

Odessa College

Course : PSYC 2301-General Psychology

Term : Fall 2012

Begins 08/27/2012 – 12/15/2012

Associate Professor: Mystic Jordan Class Day/Time: MWF day / MW evenings

Office: Wilkerson Hall 235 Section: 1-5

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Email: myjordan@odessa.edu

Office Hrs: M 12-1PM, T 9-12.30PM, W 12-1PM, TR 9-12:30PM, F 12-1PM. (Email for appointment)

Course Description:

This course is intended to present a basic understanding of psychological terms, theories, and methodologies. This scientific discipline focuses studies on behavior and mental processes, cognitive abilities such as problem solving, decision making, and communication, affective states like building self esteem and sociability, and behavioral events where one participates as a group member. Information acquisition, interpretation, and communication of a psychological nature are the basis on which this course is predicated. In this way, psychological principles are understandable in the context of biology, the brain, neurotransmitters and hormones, personality theory, learning principles, lifespan development, relationships, abnormal psychology and therapies. A wide application of topics is the focus of this introductory course.

Prerequisites/Co-Requisites: None

Student Learning Outcomes:

The student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a command of the basic vocabulary of psychology.
2. Explain the goals of psychology.
3. Describe the major areas in the field (such as developmental, industrial, forensic, cognitive, abnormal, personality assessment, perception, social, health , and neuroscience) and identify the parameters of the discipline.
4. Describe the contributions of major figures in the field.
5. Discuss the historical development of psychology.
6. Discuss the major research studies in the field.
7. Discuss the biological bases of behavior on both the micro (such as neurocellular, neurophysiologic, and neurochemical) and macro (central and peripheral nervous system) levels.
8. Distinguish between the major perspectives (such as behavioral, psychoanalytic, cognitive, humanistic, learning, physiological, and sociocultural) on human thought and behavior.
9. Identify scientific techniques used by psychologists to develop theories and guide practice and their limitations.
10. Apply psychological theories to describe, understand, predict, and control or modify behavior.
11. Recognize the similarities and differences among people from diverse sociocultural backgrounds.

Textbook (Required):

Carpenter, S & Huffman, K. (2010). Visualizing Psychology-2nd Ed. Hoboken, NJ: J Wiley & Sons, Inc. ISBN: 978-0-470-41017-2

Supplies:

- 1) Note – taking materials
- 2) A good attitude and eagerness to learn

Group Project:

You will work in groups to research a personality disorder, write up an APA format report, and present to the class. **Class attendance is REQUIRED for each presentation. You MUST be present to earn participation on these days.**

Attendance Policy:

Students are expected to be present for all classes. In case of absence, it is the student's responsibility to make himself/herself aware of material missed. Material covered in class will be tested; therefore, missing class will reflect in the student's grade. Attendance will be taken by sign in sheet. **YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO SIGN IN ORDER TO RECEIVE CREDIT FOR ATTENDING FOR THE CLASS. *Ten (10) points of your grade is based on your attendance. You will receive all 10 points with 2 absences or less. You will receive 5 points for 3-5 absences. After 5 absences, you will receive 0 (zero) points. I encourage people to go to the learning center for help if you need it! They will have supplemental materials, and test questions to help you prepare for tests provided by me. I will check to see who is going for assistance . You encouraged to be PROACTIVE in your courses. If you need extra help or have missed classes this is a great way to earn points!**

Grades:

Grades will be calculated based on test grades, the Group Project , and participation/ learning center.

Participation/learning center* 10 POINTS _____

TEST #1 15 POINTS _____

TEST #2 15 POINTS _____

TEST #3 15 POINTS _____

TEST #4 15 POINTS _____

Personality Disorder Project 25 POINTS _____

FINAL EXAM 15 POINTS _____

TOTAL POSSIBLE 110 POINTS _____

Letter Grades for the semester will be assigned based on total points earned.

110-90 A 89-80 B 79-70 C 69-60 D 59 OR Below F

Format for all written work:

All assignments must be professional in appearance. All assignments must all be typed/ word processed, 12-point font, times new roman with left justified margin, top/bottom margins 1 ½ inches and left/right margins with 1 inch margins. Failure to follow this format will result in an automatic 10 point penalty. All assignments **MUST** have sections labeled according to the original assignment. The cover sheet / title page should include your name, the class time (ex. Mystic Jordan PY 101 , MWF 1200-1250) along with the title of the assignment and the semester.

Late Assignments : Written assignments will be accepted up to one week late with evidence of extenuating circumstances and after that you will receive “o” points for the assignment. The late penalty is 25%. The final project is exempt from this rule. NO late final projects will be accepted.

