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**General Psychology**

**PSY 2012 - 3 Credit Hours**

**Spring 2020**

**CRN 24919**

**M/W 3:00 - 5:00**

**Office Hours** By appointment only

Robert Dwyer, M.A., LMHC

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**Course Description**

This course is designed to provide students with an overview of theory and research in the major areas of psychology, biological, experimental, developmental, social, cognitive, personality, and clinical. This factual and conceptual foundation in psychology will help students understand behavior and apply psychological principles in a variety of settings and to their own lives.

**Objectives and General Purpose of the Course**

The general purpose of this course is to provide students with a basic understanding of the following:

1. An applied and theoretical basis of general psychology.

2. How multiple psychological factors are interdependent and intertwined within the psychology forces influencing our psyche.

3. Various theories presented on general psychology, and their impact/application on our everyday lives.

4. Practical understanding of the various psychological principles in all facets of our lives i.e., interpersonal relationships, social behaviors.

5. Introduction and promotion of the CLAST, General Learning Outcomes, and Valencia Core Competencies.

**Valencia Core Competencies**

1. Think

think clearly, critically, and creatively, analyze, synthesize, integrate and evaluate in many domains of human inquiry

2. Value

make reasoned judgments and responsible commitments.

3. Act

act purposefully, effectively, and responsibly.

4. Communicate

communicate with different audiences using varied means.

**Communication**

Please be aware that students are expected to be able to communicate in a professional manner with the professor. This includes in-class interactions as well as phone messages and emails. Specifically, emails must include the professor’s name, student’s name, course information, and use proper/not casual English (no abbreviations, slang, etc.). Any email that does not conform to these requirements may be ignored. Try this:

*Dear Mr. Dwyer,*

*My name is \_\_ and I am a student in your Monday-Wednesday 3:00 PM General Psych CRN 24919 class. I am writing in regard to \_\_.*

*Sincerely,*

*Your Name*

**Tardy, Attendance, Cell Phone**

Using your phone in class, arriving late, leaving early, or missing class will not impact your grade.

However, see the following:

1. 2 instances of tardy, attendance, cell phone use – exempt
2. 3 instances of tardy, attendance, cell phone use – you will receive an email follow-up that you have reached 3
3. 4 instances of tardy, attendance, cell phone use – you will need to self-withdraw from the class

The professor will not withdraw you automatically. An F grade will be assigned if you do not self-withdraw.

No absences will be considered excused. These count toward the 3 inconsequential instances.

**Textbook (required)**

Feldman, Robert. (2017). Understanding Psychology, 14th Edition. McGraw Hill.

**Exams**

Exams will cover assigned text, journal, and other readings, as well as lecture material, class discussion, videos, and other course content.

Exams will be provided to you on paper, and will include multiple choice, fill in the blank, and short answer responses.

Exams occur weekly on Wednesdays, beginning Week 2.

You may re-take an exam the following Wednesday if you wish to improve your grade, or if you were absent/tardy. The re-take is the exam grade, even if it is a lower score. You will need to take two exams within class time in these cases.

**Final Exam**

The final is a re-take of the previous week's Wednesday exam, if you wish to improve your grade or were absent/tardy.

You are not exempt if the professor has told you that you must take the final.

**Presentation**

On Monday, April 20th, each student will prepare a short presentation to meet criteria posted to Canvas later in the semester. There is no make-up date for the presentation.

**Student Evaluation**

a. Exam 1 b. Exam 2 c. Exam 3 d. Exam 4 e. Exam 5 f. Exam 6 g. Exam 7 h. Exam 8 i. Presentation

*All items are weighted equally.*

**Final Grade**

The final grade in the course will be assigned according to the following percentages of the total points possible. Rounding will not be factored into your grade.

