

Psychology 300
General Principles- LEC 10225
Spring 2010
MW: 9:00-10:20am
BUS 107

Professor:	Lisa M. Gunderson, Ph.D.	Office:	RS 284
Office phone:	(916) 650-2768	e-mail:	gunderl@scc.losrios.edu
Office hours:	MW: 10:30-11:30 am F: 11:00am-12:10 pm	TTh:	2:30-3:00 pm

Welcome to Psychology 300. Throughout the semester, please use this syllabus as your source of information regarding the class. Any major changes to the syllabus will be discussed. If my office hours are not convenient for you, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone to make an appointment.

REQUIRED TEXT

Rathus, S. (2008). *PSYCH* (3rd ed.) Boston: Wadsworth.

COURSE SLOs (Student Learning Outcomes)

This course provides you with an initial introduction into the scientific study of human behavior and mental processes (i.e., psychology). Specifically, through lectures, class discussions, readings, and videos you will become familiar with the major domains of psychology and the relevance of psychology to daily life. All assignments have been designed to:

- (1) increase your understanding of the theoretical and applied applications of psychology and its sub-specialties;
- (2) increase your skills in critical thinking and analysis which you can utilize daily and in future courses;
- (3) increase your understanding of how diversity issues (e.g., ethnicity, gender, ability, age, and sexual orientation) impact psychology;
- (4) show you the personal relevance of psychological theories/concepts in the “real world”;
- (5) increase your understanding of how psychology and its applications are interwoven with social and political institutions.

COURSE FORMAT

Each class begins with an overview of the lecture, including the objectives of the morning. Lecture may include group work, video, and class demonstrations to highlight various psychological theories and concepts.

REQUIREMENTS

I. Attendance and Group Participation

You are expected to attend all classes. There is information provided in class that is **NOT** covered in your readings. Your group assignment is determined by the second week of class. There are approximately 11 graded in-class & take-home assignments designed to emphasize certain topics discussed in class. If you are not actively participating in your group, you will be given the assignment to complete on your own.

You may make up in-class/group assignments for full credit if you miss class due to a conflict with a religious observance, traveling for an officially approved activity, or a verifiable medical excuse. If you miss class for any other reason, you will receive a maximum of **50% credit** for the assignment. You have **only one week** to make up the assignment for credit. Please note that some in-class/group assignments **cannot** be made up because they require your actual presence in class (e.g., group discussion). Finally, your overall group participation score is determined by the number of group and in-class activities you completed throughout the semester.

II. Examinations

For the purpose of confidentiality and blind grading, you are assigned a psychology class ID to be used in place of your name, SCC id number, and social security number. There are two midterm exams and a non-cumulative final exam. The week prior to the exam, a review sheet will be provided. A review session will be held at a time to be determined by the class. The exams are 40 multiple-choice items (@ 2.5 points each). Questions are based on all assigned readings and class lectures. Exams are returned during the next class period. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your exam, you have one week to see me.

Make-up Exams

The exam dates are: **February 24th and March 24th**. Please check your calendars now. If these dates conflict with religious observances or officially approved activities, please come and see me by **Wednesday, January 27th** to make alternative arrangements.

There are no make-up exams. If you miss an exam for a verifiable reason, your missed exam score is the average of the midterm you did not miss and your final exam. If you miss an exam due to illness or a personal emergency, please note you must have a verifiable excuse to receive full credit. If you do not have a verifiable excuse, you will receive **50%** of your averaged score.

For example, if you receive 70/100 points (70%) on MD 1, you miss MD 2, and receive 90/100 points (90%) on the multiple-choice portion of your final, you would have a total of 160/200 points. You would receive 80 points (80%) for MD 2. However, if you do not have a verifiable excuse, your score drops 50% to 40%. Finally, you cannot make-up more than one exam and there is **no make-up** for our final exam. **Bottom line: Do not miss the midterms.**

If you need to use a vocabulary translator/dictionary during an exam, you need to have them pre-approved by one of us prior to the exam. If you have a disability, including learning disabilities or chronic disabilities, please come and see me after class or during office hours to explain your needs and to discuss appropriate accommodations. Please bring a verification of your disability or specialist's recommendations for accommodating your needs.

