

# GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY

08/08/2010

**COURSE NUMBER:** PSY 201

**PREREQUISITE(S):** ENG 100, RDG 032, MAT 032 or placement

**CO-REQUISITE(S):** None

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course includes the following topics and concepts in the science of behavior: scientific method, biological bases for behavior, perception, motivation, learning, memory, development, personality, abnormal behavior, therapeutic techniques, and social psychology.

**TEXTBOOK(S):** Myers, David G. *Exploring Psychology, 8<sup>th</sup> ed.* New York: Worth Publishers, 2011. ISBN 1-4292-6942-1

Straub, Richard O. *Study Guide to Accompany Exploring Psychology, 8<sup>th</sup> ed.* New York: Worth Publishers, 2011.  
(Packaged with textbook)

**OTHER REQUIRED MATERIALS, TOOLS, AND EQUIPMENT:** Computer with Internet access, Internet Explorer 5.0 or higher or other current browser, Java, word processing software (must be able to save Word format), PowerPoint, and anti-virus software.

*PsychPortal* (Packaged with textbook)

*Discovering Psychology: Updated Edition, 2001.* A series of 17 half-hour programs developed by the Annenberg/CPB Project. Videotapes are available for rental from SCC Book Inn. A TV and VCR are needed for videotape viewing. Online viewing of the video programs is available and a link has been created in the course. System requirements for online viewing include: (1) a Broadband connection; (2) Windows Media Player; and (3) JavaScript enabled.

Macromedia Flash Player (version 5.0 or above); Shockwave (version 7.0 or above); QuickTime (version 3.0 or above); Adobe Acrobat (version 4.0 or greater). These site requirement scan be downloaded from the online course homepage. Click on "Required Downloads" icon.

**METHOD OF INSTRUCTION:**

Online

**GRADING SYSTEM:**

90	-	100	=	A
80	-	89	=	B
70	-	79	=	C
60	-	69	=	D
Below	-	60	=	F

**GRADE CALCULATION METHOD:**

Chapter Quizzes (online)	=	50%
Final Exam (taken on campus)	=	20%
PsychSim Assignments	=	15%
Discussion Board/Weekly participation	=	15%
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		100%

**CONFIDENTIALITY:**

All students' e-mail addresses may be available to other students in the class. Although some assignments in an online course may encourage or require peer communication, the instructor will make every effort to protect the confidentiality of any personal communication (for example, grades). However, you should recognize that e-mail and other electronic media are not secure; there is no guarantee of the privacy of your e-mail or other personal information.

**APPROPRIATE ONLINE BEHAVIOR:**

The use of Spartanburg Community College's website, e-mail service or course management software for creation and/or distribution of material not pertaining to course participation is prohibited and is grounds for dismissal according to College policy under "disruptive behavior." Such actions, include, but are not limited to:

- Inappropriate use of email and discussion boards for:
  - ✓ Harassment
  - ✓ Unlawful solicitation
  - ✓ "Spamming"
  - ✓ "Flaming"
- Use of online editing tools within the course management software to:
  - ✓ Create offensive material
  - ✓ Link to inappropriate materials

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

An electronic e-mail is required from each student to the instructor by the end of the drop/add period. At this time the

Instructor will drop the student from the course if it is not received. (Making a discussion board posting, taking an online quiz, or submitting some other required assignment will be accepted in lieu of an electronic e-mail if completed by the end of the drop/add period.)

Following the drop/add period; weekly participation in the course is required. Otherwise, a student's participation grade will be negatively affected and certain types of financial aid could be jeopardized. Please contact the Financial Aid Office if you have questions pertaining to the latter. The end of the week is defined as 11:59 p.m. of the Saturday following the beginning of the semester, and each Saturday thereafter.

