

## Course Syllabus

Course: Psychology 1, General Psychology (3 Units)

**Instructor:** Dr. Amy Snyder

Office hours: 11:00-11:15 Tuesdays & Thursdays. Adjunct Faculty Offices

email: khaskyad@wlac.edu

**Required text and materials:** Psychology in everyday life, 3rd edition, by David G. Myers; ISBN:1-4292-63944-6. You will also need five scantron forms # 882, available from the bookstore.

**General Course Description:** Introduces the areas of history and systems, research methodology, biological bases of behavior, learning and memory, cognition and intelligence, personality, stress and health psychology, behavior disorders (psychopathology) and treatments, human sexuality, child development, life span development, and social psychology.

**Learning objectives:** Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to: Think critically about historical theories in psychology and tie them to current research methodology and research outcomes.

**Course requirements:** Lecture/Reading, Exams, Research Paper.

1Lecture/Readings: It is important that you keep up with the reading. You will need to read one chapter per week. In addition, you are responsible for the lectures.

2There will be 4 multiple-choice exams worth 70 points each. Your lowest exam score (of your first four exams) will be dropped. The final (worth 75 pts.) cannot be dropped.

3There will be a research paper worth 30 pts. It should be 5 pgs long, not including the title page. Your paper must be type written, double-spaced and include **three references**. The topic will be discussed in class. Refer to the paragraph at the end of this syllabus on academic dishonesty.

**Grading policy:** A=90-100%; B=80-89%; C=70-79%; D=60-69%; F=50% and below.

**Chapters and exams (May be revised, as needed)**

**Week 1** Thinking Critically with Psychological Science (Ch.1); Research Methods (Ch.1)

**Week 2** Personality (Ch. 12)

**Week 3** Exam #1, covers chap 1 & 12; Child Development (Ch.3)

**Week 4** Child Development (Ch.3) continued; Life-Span Development (Ch. 3)

**Week 5** Life-Span Development (Ch. 3) continued; Exam #2, covers chap 3

**Week 6** Conditioning and Learning (Ch. 6)

**Week 7** Memory (Ch. 7)

**Week 8** Exam #3, covers chap 6 & 7; The Biology of the Mind and Consciousness (Ch.2)

**Week 9** The Biology of the Mind and Consciousness cont. (Ch.2); Health (Ch 13)

**Week 10** Health continued; Exam #4, covers chap 2 & 13

**Week 11** Social behavior (Ch. 16)

**Week 12** Therapies (Ch. 15)

**Week 13** Psychological Disorders (Ch. 14)

**Week 14** Human Sexuality (Ch. 11)

**Week 15** Review; Exam #5 (FINAL) covers chap 16, 15, 14 & 11

**Days off:** March 31<sup>st</sup>: Cesar Chavez Day; Spring Break: April, 7 & 9

**Final:** June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:15

### **Other important information**

-Please take note of when exams are. Dates of exams may change. It is your responsibility to be aware of any changes in exam dates. Exams cannot be made up. If you can't make it to an exam, that score will be dropped. If that's the case, your lowest exam score won't also be dropped.

-Be courteous to your fellow classmates by not talking to other students during a lecture or while another student is talking.

-It is disruptive when students walk in late or leave in the middle of class. -Cell phones are disruptive and should be turned off during class.

-Be sure to drop the class, should you stop attending.

**Disability Accommodation Statement:** In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, students requesting accommodation must register with the Office of Disabled Students Programs & Services. Please contact Dr. Adrienne Foster, director ([310\) 287 4450](tel:3102874450) for information and assistance. All information will remain confidential.

**District Academic Dishonesty Policy:** Violations of Academic Integrity include, but are not limited to, the following actions: cheating on an exam, plagiarism, working together on an assignment, paper or project when the instructor has specifically stated students should not do

so, submitting the same term paper to more than one instructor, or allowing another individual to assume one's identity for the purpose of enhancing one's grade.

**Standard of Student Conduct:** I am charged with the responsibility for building and maintaining a classroom atmosphere conducive to learning. Disruptive, disrespectful, or obstructive behavior will be dealt with in terms specific to this syllabus and in accordance with the Pierce Standard of Student Conduct. Select forms of disciplinary action appropriate to the misconduct may be taken by me when there is evidence that the student's behavior interferes with classroom instruction.

**The following types of disciplinary action may be taken by an instructor:**

-Warning- A verbal or written notice, given to the student by an instructor. Continuation or repetition of the specified conduct may be cause for further disciplinary action.

-Removal by Instructor - An instructor may remove (suspend) a student from his or her class for the day of the incident and the next class meeting. During this period of removal, the student shall not return to the class from which he or she was removed without the permission of the instructor of the class.

**Attendance policies:** You are expected to attend every class meeting, to arrive on time and stay throughout the class period. You may be dropped from class for excessive tardiness, for failure to attend class the first day or during the entire first week of the class, or if the total number of absences exceed twice the number of hours the class meets per week.