

GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY
Course Syllabus
Fall 2016

PSYCHOLOGY 101: Section 2771
Mon & Wed 11:55 - 1:20 pm
Sierra Hall Room 132 (West campus)

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Professor: Dr. Shelly Fichtenkort  
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Office location: Founders Hall 160D (East campus)– tel/voice mail: 575-6898  
Office hours: Mon & Wed 1:30-2:30 pm; Tues & Thurs 11:00-12:30 pm

**REQUIRED texts:** 1) Exploring Psychology in Modules, 9<sup>th</sup> edition by David Myers, ISBN 978-14641-1173-0 or 978-14641-6342-5  
2) Fichtenkort Handout Packet

(Both are available in WEST campus bookstore or MJC online bookstore)

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COURSE CALENDAR:

AUGUST →

Reading Assignment

Mon	29	Introduction to Course, Scientific Method	Module 1
Wed	31	Research Methods	Module 2

SEPTEMBER →

Mon	5	HOLIDAY	
Wed	7	The Biology of Behavior	Modules 3-4

SEPTEMBER CONT. →

Mon-Wed	12-14	The Biology of Behavior	Modules 3-4
Mon-Wed	19-21	Consciousness, Sleep & Dreams	Module 6
Mon	26	Drugs	Module 8
Wed	28	EXAM 1: Modules 1-4, 6 & 8	

OCTOBER →

Mon-Wed	3-5	Human Development	Modules 10-12
Mon-Wed	10-12	Learning	Modules 18-20
Mon-Wed	17-19	Memory	Modules 21-23
Mon	24	EXAM 2: Modules 10-12 & 18-23	
Wed	26	Motivation	Modules 28-29
Mon	31	Emotion	Module 30 (pg 403-406) & Module 31

NOVEMBER →

Wed	2	Stress and Health	Modules 32-33
Mon	7	Personality	Modules 34-35
Wed	9	EXAM 3: Modules 28-35	
Mon-Wed	14-16	Social Psychology	Modules 36 & 38
Mon-Mon	21-28	Psychological Disorders	Modules 39-41
Wed	30	Therapy	Modules 42-43

DECEMBER →

Mon	5	EXAM 4: Modules 36 & 38, 39-43	
Wed	7	Final Exam review (optional)	
Wed	14	10:00 am FINAL EXAM (optional)	

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:

This course will introduce you to the world of psychology by exploring the facts and theories which seek to explain and understand human behavior. Over the course of the semester we will examine methods used by behavioral scientists, the biological basis of behavior, states of consciousness, psychological development across the lifespan, social influences, as well as the causes and treatment of psychological disorders, just to name a few.

Through reading, class discussion, activities and video clips, this course is designed to provide you with a thorough introduction to psychology to prepare you for future psychology courses and life, in general! Have fun and enjoy learning about what makes you... *YOU*.

Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of Psychology 101: General Psychology, you will have the knowledge necessary to:

1. Distinguish between the humanistic, behavioral, psychoanalytic, cognitive, and neuroscience perspectives in psychology.
2. Explain the basic research methodologies used in psychological science.

GRADING:

1. **EXAMS:** There will be **four** exams given over the course of the semester, each covering 7-9 Modules and consisting of a combination of multiple-choice, short-answer, essay, labeling and/or fill-in-the-blank questions. Each exam is worth 75 points. The questions will be taken primarily from lecture and the reading assignments, but you can expect some test questions on video clips or any class activity. An optional final will be offered for students who have missed an exam or who wish to replace a low exam score. The optional final exam will consist of 75 multiple-choice questions and will cover material from the entire semester. **You will need a #2 pencil and a Scantron 886 form for each exam, and an 882 form for the final.**

TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS = 300

2. IN-CLASS ACTIVITIES:

Over the course of the semester you will have opportunities for individual and group activities, most of which will be done in class. It is absolutely essential that you bring your handout packet to class every day. The packet is available for purchase in the West campus or MJC online bookstore. You **must** be in class and participate to receive these points. There are **no make-ups** on these activities for any reason.

TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS = 100

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Note: Students should retain all graded and returned papers until the end of the semester. Record keeping errors are rare, but it is wise to retain papers as proof of grades.

There are a TOTAL of 400 points available with the following grade breakdown (no + / -):

360 – 400	A
320 – 359	B
280 – 319	C
240 – 279	D
<240	F

WITHDRAWAL POLICY:

For last day to drop classes, file for a refund, or file for Pass/No Pas, please see your class schedule which is available via PiratesNet. You may drop classes using the online system until 11 pm on the last day to drop.

If you stop attending class and miss 2 weeks (consecutively) and the assignments therein, you will be dropped from the class. If you receive financial aid, your benefits may be affected.

MAKE-UP EXAM POLICY:

There are **no make-ups** on missed exams. If you miss an exam, plan to take the optional final exam to replace your missed exam. There are also no make-ups on missed in-class activities. Regular attendance is important to earn points toward your final grade.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

You are expected to attend every class meeting. You are responsible for all materials presented and announcements made in class. As stated above, your participation is required for in-class activity credit and absences will result in a lower grade.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

Any evidence of academic dishonesty (e.g., cheating on an exam or plagiarism, including copying another student's paper or copying information from the internet without citing the source) will result in a failing grade on that assignment, a filing of an MJC Student Conduct Report for your violation of the YCCD/MJC Standards of Conduct, and you may be referred to the Student Discipline Officer for further action.

SPECIAL NEEDS:

I will make accommodations for students who require special assistance because of a disability registered with the MJC Disabled Students Office (DSP). If you require some assistance, please discuss your situation with me early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Note: The above schedule and procedures in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.