Make up exams can be scheduled PRIOR to the missed class or in the event that an exam will be missed, the student has 24 hours to email me at : myjordan@odessa.edu to schedule a written make up exam during my office hours at an approved time. If two consecutive class days are missed after the exam and the exam is not made up I assume you want a zero for that exam and a zero will be awarded. I will not run after you. Take ownership in your grades and seek me out to arrange a time.

Earning a Grade of Incomplete Policy:

A grade of “Incomplete” may be given only if

- (1) the student has passed all work completed, and
- (2) he/she has completed a minimum of 75% of the required coursework. A grade of “I” will only be assigned when the conditions for completions have been discussed and agreed upon by the instructor and the student.

Integrity Statement :

You are expected to do your own work without cheating. This includes in class examinations as well as paper writing. I know all the tricks of the trade, no cheat sheets, using electronic devices or using the restroom while test taking. I have seen it all and I have failed them all for cheating on that particular test. In regards to paper writing , plagiarizing your written assignments by not using citations or a reference page. Reading something and then “putting it in your own words” and not paraphrasing IS PLAGIARIZING. Be careful! If you are unfamiliar with APA I would be more than happy to proof read or sit down with you 1:1 during my office hours to help you. I pride myself on demonstrating good APA etiquette and you should too . Assessments should reflect your own efforts . If unethical behavior is discovered, it will be forwarded to the department chair for disposition. In some Universities this can result in expulsion from the College.

Special Needs:

Odessa College complies with Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you have any special needs or issues pertaining to your access to and participation in this or any other class at Odessa College, please feel free to contact me to discuss your concerns. You may also call the Office of Disability services at 432-335-6861 to request assistance and accommodations.

Learning Resource Center (Library):

The Library, known as the [Learning Resources Center](#), provides research assistance via the [LRC's catalog](#) (print books, videos, e-books) and [databases \(journal and magazine articles\)](#). [Research guides](#) covering specific subject areas, [tutorials](#), and the “[Ask a Librarian](#) “ service provide additional help.

Student E-mail:

Please access your [Odessa College Student E-mail](#), by following the link to either set up or update your account: <http://www.odessa.edu/gmail/>. **All assignments or correspondence will be submitted using your Odessa College email.**

Student Portal:

Please access your [Odessa College Student E-mail](#), by following the link to either set up or update

your account: <http://www.odessa.edu/gmail/>. **All assignments or correspondence will be submitted using your Odessa College email.**

Technical Support:

For Blackboard username and password help and for help accessing your online course availability and student email account contact the Student Success Center at 432-335-6878 or online at https://www.odessa.edu/dept/ssc/helpdesk_form.htm.

Important School Policies:

For information regarding student support services, academic dishonesty, disciplinary actions, special accommodations, or student's and instructors' right to academic freedom can be found in the [Odessa College Student Handbook](#).

Lecture and Assessment outline / Expectations :

We typically spend 3 class periods (MWF) on each chapter. I have allowed extra time on specific chapters if the lecture needs to be continued the next week. You can identify these weeks by looking at the chart below (ie. Chapter 1/2- finishing chapter 1, and also starting chapter 2) All classes run differently, more interaction or more content equates to more time needed to spend on the chapter.

****Weeks of an Exam:** Chapters will be covered on Monday and Wednesday. Exams will be held on the Fridays of that week noted for a test/assessment. Exams will be returned to students the following Monday after that exam.

***** Denotes school holidays/closings**

Week1 (8/27)	Chapter 1	Review Syllabus/Chapter1
Week 2 (9/3)	Chapter 1 /2	*** Labor day 9/3- NO CLASS
Week 3 (9/10)	Chapter 2 /3	
Week 4 (9/17)	Chapter 3/4	
Week 5 (9/24)	Chapter 4**	Test 1 (Chapters 1,2,3,4) 15pts
Week 6 (10/1)	Chapter 5/6	
Week 7 (10/8)	Chapter 6/7	
Week 8 (10/15)	Chapter7/8**	Test 2 (Chapters 5-8) 15pts
Week 9 (10/22)	Chapter 9/10	Midterm grades 10/17
Week 10 (10/29)	Chapter 10/11	
Week 11 (11/05)	Chapter 12**	Test 3 (Chapters 9-12) 15pts
Week 12 (11/12)	Chapter 13/14	
Week 13 (11/19)	Chapter 14/15	***Thanksgiving NO CLASS 11/22 and 11/24
Week 14 (11/26)	Chapter 15**	Test4 (Chapters 13-15) 15pts
Week 15 (12/3)	Chapter review/ Presentations	Oral Presentations/ Projects due : 25pts MWF last class 12/7 MW last class 12/5
Week 16 (12/10)	Finals week	Final grades due Final Assessment 15%

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***This syllabus is subject to change at the instructor's discretion.