

Course Syllabus



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Course Name PSYC111W Psychology

Approved By: Robin Scott

Date:

Instructor: Gerard Tremblay

Course Description

PSYC111W Psychology (3 Credits)

Catalog Description:

Psychology is an introductory course that surveys the behavioral science of psychology. Students explore personal and social behaviors through topics that include consciousness, memory, learning, perception, physiology, sexuality, cognition, abnormal behavior, and developmental processes. Applied research projects are an integral component of the course, which emphasizes the analysis of data, along with the theories and trends in the field

(Prerequisite: ENGL120W strongly recommended)

Required Texts and Resources

Textbooks: Psychology 2e OpenStax Spielman, Jenkins & Lovett

ISBN: 978-1-975076-44-3

Materials: access to the Internet for on-line research

See the [CCSNH IT Requirements](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#technology) [↗ \(https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#technology\)](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#technology)

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. define psychology within the context of psychological investigation being a legitimate scientific discipline.
2. describe the methods of research used by psychologists that are scientifically valid
3. identify the major branches of psychology, and the primary focus of each.
4. explain the relationships among heredity, environment, and their manifestations in psychological phenomena.
5. lists the ways that psychologists measure types of intelligence.
6. describe the relationship between sensory perception and its interpretation, and psychological phenomena.
7. define the major recognized psychological disorders and treatments of each.
8. explain how concepts of social psychology manifest themselves in human interactions

Required Methods of Assessment:

Required Assessment Method 1: Current Event (two or more connecting theory with current happenings around us.

Course Outcome(s): Using this Assessment Method, instructors will measure a student's ability in the following outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Required Assessment Method 2: Application Projects - applying theory to current career path (brochure, newsletter, Presentation, poster, etc.)

Course Outcome(s): Using this Assessment Method, instructors will measure a student's ability in the following outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Required Assessment Method 3: Written Reflections connecting with the reading, course conversations / content / videos shared, etc.

Course Outcome(s): Using this Assessment Method, instructors will measure a student's ability in the following outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Required Assessment Method 4: Weekly Interactive Discussion Boards REQUIRED for all online and hybrid course sections.

Course Outcome(s): Using this Assessment Method, instructors will measure a student's ability in the following outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Required Assessment Method 5: [At least one of the supplemental assessment methods listed](#)

below (Instructor's choice)

Course Outcome(s): Using this Assessment Method, instructors will measure a student's ability in the following outcomes: [Fulfills outcomes associated with the supplemental assessment method that the instructor chooses as the fourth required assessment method](#)

Supplemental Methods of Assessment:

Supplemental Assessment Method 1: Participation / In-Class assignments

Course Outcome(s): Using this Assessment Method, instructors will measure a student's ability in the following outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Supplemental Assessment Method 2: Quizzes &/or Exams

Course Outcome(s): Using this Assessment Method, instructors will measure a student's ability in the following outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Supplemental Assessment Method 3: Oral or Written Presentation

Course Outcome(s): Using this Assessment Method, instructors will measure a student's ability in the following outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Supplemental Assessment Method 4: Research Paper

Course Outcome(s): Using this Assessment Method, instructors will measure a student's ability in the following outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Supplemental Assessment Method 5: Socratic Seminar

Course Outcome(s): Using this Assessment Method, instructors will measure a student's ability in the following outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Supplemental Assessment Method 6: Group Activity / Project

Course Outcome(s): Using this Assessment Method, instructors will measure a student's ability in the following outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Outline of Topics:

[Introduction to Psychology](#)

[History of Psychology](#)

[Research Methods](#)

[Neuroscience and Behavior](#)

[Sensation and Perception](#)

[Consciousness](#)

Learning
 Memory
 Cognition
 Developmental Psychology
 Motivation and Emotion
 Intelligence
 Personality
 Social Psychology
 Stress and Coping
 Psychological Disorders
 Treatments for Psychological Disorders

Methods of Assessment



Graded objects:	Points:
Discussion board	2 @50 points each = 100
Current events/Project	4 @75 points each = 300
Exams on assigned readings	5 @120 points each = 600
Total	1000 points

See the [WMCC Grading Scale](https://catalog.wmcc.edu/grading)  (<https://catalog.wmcc.edu/grading>)

