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**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**PSY 101:  Introduction to Psychology (3 credit hours)**

INSTRUCTOR:        Marianne Greenfield, PhD

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COURSE SCHEDULE:

Please note if there are discrepancies between dates from Syllabus to online Module, please follow dates in Canvas.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is a survey of the field of psychology that is defined as the scientific study of behavior. Topics include the history of psychology methodology, biological foundations of behavior, sensation and perception, memory, consciousness, intelligence, development, social influences, personality, behavior disorders, and therapy.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK**:

Nevid, J. S. (2021). *Essentials of Psychology: Concepts and Applications* (6th ed.). Cengage Learning US.

**CREDIT HOUR STATEMENT**

Courses offered in an 8-week session are twice as intensive as those held during a traditional full semester. Each week students should expect to spend 14 hours interacting with course content through a combination of direct instruction and out of class student work.  Examples of direct instruction may include viewing or reading course lectures, engaging in class forum discussions with the course instructor and other students, viewing or reading supplementary online content required by the instructor, completing course quizzes and/or examinations, and reading instructor announcements related to course material and instructor feedback on assignments.  Examples of out of class student work may include reading the assigned course textbook, doing independent library research, completing essay assignments, developing more extensive research papers, and studying in preparation for exams and quizzes.

**SPECIAL NOTE ON SECTION**

Course sections that include a “P” are offered as part of our Professional Studies program. This course is taught in an asynchronous format (meaning no live, scheduled meetings).  Interaction will occur with classmates and the instructor through email and discussion boards.  If you have questions or need help, we can set up individual meetings through an online platform (Canvas, Zoom, Teams, Discord, etc.). These courses follow strict guidelines for course participation.  The Drop/Add window ends on Tuesday of the first week of class as the first assignments are due by Thursday night. Please pay careful attention to deadlines.  Students may be administratively withdrawn from the course if attendance and participation requirements are not met.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

After completing this course, the student will be able to:

* identify & differentiate among the basic methods of scientific psychology
* demonstrate familiarity with the major terms, theories, and debates in the field of Psychology
* apply psychological concepts to general descriptions of human behavior
* describe the basic processes underlying a variety of psychological phenomena, including sensation, perception, development, learning, and memory
* discuss the ways that environmental, social and biological processes contribute to psychological phenomena
* identify factors that contribute to an individual's personality & attitudes
* recognize different psychological disorders & treatment options

**Integration with General Education:**

Introductory Psychology is an elective in the General Education portion of the College’s degree requirements. As such, the Student Learning Outcomes and Assessment techniques of this course are pertinent to the following General Education and College Student Learning Objectives:

1. Domain I: Communication: Students will demonstrate:
2. The effective expression of ideas through writing and speech;
3. Domain II: Critical Thinking and Inquiry: Students will demonstrate:
4. Integrative, critical thinking with inquiry based learning using evidence, logic, reasoning, and calculation
5. Knowledge of various research methodologies, information, technological, and scientific literacy
6. Independent thinking.
7. Domain III: Students will demonstrate:
8. An appreciation for the role of diversity in understanding behavior
9. Domain IV: Values and Ethics: Students will demonstrate:
10. An understanding of the role of ethics in research and practice
11. A commitment to physical and emotional wellness.

**COURSE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:**

All assignments must be completed by the learner.  Learners are expected to read and adhere to the Academic Integrity section of Reinhardt University’s Academic Catalog.  Cases of academic dishonesty may result in expulsion from the University, a failing grade for the course, or a failing grade for the assignment.

The following are recognized as unacceptable forms of academic behavior at Reinhardt University:

1. Plagiarizing, that is presenting words or ideas not your own as if they were your own. The words of others must be enclosed in quotation marks and documented. The source of the distinctive ideas must also be acknowledged through appropriate documentation. (NOTE:  Strictly adhere to APA citation and referencing guidelines to avoid this).
2. Submitting a paper written by another student or another person as if it were your own.
3. Submitting a paper containing sentences, paragraphs, or sections lifted from another student’s work or other publication; there must be written documentation.
4. Submitting a paper written by you for another course or occasion without the explicit knowledge and consent of the instructor.
5. Fabricating evidence or statistics that supposedly represent your original research.
6. Cheating of any sort on tests, papers, projects, reports, etc.
7. Using the internet inappropriately as a resource without proper documentation of the source. See 3 above.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS/ASSIGNMENTS:**

Knowledge of the material presented in this course will be evaluated based on the satisfactory completion of all coursework.  Methods of instruction and learning include unit reading assignments, video lectures, discussion postings, individual research, and essay assignments.  Learners are expected to complete all module activities during the week they are assigned and in the manner prescribed.

Reading Assignments:  Learners are expected to complete the assigned textbook readings for each unit prior to participating in discussions and assignments.