III. Other Assignments

A. General Psychology Writing Assignments (150 points)

These writing assignments are designed to aid you in understanding psychology as a field and in making real connections between the class material and the "real world." Specifically, you will learn about the APA and how to apply psychological information to your life. The specific assignments & grading sheets are discussed in February and April. Papers need to be turned into class, not by e-mail. **DO NOT** slip your assignment under my door.

If you fail to turn in your assignment on the Monday that it is due, please see chart below for late penalties.

Due	Turned In	Percentage
Monday	Wednesday	10% of points possible
	Next Monday (week late)	20% of points possible

Turn in your paper even if it is late, because some points are better than none! **PAPERS** are not accepted after **ONE WEEK**, unless there is an extreme emergency.

B. Chapter Reviews (120 points)

You will complete 4 sets of multiple choice and true/false questions based on the main points of specific chapters. You are given in-class time to complete one of the assignments. Chapter 10 (Stress, Health, and Adjustment) is due on **Monday, February 8th**, Chapter 8 (Thinking, Language, & Intelligence) on **Monday, March 15th**, Chapter 9 (Motivation and Emotion) on **Monday, April 12th** and Chapter 11 (Personality: Theory and Measurement) on **Monday, May 10th**. Your chapter is due in class. If your chapter is late, but turned in by the next class period (Wednesday), you will lose 4 points. If you turn it in a week later, you will lose 8 points (i.e., 28/30 would become 20/30). **No chapter summaries are accepted after one week.**

Extra Credit – up to 20 points

Unless otherwise noted, all extra credit is **worth 5 points** each. You can complete a **maximum** of 20 points (i.e., 4 assignments). These points can be received by attending special events, chats, a psych club or courageous conversation meeting, writing a movie review or by writing your opinion on topics in class. I will inform you of these opportunities as they become available. You can turn in extra credit at any time. However, **ALL EXTRA CREDIT IS DUE BY WEDNESDAY, MAY 5th.**

FINAL COURSE GRADE

Your final course grade will be determined by your performance on all assignments.

<input type="checkbox"/> In Class Group Work	110 points	16.2%
<input type="checkbox"/> Chapter Reviews	120 points	17.6%
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Exams	300 points	44.1%
<input type="checkbox"/> Writing Assignments	150 points	22.1%
<input type="checkbox"/> Extra Credit		

There are 680 points possible. There is no curve. At any point in the semester you can determine your grade to date simply by figuring out the percentage. Final grades will be based on the point distribution below.

<u>Points</u>	<u>Grade</u>
609 or higher	A (90%)
541-608	B (80%)
473-540	C (70%)
405-472	D (60%)
404 or below	F (50%)

Final Notes

Cell phones, PDAs, pagers

Texting and the use of electronic devices, including cell phones, pagers, and any headphone-related musical device is prohibited in this class. Leave electronic devices **off** unless you have someone in the hospital or someone in your care. In the two latter cases, put your cell phone on silent mode. If your cell phone/pager goes off or I catch you texting in class or during group work, you will receive a warning first. If it happens a second time, you will be asked to give up your device for the remainder of class or leave. **If you are completing group work, you will be asked to complete the group work on your own for 1/2 credit.** DO NOT make calls or text others at any time during this class, including during a video or DVD.

Cheating and Plagiarism

Everyone is an adult and cheating and plagiarism is not tolerated – period. Every effort is being made to minimize an environment for cheating. If you are caught cheating during an exam or plagiarizing your paper, at the minimum you will receive a 0 for that test/paper and will be penalized according to SCC regulations. Please read and familiarize yourself with the student’s code of conduct definitions, rules, and regulations for cheating and plagiarism. You can find this information in SCC’s student guide-student code of conduct (<http://wserver.scc.losrios.edu/~matric/guide/stuconduct.html>).

Waste Reduction

In an effort to do my part, I will only supply one hard copy of your syllabus; you can retrieve additional copies of the syllabus off of my website after February 1st. Also, please feel free to double-side your assignments. For one-sided extra credit assignments, if you use the second side of a used paper, please put a line across the used page.

All students are expected to participate in SCC’s waste reduction program. Please reduce and reuse when possible and always recycle appropriate materials in the blue receptacle. We have a beautiful campus. Please help us keep it that way.

Withdrawal from the class

The deadline to withdraw from class for Spring 2010 is April 18th. I will withdraw any students who do not attend class regularly **until February 8th**. After February 8th, it is **YOUR** responsibility to withdraw from class.