Instructors maintain attendance records. However, it is the student's responsibility to withdraw from a course. A student who stops attending the online class and fails to initiate a withdrawal will remain on the class roster. *With this in mind, for every assignment, test or exam not completed while still enrolled in the course the student will receive a grade of zero and the final course grade will be calculated accordingly.*

Withdrawal Policy: During the first 75% of the course, a student may initiate withdrawal and receive a grade of W. A student cannot initiate a withdrawal during the last 25% of the course. Extenuating circumstances require documentation and approval by the appropriate department head and academic dean.

**ACADEMIC  
CONDUCT:**

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: Students are expected to uphold the integrity of the College's standard of conduct, specifically in regards to academic honesty. All forms of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on assignments/tests, plagiarism, collusion, and falsification of information will call for disciplinary action. Disciplinary action imposed may include one or more of the following: written reprimand, loss of credit for assignment/test, termination from course, and probation, suspension, or expulsion from the College. For further explanation of this and other conduct codes, please refer to the Student Handbook.

**CLASS/LAB  
PROCEDURES:**

Except in extenuating circumstances such as serious illness, family emergency, or system failure, late work will be assigned a grade of zero. In such cases, it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor as soon as possible to discuss his or her need for an extension of time. The

instructor may require written documentation to support the student's request.

Students utilizing College facilities such as computer lab, library, etc., in order to complete assignments must abide by rules set by those entities.

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** Students who need special accommodations in this class because of a documented disability should notify Student Disability Services. You may contact Student Disability Services by calling, (864) 592-4811, toll-free 1-800-922-3679; via email through the Spartanburg Community College web site at [www.sccsc.edu/SDS/](http://www.sccsc.edu/SDS/); or by visiting the office located in the Dan Lee Terhune Student Services Building, room 112 of the Spartanburg Community College campus. By contacting Student Disability Services early in the semester, students with disabilities give the College an opportunity to provide necessary support services and appropriate accommodations.

**COURSE  
COMPETENCIES:**

**Upon satisfactory completion of this course, the student will be able to:**

- I. Explain scientific approaches and psychological methods of research.
  1. Describe the historical developments of psychology.
  2. Identify the major perspectives and subfields of psychology.
  3. Differentiate between the research methods used to describe, predict, and explain behavior.
  4. Identify the various methods of descriptive statistics.
  
- II. Describe the physiological basis of behavior.
  1. Describe how neurons communicate.
  2. Identify the functions of the various structures of the brain.
  3. Describe the significance of research on hemispheric specialization.
  
- III. Describe the major issues of the developing person.
  1. Discuss the stages of prenatal development.
  2. Describe the capabilities of the newborn.
  3. Identify the physical, cognitive, and psychosocial changes occurring in childhood.
  4. Identify the physical, cognitive, and psychosocial

changes occurring in adolescence and adulthood.

- IV. Explain the basic principles of sensation, perception, and the various states of consciousness.
  1. Contrast the processes of sensation and perception.
  2. Discuss the principles of perceptual organization and interpretation.
  3. Discuss the nature of consciousness, daydreams, hypnosis, and meditation.
  4. Describe the stages of sleep and the various sleep disorders.
  5. Discuss effects of different categories of psychoactive drugs.
  
- V. Explain the principles and applications of learning.
  1. Differentiate between the principles of classical and operant conditioning.
  2. Describe the principles of observational learning.
  3. Discuss the contributions of the major learning theorists.
  
- VI. Explain the principles and applications of memory.
  1. Describe the memory system.
  2. Identify encoding and retrieval strategies.
  3. Discuss the various causes of forgetting.
  
- VII. Describe the perspectives of personality, psychological disorders, and psychological therapies.
  1. Describe major theorists' views of personality structure, development, and dynamics.
  2. Identify symptoms of the major psychological disorders.
  3. Discuss the possible causes of psychological disorders.
  4. Describe the major psychological and biomedical therapies used to treat patients.
  
- VIII. Describe the influence of social situations on individual attitudes and behaviors.
  1. Describe the results of experiments on obedience and social facilitation.
  2. Discuss research on aggression and altruism.