

DATE EFFECTIVE: FALL 2006

COURSE INFORMATION

COURSE PREFIX/NO: PSY 201
COURSE TITLE: General Psychology
LEC HRS/WEEK: 3.0
LAB HRS/WEEK: 0.0
CREDIT HOURS/SEMESTER: 3.0

DL ATTENDANCE/VA STATEMENT TEXTBOOK INFORMATION

ENTRY LEVEL SKILLS: None
PREREQUISITES: ENG 100 or equivalent
CO-REQUISITES: None

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course includes the following topics: an introduction to the basic theories and concepts in the science of behavior, scientific method, biological bases for behavior, perception, motivation, learning, memory, development, personality, and abnormal behavior.

COURSE COMPETENCIES

Module One

1. Describe the major fields of psychology including developmental, physiological, experimental, personality, clinical and counseling, social, and industrial/organization psychology.
2. Describe the history of psychology and various theoretical approaches to the study of behavior.
3. Understand the research methods the psychologists use to study behavior.
4. Describe possible careers in psychology.
5. Describe the structure of the neuron. Trace the path of a neural impulse, and explain how neural messages are transmitted.
6. Describe the divisions and structures of the brain, and explain the role of each.
7. Understand the divisions of the nervous system.
8. Summarize the concerns of behavioral genetics.
9. Describe the structure of chromosomes and the role they play in inherited traits.
10. Identify several approaches to studying heritability of a trait.
11. Differentiate between sensation and perception.
12. Describe the structure of the eye, and explain the function of various component parts.
13. Describe two theories of color vision. Investigate color blindness.
14. Identify the characteristics of sound. Describe the structure of the ear, and explain the functions of the various component parts.
15. Define and describe consciousness and altered states of consciousness.
16. Describe the stages of sleep and dreaming.
17. Define the sleep disorders of insomnia, narcolepsy, and apnea.
18. Discuss various drugs of abuse.

Module Two

1. Understand classical conditioning and associated concepts.
2. Describe the principles and application of operant conditioning.
3. Describe social learning theory and its implications.
4. Understand the Information Processing Model of Memory.
5. Discuss explanations for forgetting and techniques for improving memory.
6. Describe the different types of long term memory.
7. Discuss the concept and definition of intelligence.

8. Trace the development of intelligence tests from Binet through Wechsler.
9. Define reliability and validity.
10. List the criteria used to identify mental retardation and the four levels of mental retardation.
11. List and describe the various causes of mental retardation.

Module Three

1. Define personality.
2. Summarize the interaction of the id, ego, and superego. Identify Freud's five stages of psychosexual development.
3. Understand sociocultural theories of personality development.
4. Understand the five basic traits that best describe differences in personality.
5. Illustrate the differences between objective and projective personality tests.
6. Define adjustment and stress. Identify sources of stress and various coping strategies.
7. Describe common defense mechanisms.
8. Identify sources of extreme stress and describe posttraumatic stress disorder.
9. Know the symptoms, causes, and treatment of various Mood disorders, Anxiety disorders, Dissociative disorders, Personality disorders, Schizophrenic disorders, and Childhood/Eating Disorders.
10. Discuss the concepts and misconceptions associated with the insanity defense.
11. Outline the available biological and therapeutic treatments for mental illness.

Module Four

1. Understand the major theories of human physical, cognitive, and psychological development across the lifespan.
2. Identify Erik Erikson's eight stages of development.
3. Understand the four stages of Piaget's theory of cognitive development.
4. Understand the process of dying and grief.
5. Explain three aspects of attribution and explain attribution errors.
6. Explain the dynamics of interpersonal attraction.
7. Discuss the dynamics of attitude change and the process of persuasion.
8. Explain the theory of cognitive dissonance.
9. Explain how conformity, compliance, and obedience exert social influence.
10. Understand the basic human emotions and their expression.
11. Discuss gender and cultural differences in emotional expression.
12. Understand basic human motives and motivation.
13. Identify Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs.

MINIMUM STANDARDS

A minimum of 60 percent accuracy on evaluation instruments (see evaluative procedures) will be required to receive credit for this course. A minimum of 70 percent accuracy on evaluative measures will be required before this course will attain transferability.

GRADING

Course competencies may be measured in a variety of ways including, objective tests, essay questions, quizzes, writing assignments, or projects. All PSY 201 students are required to complete at least one written component during this course. This component(s) may be included within an individual module(s) or may account for 20% of the final grade. There will be no comprehensive final exam for this course. Please consult your instructor's syllabus addendum for course specific evaluative procedures and requirements.

Module One	20%
Module Two	20%
Module Three	20%
Module Four	20%
Writing Component(s) and/or Project(s)	20%

Grading Scale

90 – 100 =	A
80 - 89 =	B
70 - 79 =	C
60 - 69 =	D
59 or less =	F

EXPECTATIONS

1. Complete and submit all assignments by specified deadlines.
2. Follow instructions and uphold standards established by the instructor.
3. Be respectful of other people's rights and opinions.
4. Demonstrate the knowledge of proper spelling, grammar, and composition when completing assignments and evaluation instruments.
5. Demonstrate mastery of course competencies.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance Policy

Students are responsible for attending all scheduled meetings in the courses in which they are enrolled until they have completed all course requirements. Students are responsible for all material covered and for all assignments made in all classes. Students who are absent from a class more than 20 percent of the hours assigned will be withdrawn.

Withdrawal from a Course

A student may withdrawal from the course after the add/drop period until mid-term with a grade of "W." To withdrawal from a course, the student obtains a Request for Withdrawal from his instructor or from Student Services. Students who withdrawal from the course after midterm may receive a "WF," at the instructor's discretion.

Student Conduct/Academic Integrity

Students are requested to adhere to all conduct codes outlined in the *York Technical College Handbook and Catalog*.