Be Responsible

Keep track of all your assignments. When you write your papers **SAVE** a paper copy **AND** a computer disk copy. Keep the hard copy of your chapter summaries and your exam scantrons. You will not receive credit for something you said you did if you do not have proof.

KEEP ALL YOUR WORK UNTIL YOU RECEIVE YOUR FINAL GRADE.

Come Fi A Chat!

We will be discussing many interesting and controversial topics in class. Unfortunately, we do not have time to discuss them in depth. So, once a month, come and join me for lunch to discuss a particular psychology topic (e.g., “discrimination”). This is a great time to discuss and share your views. Specific dates and topics will be determined in class. I hope you come “fi a chat”.

The Student Is...

“...the most important person on the campus.
Without students there would be no need for the institution.
...not a cold enrollment statistic but a flesh and blood human being
with feelings and emotions like our own.
....not someone to be tolerated so that we can do our thing. They are our thing.
...not dependent on us. Rather, we are dependent on them.
...not an interruption of our work, but the purpose of it.
We are not doing them a favor by serving them.
They are doing us a favor by giving us the opportunity to do so.”
Author unknown



I hope you will find this course a valuable, challenging, and enjoyable learning experience.

DATE	COURSE OUTLINE & READINGS TOPIC	READING
<u>Week 1: January 18</u>	<u>What is Psychology?</u> Introduction & Course Review Definition of Psychology	Chapter 1
<u>Week 2: January 25</u>	<u>What is Psychology?</u> <u>Continued</u> Subfields and Perspectives of Psychology Research Methods and Statistical Measurement	Appendix: Statistics
<u>Week 3: February 1</u>	<u>Introduction to Psychology Continued</u> Brief History <u>Biology and Psychology</u> Brain	Chapter 1 Chapter 2
<u>Week 4: February 8</u>	<u>Biology and Psychology Continued</u> Neuron <u>Sensation & Perception</u> Five Senses	Chapter 2 continued Chapter 4
CHAPTER 10: STRESS, HEALTH, AND ADJUSTMENT DUE ON MONDAY		
<u>Week 5: February 15</u>	<u>President's Day: NO CLASS ON MONDAY</u> <u>Sensation & Perception</u> Perceive the World <u>Consciousness</u> Sleep	Chapter 4 continued Chapter 5
<u>Week 6: February 22</u>	<u>Consciousness</u> Altered States	Chapter 5 continued
MIDTERM 1 on WEDNESDAY		
<u>Week 7: March 1</u>	<u>Learning</u> Classical Conditioning Operant Conditioning	Chapter 6
<u>Week 8: March 8</u>	<u>Learning Continued</u> Operant Conditioning <u>Voyage Through the Life Span</u> Prenatal and Infant Development	Chapter 6 continued Chapter 3

Week 9: March 15

Voyage Through the Life Span
Death & Dying

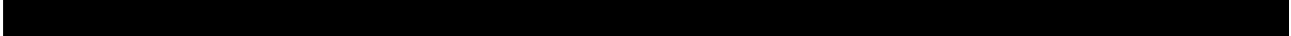
Chapter 3 continued

**CHAPTER 8: THINKING, LANGUAGE, AND INTELLIGENCE
DUE ON MONDAY**

Week 10: March 22

MIDTERM 2 ON WEDNESDAY

CHAPTERS 3, 5, & 6



MARCH 29

SPRING BREAK

ENJOY

Week 11: April 5

Memory
Three Memory Systems
Forgetting

Chapter 7

Week 12: April 12

Psychological Disorders
Definitions

Chapter 12

**CHAPTER 9: MOTIVATION AND EMOTION
DUE ON MONDAY**

Week 13: April 19

Psychological Disorders
Major Disorders

Chapter 12 continued

Chapter 13

Methods of Therapy
Therapeutic Approaches

Week 14: April 26

Therapies Continued

Chapter 13

Week 15: May 3

Social Psychology
Classic Social Psychology Experiments
Cognitive Dissonance
Prejudice and Discrimination

Chapter 14

Week 16: May 10

Social Psychology Continued
Human Sexual Response
Love

Chapter 14 continued

**CHAPTER 11: PERSONALITY THEORY AND MEASUREMENT
DUE ON MONDAY**

Monday, May 17th

FINAL EXAM @ 8:00am-10:00am

Chapters 7, 12, 13, 14

**HAVE A
WONDERFUL
SUMMER**

**CONGRATULATIONS
TO ALL GRADUATES!**