Course Expectations





In college-level courses, instructors have common expectations of their students: specifically, that students have a high degree of self-motivation, that students have a personal interest in learning the material that the course addresses, and that students, as responsible learners, are highly respectful to one another. It is also expected that students possess basic competence in the functional use of digital technology. The following list includes other common expectations, specifically that students:

- Have easy, continuous access to a computer
- Have access to the Internet, preferably via a high-speed connection
- Be able to search for credible information online, have some facility for narrowing searches, and begin to differentiate among the levels of “legitimacy” of online information

- Use word processing software (Microsoft Word, or Open Office Writer are preferred)
- Be able to compose, send, receive, and reply to emails related to their courses, and track their email correspondence
- Know how to attach files to emails and discussion board posts when appropriate
- Be capable of downloading and opening files, manage stored files, and recognize the characteristics of popular computer file types
- Please see WMCC's [Classroom Etiquette Policy](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#classroometiquette)  (<https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#classroometiquette>) and [Appropriate Online Behavior Policy](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#onlinestudentbehavior)  (<https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#onlinestudentbehavior>)

Policies

Students registered for WMCC courses must comply with all policies and guidelines in the *Student Handbook* and other college publications, including those related to civil rights, disabilities services, harassment, and plagiarism.

- Please see WMCC's [Academic Integrity and Plagiarism Policy](https://catalog.wmcc.edu/academic-honesty)  (<https://catalog.wmcc.edu/academic-honesty>)
- Please see WMCC's [Course Drop and Withdrawal Policy](https://www.wmcc.edu/academicresources-for-students/#coursedrop)  (<https://www.wmcc.edu/academicresources-for-students/#coursedrop>)
(<https://catalog.wmcc.edu/academic-honesty>)
- Please see WMCC's [Discrimination Policy](https://catalog.wmcc.edu/notice-ofnondiscrimination)  (<https://catalog.wmcc.edu/notice-ofnondiscrimination>) and [Title IX Policy](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#title-ix)  (<https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#title-ix>)

Participation and Attendance Policy

As an on-line course, students enjoy some flexibility in determining when to submit assigned research papers and take tests. But as detailed in the section of this syllabus that addresses late work, it is obligatory that these graded objects be completed by their respective deadlines. For that reason, it is critically important that students read the course syllabus, all relevant posted announcements, and emails of each weekly unit to avoid the compromise of grade and learning that occurs from succumbing to a “just in time” strategy for submitting course work.

- Please see WMCC's [Participation and Attendance Policy](https://catalog.wmcc.edu/attendance)  (<https://catalog.wmcc.edu/attendance>)
- Please see WMCC's [Cancellation/Delayed Start Classes Policy](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#cancellation-delayed-start)  (<https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#cancellation-delayed-start>)

Communication Policy

Modules will identify assigned research assignments and upcoming tests. They will indicate the due dates for assignments and tests. Students should read those descriptions very carefully, since they contain critically valuable information for successfully addressing each unit's graded objects.

There will be additional announcements posted regularly throughout the term. These announcements will address topics to assist students with other course-related issues or identify "exceptional" events in the courses' progression.

Course distribution-list emails will be sent out, usually once a week, to remind students of unit obligations, and/or issues unique to that week's works.

Emails to individual students will be sent on an as-needed basis.

If a student has issues that cannot be resolved effectively by email, they will be invited to provide a phone number for a follow-up phone conversation.

Grading Policy and Timeframe

Research papers are due by the end of the period for which they are assigned, though they may be submitted earlier within that period. Instructor will provide explanation of the assigned grade and additional constructive feedback for all submitted papers.

Tests are due within the period for which they are assigned, tests are auto graded, and scores will appear in the Canvas Gradebook, usually within an hour of submitting a unit test (or its re-take.)

Late Work, Revisions, and Extra Credit Policy

Research papers and tests must be submitted by their latest due date. Students will be reminded to take advantage of the module window for each to minimize the risk missing the deadlines. In the event of a legitimate emergency, students should contact the instructor as early as possible to negotiate an alternative work delivery plan.

