

Sierra Nevada College

Course Code & No. PSYC 101
Course Title (3 credits): Introduction to Psychology (3 credits)
Term & Year: Fall 2019
Course Ref. No. (CRN): 80237

Instructor: Donna Axton
Phone(s): 775-881- 7586 or X 7586
Email: daxton@sierranevada.edu
Office: TCES room 119
Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday 11-1 pm

Class Meeting Time: Tuesday, Thursday 9-10:45 am
Location: Patterson 207

Prerequisites (from Catalog): None
Corequisites (from Catalog): None

Course Description

Introduction to the principles and methods of psychology with a focus on understanding the human personality from a variety of perspectives. Topics include personal growth and life transitions from birth to death; interpersonal relations, friendship, love, prejudices; theories of personality; the individual and society; life problems, methods of coping, and mental illness; self-actualization and fulfilling human potential. Introduction to the discipline of psychology, but with a practical focus on self-understanding and personal growth and fulfillment.

Student Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, a student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an awareness and understanding of universal human questions
2. Explore methods of inquiry that have been useful in elucidating these questions and be able to discuss responses to these questions critically, using both qualitative and quantitative data.
3. Examine human behavior from a variety of perspectives including biological, psychoanalytic, humanistic and cognitive-behavioral orientations.
4. Be able to describe aspects of the nature/nurture debate, the relationships of the individual and society, and the interplay between free will and determinism.
5. Demonstrate the ability to apply psychological concepts, principles, and methods to questions and issues in his or her own life and in contemporary society

Methods of Assessing Student Outcomes

Student outcomes will be assessed using the following:

Class participation
Writing assignments
Closed note, in class, mid term examination
Open note, in class, final examination
Student project with oral and written component

Instructional Strategies

This class will utilize lectures, small groups, individual work, inquiry learning, case studies, field observations and homework assignments.

Required Texts and Materials

TEXT: Discovering Psychology by Hockenberry, 7th Edition ISBN: 978-0-9890496-5-8

Attendance

Attendance and informed participation count towards more than 1/3 of your final grade. More importantly, you are an essential part of this class and your contribution to the discussion is necessary. If you know that you will be absent for any period of time, please contact me beforehand.

CLASS REQUIREMENTS

Cell phones must be turned off or set to 'silent mode.' Show up, pay attention, stay open, take care of yourself.

Attendance: Attendance is a requirement if you expect a quality educational experience. Exams and written assignments will be based to a large degree on classroom discussions, so it is to your advantage to attend each class session.

SNC Tahoe Athletes: The Athletic Director notifies faculty members of student athletes with training and competition. This email excuses the student athlete from class attendance, but not from doing assigned work. It is the student athlete's responsibility to meet with me prior to the excused absence for missed work and/or alternate assignments. If a student athlete fails to meet with me prior to the absence, make-up work is not available.

Participation: A variety of activities is planned through the semester, including guest speakers, presentations, videos, and small group or dyad practice. Students are expected to participate and contribute to these in-class activities according to their own comfort level.

Be aware of your own needs in this regard. Speak to me directly if there is a concern.

Assignments:

Students are expected to read each chapter assigned and subsequently answer questions, based on your response to and understanding of the information and conclusions of the authors. Answer questions in your own words. These assignments should be completed prior to the beginning of class on the due date

Homework assignments will be given to you via hard copy and E-mail. The PSY symbol indicates you have completed the assignment and will receive full credit. A minus sign indicates less than complete assignment and a plus sign indicates extra credit.

There is a GREAT amount of information in the text book The homework assignments will help you focus in on the material we will be covering and for which you are responsible.

All written assignments will be graded on content, organization, completeness and correct grammatical style. Late assignments will be given partial credit – you will lose 1 point out of 15 for each day you are late turning them in. If you anticipate or experience extenuating circumstances, please let me know ASAP. Turning your homework in on time gives you a solid foundation for a good grade and an ability to discuss the material in class. So DO that! The downside of being late is clear – yes?

Exams: Exams will be developed by the instructor, with input from the class. The exams will be closed book, open notes (and homework).