A 90%-100%

B 80%-89.99%

C 70%-79.99%

D 60%-69.99%

F 0%-59.99%

**Withdrawal/Incomplete Grades**

In general, only the above grades will be given. Incomplete grades (such as “WP”, “WF”,“I”, “X”, “H”, or “N”) are NOT given under any circumstances. Students having difficulties meeting the course requirements can withdraw from the course by the withdrawal deadline. Students withdrawing from the course will receive a course grade of W. Further, students cannot withdraw themselves after the withdrawal deadline, November 1st (see Valencia Withdrawal policy), students who fail to withdraw before the deadline and are ineligible to continue in the class, will receive an overall grade of F for the course.

**Other Information**

Information for Students with Disabilities

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the appropriate office. The disabilities office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation.

valenciacollege.edu/osd

West Campus SSB, Rm. 102

Phone: (407) 582-1523

Fax: (407) 582-1326

TTY: (407) 582-1222

Academic Honesty

No form of cheating will be tolerated. Any student guilty of cheating or plagiarizing will be given the grade of F for assignment, and potentially, the course. In case of such an event, a written statement detailing the incident will be attached to the student's official College and University files. Students must also adhere to the following Honor Code

http://catalog.valenciacollege.edu/academicpoliciesprocedures/studentcodeofconduct/

Course Style and Participation

This course will be taught from an applied perspective and the professor will attempt to utilize book examples, video examples as well as real life and/or everyday examples to provide an interactive and comprehensive presentation of the information in this course.

As discussions arise, further topics may be explored to allow students to explore critical thinking skills and understand the application of the material. Some of the covered material will include the following: Gender, Birth and Death, Sexuality, Phobias, Disorders and other as appropriate.

If you are uncomfortable with any of these topics you may inform the instructor at any time, and time out of class during these lectures will be provided. If assistance is needed regarding course content or any other matter (personal problems, questions, etc.), you may contact the professor at any time.

Participation is not required aside from the presentation. Please come prepared to participate at your comfort level.

**NOTE:**

Students DO NOT have permission to record (audio, video, photo, text) communication sessions with the instructor. Permission to record for individual academic purposes may be granted upon request at the instructor’s discretion.

**Disclaimer**

This syllabus is subject to change without notice or warning as needed and at the discretion of the course instructor. The course instructor also has the right to modify necessary elements of the syllabi as needed.

**Spring 2020 PSY 2012 CRN 24919 Schedule**

NOTE: The below schedule of events is tentative and subject to change at any time during the course of the semester. Several planned interactions and exercises will accompany the text material at various times during the course of the semester, which may influence the rate at which other material is covered.

Important Dates can be found here: valenciacollege.edu/calendar

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Week** | **Day** | **Month** | **Date** | **Chapters** | **Exam** | ***Optional  Re-Take*** |
| 1 | Monday | February | 10 | Epilogue |  |  |
|  | Wednesday | February | 12 | 1 |  |  |
| 2 | Monday | February | 17 | 2 |  |  |
|  | Wednesday | February | 19 | Module 4.13 | 1 |  |
| 3 | Monday | February | 24 | 3 |  |  |
|  | Wednesday | February | 26 | Module 5.16 | 2 | 1 |
| 4 | Monday | March | 2 | 6 |  |  |
|  | Wednesday | March | 4 | Module 8.23 | 3 | 2 |
| 5 | Monday | March | 9 | Spring Break |  |  |
|  | Wednesday | March | 11 | Spring Break |  |  |
| 6 | Monday | March | 16 | 7 |  |  |
|  | Wednesday | March | 18 | Module 9.28 | 4 | 3 |
| 7 | Monday | March | 23 | 10 |  |  |
|  | Wednesday | March | 25 | Module 12.35 | 5 | 4 |
| 8 | Monday | March | 30 | 11 |  |  |
|  | Wednesday | April | 1 | Module 13.42 | 6 | 5 |
| 9 | Monday | April | 6 | 14 |  |  |
|  | Wednesday | April | 8 | 15 | 7 | 6 |
| 10 | Monday | April | 13 | 16 |  |  |
|  | Wednesday | April | 15 | 17 | 8 | 7 |
| 11 | Monday | April | 20 | Presentations |  |  |
|  | Wednesday | April | 22 | Final Exam -> |  | 8 |