Discussion Posts:  Each module discussion posting must contain a minimum of a 300 word initial response.  The deadline for postings shall be published within Module Academic Requirements.  Initial postings are generally due by 11:59 PM the first Wednesday of the module.  Learners will be penalized 10 points for late submission of an initial posting.  Initial postings will not be accepted for credit after 24 hours past the posted deadline.  Initial postings must cite material from the course textbook and at least one outside scholarly source and must be formatted in accordance with APA guidelines.

Learners must reply to a minimum of THREE DIFFERENT students in the class with a minimum of a 100 word response for each.  The responses must be substantive in nature and add to the conversation by providing additional knowledge. You must incorporate citations and references into your responses.  Generally, responses are due no later than 11:59 PM (EST) on Sunday or as posted in Module Academic Requirements.

Learners must also respond to any questions posed by the instructor. Late submissions will not be accepted for point credit.

**Use your own words to communicate ideas and incorporate source material to support your assertions in initial posts and reply postings.   All postings and replies must adhere to APA 7th Edition guidelines regarding citations and referencing.**    Learners must also employ proper grammar, punctuation, and correct spelling.    Module discussion posts will be averaged together and will account for 25% of the final course grade.

Essay Assignments:  Module essay assignments often have more than one part.  Be sure to answer **each part**of each question and follow the directions for each.  **Use your own words to communicate ideas and incorporate source material to support your assertions.**Learners must adhere to the minimum word count specified for each assignment.  Assignments must adhere to the citation and referencing guidelines contained in the 7th Edition APA Manual.  Learners must also employ proper grammar, punctuation, and correct spelling in all submissions.   Essay assignments will be averaged together and will account for 40% of the final course grade.  The deadline for submissions shall be published within Module Academic Requirements. Learners will be penalized 10 points for late submissions.  Assignments will not be accepted after 24 hours past the posted deadline unless prior approval by instructor has been granted.

Research Readings:   Research is the foundation of all science, and psychology is no exception. Professionals in the field use peer reviewed journal articles to communicate the findings of their research. As part of this course, you should develop the skills needed to digest, analyze, and evaluate professional literature. Many students find this task challenging and intimidating, but developing this skill set is a process.  As the first step in this journey, I have selected articles that you will review.  You will need to read the article and answer a set of questions that I will provide. The questions are designed to help you identify and analyze the key issues presented in the research.  All writing must be individually written.  Papers with copied answers (or portions of answers) will be treated as plagiarized material. Research readings will be averaged together and will account for 25% of the final course grade.   The deadline for submissions shall be published within Module Academic Requirements.  Learners will be penalized 10 points for late submission of a research reading assignment.  Submissions will not be accepted after 24 hours past the posted deadline

Quizzes:  Five quizzes will be given during the eight-week session.Individual quizzes will be administered at the beginning of each module through Canvas**.**Grades from quizzes will be averaged together and account for 10% of the final course grade.  Deadlines for submission shall be posted within Module Academic Requirements.  Late submissions will not be accepted.  Quizzes cannot be re-opened.

**EVALUATION & GRADING:**

The following grading scale will be utilized in the determination of the student’s course grade:

Percentage of Points Earned                    Corresponding Letter Grade

90 to 100%                                                A

80 to 89%                                                  B

70 to 79%                                                  C

60 to 69%                                                  D

0 to 59%                                                    F

**FINAL AVERAGE BREAKDOWN:**

Discussion Posts                                                   25%

Unit Essay Assignments                                       40%

Quizzes                                                                 10%

Research Readings                                               25%

Summary of Late Policy:     Initial Posts: 24-hour late window (with 10-point penalty)

Follow-up posts: N**o late submissions** accepted (we will have moved on to the next section and grading will be in progress).

Essays: 24-hour late window (with 10-point penalty)

Quizzes: **No late submissions**.  The quiz will close automatically.

Research readings: 24-hour late window (with 10-point penalty)

**PROJECTED LEARNING SCHEDULE:**

**MODULE #1  (1 Week)**

Getting to know the field – In the first section, you will be getting to know what the field of Psychology entails.  You will learn about our history, what we study, and how we conduct research.

* **Chapter 1: The Science of Psychology**
* **Chapter 2:  Biological Foundations of Behavior**

**MODULE #2 (2 Weeks)**

In this section, you will see some of the more familiar aspects of the field.  These topics may seem disparate, but these chapters have lots of things that usually interest students.  For example, how do we classify and understand emotions?  What motivates us to act (or stops us from acting)?  Have you heard of the Milgram shock experiments or the Stanford Prison study?  What steps can we take to live happier, healthier lives.  In this chapter, you will be asked to do some reflection on yourself and think about how Psychology may apply to you.

* **Chapter 8: Motivations and Emotions**
* **Chapter 11: Personality**
* **Chapter 12: Social Psychology**

**MODULE #3 (2 Weeks)**

In this section, we look at how information is processed.  How do we learn?  How is information stored?  Why does memory fail sometimes? How do we measure intelligence?  How do these things change over the course of our lives?