Grading:

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Class attendance and participation | 360 points |
| There are 24 classes in the semester | |
| Each class is worth | |
| 8 points attendance | |
| 7 points prepared and intelligent participation | |
| Written homework/quizzes | 300 points |
| 15 homework assignments/quizzes | @ 20 = 300 points |
| Exams | 340 points |
| Midterm | 150 points |
| Final | 190 points |

FINAL GRADE: PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POINTS RECEIVED

| | | | | | |
|-----|-----------|-----|-----------|-----|-----------|
| A+ | Above 999 | B - | 800 - 819 | D | 620 - 679 |
| A | 920 - 999 | C + | 780 - 799 | D - | 600 - 619 |
| A - | 900 - 919 | C | 720 - 779 | F | Below 600 |
| B + | 880 - 899 | C - | 700 - 719 | | |
| B | 820 - 879 | D + | 680 - 699 | | |

Sanctions for Cheating and/or Plagiarism

Plagiarism is defined as, “passing off a source’s information, ideas, or words as one’s own by omitting to acknowledge the sources” (Teuber & Andreas, 1999). This refers to all sources of information, including the Internet.

To avoid plagiarizing, a good rule is to use quotation marks whenever a string of three or more words is copied from another source (e.g., when taking notes from a journal article). Simply paraphrasing and citing a source may not be enough to avoid plagiarizing, however. For example, one of the paragraphs in a paper might be a close paraphrase of a paragraph from another source. Even if the source is cited, the structure of the original source has been plagiarized! Starting with an outline of arguments to be included in a paper and then using information from other sources to back up these arguments should help one avoid plagiarizing in this manner.

Any form of cheating, plagiarism and/or unauthorized use of anything other than the student’s own resources *will not be tolerated*. To be clear, unless explicit written or verbal instructions indicate otherwise, exams and assignments are to be completed individually (i.e., without any collaboration). The instructor will pursue the maximum disciplinary action against the student violating this protocol. I have a strict no tolerance policy. Additionally, if you are caught cheating, you will earn an automatic 0 on that exam/assignment/etc.

Some examples of cheating include, but are not limited to, copying from a classmate's work during an exam, turning in work that is not your own, and using any unapproved aid during an exam.

Both intentional and unintentional plagiarism, as well as any suspicion of cheating, will be reported to the Vice President of Academic Affairs/Provost. I strongly encourage all students to meet with me to discuss this issue before turning in written work.

THE HONOR CODE

Our faculty believes students must be held to high standards of integrity in all aspects of college life to promote the educational mission of the College and to encourage respect for the rights of others. Each student brings to the SNC community unique skills, talents, values and experiences which, when expressed within the community, contribute to the quality of the educational environment and the growth and development of the individual. Students share with members of the faculty, administration and staff the responsibility for creating and maintaining an environment conducive to learning and personal development, where actions are guided by mutual respect, integrity, responsibility and trust. The faculty and students alike must make diligent efforts to ensure high standards are upheld by their colleagues and peers as well as themselves. Therefore, faculty and students accept responsibility for maintaining these standards at Sierra Nevada College and are obligated to comply with its regulations and procedures, which they are expected to read and understand.

CONSEQUENCES OF VIOLATING THE STUDENT HONOR CODE

SNC students and faculty share the responsibility for maintaining an environment of academic honesty. Thus, all are responsible for knowing and abiding by the SNC Faculty/Student Honor Code published in the current SNC Catalog. Faculty are responsible for presenting the Honor Code and the consequences of violating it to students at the start of their classes AND for reporting all incidences of academic dishonesty to the Provost. Students are responsible for knowing what constitutes CHEATING, PLAGIARISM and FABRICATION and for refraining from these and other forms of academic dishonesty. Violations of the Honor Code become part of a student's academic record.

- 1st Offense: Student receives a zero for assignment/exam and counseling with faculty on the honor code, consequences for violating the honor code, and the value of academic honesty in learning.
- 2nd Offense: Student fails course and receives counseling with faculty on the honor code, consequences for violating the honor code, and the value of academic honesty in learning.
- 3rd Offense: Student is expelled.

