil and respectful. It isn't always easy to read tone through the Canvas formats, so please go out of your way to be supportive and positive when responding to other students. This is especially true of Discussion posts. Also, be mindful that it is possible to overshare personal information. If I notice that you are sharing inappropriate information that could place you or others in an awkward or vulnerable situation on-line, then I will send you a note.

If you have questions concerning grades this is best done through email to me through the Canvas link.

## **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. The Student Code of Conduct (AP 5500) is available on the College of the Redwoods website at: [Board Policies](#), and scroll to AP 5500. 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**

**Because this course covers current events as they relate to concepts in Social Psychology it is extremely important that all students feel safe and that opposing views are shared in atmosphere of care and respect.**

Student behaviors 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; and 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: [Board Policy Student-Services](#) and scroll to AP 5500.

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 for College of the Redwoods:**

**RAVE** – College of the Redwoods has implemented an emergency alert system. In the event of an emergency at the college 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 707-476-4112 or [security@redwoods.edu](mailto: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.***

## **Proctoring**

Proctoring is not required for this course.



## Detailed Syllabus

### General Psychology-Psych. 1- V6000

**Instructor:** Dr. Deanna Herrera

**Email:** Please use your Canvas email or send a message to [Deanna-Herrerathomas@redwoods.edu](mailto:Deanna-Herrerathomas@redwoods.edu)

**Office Hours:** Office hours are arranged by email, so don't be shy! Send an email and we can schedule a meeting. We can Zoom or use the telephone, or Chat.

### Course Objectives

This course is designed to provide you with a foundational understanding of the riveting field of psychology (truly, it *is* riveting). Although, this will not be an easy task, it need not be painful, and we should have fun accomplishing this goal. Keeping up with reading (or the audio presentation of the reading) is essential to your success in this course.

### 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. Courteous behavior is expected towards the instructor and other students, and this includes no badgering of the instructor, and hostile emails. Creating a weekly study schedule is helpful. Students who have done well in my courses tell me that they check in for 30 minutes each night or day, just to see what is posted and if there are any upcoming assignments to attend to. I make sure that due dates for all assignments are on the same day. I did stagger assignments throughout the week in the past, to keep students on track, but this seemed to be confusing for some to "chase due days".

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.**

### A word about online communications

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 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.

### **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.

### **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. What about ChatGPT? I will include a Discussion that will ask you to use ChatGPT, or another AI platform to develop an answer to a question. Then you will discuss how effective the program was in answering the question, and to see if your responses match. You will critique the results. You will not however, use these functions for any other assignment in this class because you increase your own analytical skills by developing your own responses with only materials presented in this class.

### **Drop and Withdraw**

Students may withdraw themselves and instructors (AP 5075) are allowed to withdraw students from class for non-participation or excessive absences through the 10<sup>th</sup> week of class. If a student misses more than half of the time in the first 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.

## Important Dates

[Approved Academic Calendar\\_23-24.pdf \(redwoods.edu\)](#)

[Spring 2023 Semester Begins](#)

1/14/2022

[Census Day](#)

Jan. 29th

[Lincoln's Birthday \(District-wide closure\)](#)

2/16/2022

[President's Day \(District-wide closure\)](#)

2/21/2022

[Spring Break \(No classes\)](#)

3/11/2022 - 3/16/2022

[Final Exams](#)

5/4/2022 - 5/10/2022

[Spring 2022 Semester Ends](#)

5/13/2022

Students who have experienced extenuating circumstances can complete & submit the ***Excused Withdrawal Petition*** to request an Excused Withdrawal (EW) grade instead of the current Withdrawal (W) or non-passing (D, F & NP) grades. The EW Petition is available from the Admissions and Records Forms Webpage. Supporting documentation is required.

## Course Participation Policy

Students are expected to participate in weekly class discussions. When group assignments and discussions are scheduled, it is each student's responsibility to participate accordingly and to get the assignments in as required by each rubric that is posted with the particular activity. If nothing is posted in one week the instructor will not allow

for make-up work unless specific permission is given via email communication. **If a student misses two weeks in a row or more than half the time in the first two weeks (by not turning in assigned material, engaging in discussions and completing assignments) they may be automatically dropped from the class.** Missing one week will impair performance.