- See WMCC's [Policy for Incomplete Grades](https://catalog.wmcc.edu/incomplete-grades)  (<https://catalog.wmcc.edu/incomplete-grades>)
- See WMCC's [Grade Reporting Policy](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#gradereporting)  (<https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#gradereporting>)

Support

See WMCC's [Accessibility Services](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#accessibility)  (<https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#accessibility>)

See WMCC's [Counseling Services](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#counseling)  (<https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-for-students/#counseling>)

See WMCC's [Academic Support Services](https://www.wmcc.edu/student-success/) (https://www.wmcc.edu/student-success/)

See WMCC's [Services for Student Basic Needs](https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-forstudents/#basicneeds) (https://www.wmcc.edu/academic-resources-forstudents/#basicneeds)

Course Timetable

Research papers and tests must be submitted by their latest due date. Students will be reminded to take advantage of the module window for each to minimize the risk missing the deadlines. In the event of a legitimate emergency, students should contact the instructor as early as possible to negotiate an alternative work delivery plan.

Weekly Timetable

Week	Date	Topic	Assignment	Outcome
1	1/21/2025 to 1/26/2025	psychology origins and its methodologies	Required Reading: Textbook <i>Chapter 1: Introduction to Psychology</i>	1,3

2	1/27/2025 to 2/2/2025	methods of psychological research	<p>Required Reading:</p> <p>Textbook <i>Chapter 2: Psychological Research</i></p> <p>Discussion Board 1: Introduce yourself and describe your course expectations</p>	2
3	2/3/2025 to 2/9/2025	the biological basis of psychological phenomena	<p>Required Reading:</p> <p>Textbook <i>Chapter 3: Biopsychology</i></p> <p>Test 1: Ch. 1-3</p>	4
4	2/10/2025 to 2/16/2025	consciousness and sleep	<p>Required Reading:</p> <p>Textbook <i>Chapter 4: States of Consciousness</i></p> <p>Assignment 1: Biological Foundations</p>	6

5	2/17/2025 to 2/23/2025	physical and psychological bases of sensation	Required Reading: Textbook <i>Chapter 5: Sensation and Perception</i> Test 2: Ch. 4-5	6
6	2/24/2025 to 3/2/2025	learning and conditioning	Required Reading: Textbook <i>Chapter 6: Learning</i>	2,5
7	3/3/2025 to 3/9/2025	cognition language and intelligence	Required Reading: Textbook <i>Chapter 7: Thinking and Intelligence</i> Assignment 2: Sleep	2,4,5
			Disorders	

8	3/10/2025 to 3/16/2025	how memory functions	Required Reading: Textbook <i>Chapter 8: Memory</i> Test 3: Ch. 6-8	6
9	3/17/2025 to 3/23/2025	SPRING BREAK stages of development through the lifespan	Required Reading: Textbook <i>Chapter 9: Lifespan Development</i>	4,8
10	3/24/2025 to 3/30/2025	motivation and emotion	Required Reading: Textbook <i>Chapter 10: Emotion and Motivation</i> Assignment 3: Personality and Assessment	6,8

11	3/31/2025 to 4/6/2025	theories of personality development	Required Reading: Textbook <i>Chapter 11: Personality</i> Test 4: Ch. 9-11	2,8
12	4/7/2025 to 4/13/2025	social psychology and industrial psychology	Required Reading: Textbook <i>Chapter 12: Social Psychology</i> and <i>Chapter 13: Industrial- Organizational Psychology</i>	8

13	4/14/2025 to 4/20/2025	stress and physiological consequences	<p>Required Reading:</p> <p>Textbook <i>Chapter 14: Stress, Lifestyle and Health</i></p> <p>Assignment 4: Stress and Health</p> <p>Discussion Board 2: What are your most important course takeaways</p>	4,6
14	4/21/2025 to 4/27/2025	psychological disorders and treatment	<p>Required Reading:</p> <p>Textbook <i>Chapter 15: Psychological Disorders</i> and <i>Chapter 16: Therapy and Treatment</i></p> <p>Test 5: Ch. 12-16</p>	2,7

15	4/28/2025 to 5/4/2025	genetic and bioengineering potentials for treating disorders	online reading and video regarding genetic treatment for psychological	7
			disorders	
16	5/5/2025 to 5/10/2025	reflection of how the course's topics are relevant to current news	Course wrapup, final course communication End-of-course survey completion is required	6