Information Literacy Statement

Using the library's resources (not just the Internet) effectively (Psych INFO, EBSCO) contributes to developing each of SNC's core themes by exposing students to high quality academic resources, diverse opinions, new ideas, and a future that includes building on a liberal arts education. In this course, you will be expected to utilize the library's resources (either on-site or remotely) as you complete your assignments.

ADA Accommodations

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, students with a documented disability are eligible for support services and accommodations. If a student wishes to request an accommodation, please contact the Director of Academic Support Services, Henry Conover, at (775) 831-1314 x7534, hconover@sierranevada.edu, office in Prim Library: PL-304.

The SNC Email System

The SNC email system is the official communication vehicle among students, faculty members and administrative staff and is designed to protect the confidentiality of student information as required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 Act (FERPA). Students should check their college email accounts daily during the school year.

Students have a right to forward their SNC e-mail to another e-mail account (for example, @hotmail or @gmail). However, confidentiality of student information protected by FERPA cannot be guaranteed for SNC e-mail forwarded to an outside vendor. Having email redirected does not absolve a student from the responsibilities associated with official communication sent to his or her SNC email account.

The Sierra Nevada College Mission Statement:

Sierra Nevada College graduates will be educated to be scholars of and contributors to a sustainable world. Sierra Nevada College combines the liberal arts and professional preparedness through an interdisciplinary curriculum that emphasizes entrepreneurial thinking and environmental, social, economic and educational sustainability.

The Core Themes:

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Liberal Arts | Professional Preparedness |
| Entrepreneurial Thinking | Sustainability |

Course Outline and Assignments

WEEK 1 – Introduction

Tuesday, September 17 - Overview of course content, activities, goals and learning objectives.

Thursday, September 19

Reading due: Chapter 1 – pps. 1-15

WEEK 2

Tuesday , September 24 - Neuroscience

Reading due: Chapter 1 pps. 17-36

Thursday , September 26 - Behavior

Reading due: Chapter 2 pps. 37-67

PSYCHOBIOLOGICAL PROCESSES

WEEK 3

Tuesday, October 1 - Behavior

Reading due: Chapter 2 pps. 68-82 , Chapter 3 pps. 84-100

Thursday , October 3 – Sensation and Perception

Reading due: Chapter 3 pps 100-130

WEEK 4

Tuesday , October 8 - Consciousness

Reading due: Chapter 4 pps.132-152

Thursday , October 10 – Variations in Consciousness

Reading due: Chapter 4 – pps. 152-178

WEEK 5

Tuesday , October 15 - Learning

Reading due: Chapter 5 pps.180-224

Thursday , October 17 – Psychological Disorders

Reading due: Chapter 12 – pps. 516-532

WEEK 6

Tuesday , October 22 Mid-term Review

Thursday , October 24 – MID TERM EXAM

PSYCHOLOGICAL PROCESSES

WEEK 7

Tuesday, October 29 - Memory

Reading due: Chapter 6 pps.226-268

Thursday, October 31 – Thinking, Language

Reading due: Chapter 7 pps.270-300

WEEK 8

Tuesday , November 5 - Intelligence

Reading due: Chapter 7 – pps. 300-330

Thursday , November 7 - Motivation

Reading due: Chapter 8 – pps. 312-332

WEEK 9 -

Tuesday , November 12 - Emotion

Reading due: Chapter 8- pps.332-354

Thursday , November 14 - Personality

Reading due: Chapter 10- pps.412-452

WEEK 10

Tuesday, November 19 – Social Psychology

Reading due: Chapter 11 – pps. 452-474

Thursday, November 21 – Social Psychology

Reading due: Chapter 11 – pps. 474-494

THANKSGIVING BREAK – November 25--29

WEEK 11

Tuesday, December 3 – Lifespan Development

Reading due: Chapter 9 pps.- 356-410

Thursday, December 5 - Stress and Health

Reading due: Chapter 12 pps.496-516

WEEK 12

Tuesday, December 10 - Final Review

Thursday, December 12 - FINAL EXAM