## Course Requirements and Grading

### Late Work

As a rule, I will utilize extra credit as a way for you to make up late work points. This means that you are strongly encouraged to do extra credit assignments before you fall behind, because the points will be applied to your final tally.

In other words, I will not open late assignments unless you have an emergent and compelling reason for me to do so.

### Discussions

Most weeks will include a discussion essay and this is worth **10** points. Discussions will also include responses to other students worth a total of **10** 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 Quiz 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

#### Small Group Collaboration Discussion

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 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 and will cover the second half of the semester material from the mid-term on.

The Final is worth **100** points.

There are **700** points available to be earned in this class

### **Grading Scale**

95%+ = **A**

90-95% = **B+**

87-89% = **B**

80-86% = **B-**

80-82% = **C**

70-79% = **C**

60—69% = **D**

60 or less = **F**

## Course Schedule

Learning Units & Week	Topic	Assignments
<b>Week 1</b> 1/14- 1/23	Introduction and Welcome!	Read Syllabus Discussion. Introduction Submission <i>Introduction Discussion Submission Due 1/22</i>
<b>Week 2</b> 1/24--1/29	The Foundations of Psychology	Read Chapter 2. Discussion/Essay Quiz <i>Discussion &amp; Quiz Due 1/29</i>
<b>Week 3</b> 2/1-2/6	Research Methods	Read Chapter 3. Discussion/Essay Quiz <i>Discussion and Quiz Due the 2/5</i>
<b>Week 4</b> 2/7-2/13	Brain and Biology	Read Chapter 4. Discussion/Essay Quiz <i>Discussion and Quiz Due the 2/12</i>
<b>Week 5</b> 2/14-2/20	Sensation and Perception	Read Chapter 5. Discussion/Essay Quiz <i>Discussion and Quiz Due 2/19</i>

### Learning Unit II. Learning and Cognition

<p><b>Week 6</b> 2/21-2/27</p>	<p>Consciousness</p>	<p>Read Chapter 6. Discussion/Essay Quiz <i>Quiz &amp; Discussion Due the 2/27</i> <i>Monday due to President's Day</i></p>
<p><b>Week 7</b> 2/28-3/6</p>	<p>Learning</p>	<p>Read Chapter 7 Discussion/Essay Quiz <i>Discussion and Quiz due 3/5</i></p>
<p><b>Week 8</b> 3/7-3/13</p>	<p>Memory &amp; Begin Language and Thought</p>	<p>Read Chapter 8 and begin reading 9 Discussion Quiz <i>Discussion and Quiz due 3/12</i></p>
<p><b>Week 9</b> 3/14-3/20</p>	<p>Spring Break</p>	<p>Midterm Study Time!!! Review Modules and Reading</p>
<p><b>Week 10</b> 3/21-3/27</p>	<p>Motivation and Emotion</p>	<p>Read Chapter 10 Discussion/Essay Midterm Quiz <i>Discussion, Quiz, and Midterm Due 3/26</i></p>
<p><b>Learning Unit III. Human Factors</b></p>		
<p><b>Week 11</b> 3/28-4/3</p>	<p>Development</p>	<p>Read Chapter 11. Discussion/Essay Library Research Overview Quiz</p>

		<i>Discussion and Quiz Due 4/2</i>
<b>Week 12</b> 4/4-4/10	Personality Theory	Read Chapter 12 Discussion/Essay Quiz Research paper overview <i>Discussion and Quiz Due 4/9</i>
<b>Week 13</b> 4/11-4/17	Social Behavior	Read Chapter 13 Discussion/Essay, Quiz <i>Discussion and Quiz Due 4/16</i>
<b>Learning Unit IV. Disorders and Treatment</b>		
<b>Week 14</b> 4/18-4/24	Psychological Disorders	Read Chapter 14 Discussion/Essay Quiz Research Paper <i>Research Paper, Discussion, and Quiz Due 4/23</i>
<b>Week 15</b> 4/25-5/1	Treatment	Read Chapter 15 Discussion/Essay Quiz <i>Research Paper, Discussion, and Quiz Due 4/30</i>
<b>Week 16</b> 5/2-5/8	Summary	Review Concepts
Finals Week 5/9-5/14		<b><i>Final Due May 11</i></b>



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. This course is a college level course and as such students are treated as adults and as such may be exposed to some limited information about violence, sexual reproduction, and sexuality, as these relate to college level themes and concepts.