* **Chapter 5: Learning**
* **Chapter 6: Memory**
* **Chapter 7: Thinking, Language and Intelligence**
* **Chapter 9: Human Development**

**MODULE #4 (2 Weeks)**

In this section, we focus on the physical domain of Psychology.  We examine the role of genes in behavior, understand how the brain and nervous system work, and examine how we take information from the outside world and make sense of it.

* **Chapter 2:  Biological Foundations of Behavior**
* **Chapter 3:   Sensation and Perception**
* **Chapter 10: Psychology and Health**

**MODULE #5 (1 Week)**

In our final section, we will explore both typical and atypical aspects of our psychological.  Most people will be impacted by, or care for someone who is impacted by, a disorder (depression, anxiety, substance abuse, developmental disorders, dementia, schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, eating disorders, etc.).  Would you know how to recognize the symptoms?  What types of treatments are available?  How effective are those interventions?  This is the section that most people will associate with the field of Psychology.  Having seen all of the pieces that came before it in the course, you will be able to appreciate how complex it is to answer these questions.

* **Chapter 13: Psychological Disorders**
* **Chapter 14: Methods of Therapy**

**ONLINE ATTENDANCE AND WITHDRAWAL POLICY:**

Students are accountable for all required work in each of their courses. They must assume full responsibility for class attendance in a way satisfactory to the instructor and for work missed because of absence. Since class sessions function not merely for individual learning but also for group interaction, absences can become a serious problem both for the individual and for the group.

Online courses are generally delivered over a period of eight weeks with activities and assignments specified for each week.  An online week is defined as being Monday 12:00 AM (EST) through Sunday at 11:59 PM (EST).  Deadlines for attendance are based on Eastern Standard Time.

A student will be considered in attendance for a given week of online instruction if he or she participates in the course.  Participation is defined as posting a response to a discussion assignment or submitting a completed course room activity/assignment during the online week prior to Sunday at 11:59 PM (EST).

**Initial Course Participation**

A student who fails to participate during the first 8 calendar days of a course shall be administratively dropped from the course.

**Ongoing Course Participation**

Ongoing course participation is satisfied through the continued completion of course room activities, such as written assignments, quizzes, or discussion question responses.  Students who do not participate in a course for 7 or more consecutive days are not satisfying ongoing course participation.

Students who are not satisfying the ongoing course participation requirement shall be notified by a University representative via University email.  The learner must resume participation in the course within 3 calendar days following the sending of the notification.  Note that the assignment submitted may not receive credit in terms of the grade (late policies still apply as written), but may be used to maintain the student’ active status.

Students who do not resume participation in the course will be administratively withdrawn from the course and be issued a grade of “W” or “F”.

A grade of “W’ will be issued if an administrative or voluntary withdrawal occurs before 11:59 PM on Monday of the fifth week of the course.

A grade of “F” will be issued if an administrative or voluntary withdrawal occurs after 11:59 PM on Monday of the fifth week of the course.

Students may be impacted academically and financially in the case of voluntary and administrative withdrawals.  It is the student’s responsibility to understand these implications.

**Online Academic Support Services**

Reinhardt University offers academic support services for online students through BrainFuse HelpNow.  Services include access to live tutors, writing lab assistance, and study center resources.  These resources are offered at no additional charge and are available on demand at:   [http://www.brainfuse.com/highed/helpNow.asp?a\_id=68F429E2&ss=&rLinks to an external site.](http://www.brainfuse.com/highed/helpNow.asp?a_id=68F429E2&ss=&r)=

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a documented disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Academic Support Office (ASO).

Reinhardt University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. Therefore, if you are seeking classroom accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act, you are required to register with the Academic Support Office (ASO). ASO is located in the basement of Lawson Building. Phone is 770-720-5567. To receive academic accommodations for this class, please obtain the proper ASO letters/forms.

**NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT:**

Reinhardt University does not discriminate in any of its policies, programs, or activities on the basis of race, color, age, culture, national origin, socioeconomic status, gender, religious belief, sexual orientation, physical (dis)ability or genetic information.

**RESEARCH READING INFORMATION**

As part of several Modules, you will have the opportunity to read professional peer-reviewed journal articles.  These exercises are designed to help you learn to extract the important details from what can be difficult material.

Your task, after reading the article will be to answer 10 questions about the material.  All responses should be typed.  You may use the question document as a template and add your responses below the questions.  The most common feedback that I give on these assignments is that I need more detailed information.  So, please be sure to include as much information as you can.  Be sure, however, that you are providing answers in your own words and not accidentally copying chunks of the original material.

**The completed research reading assignments must be uploaded to Canvas no later than 11:59 PM (EST) on last day of the modules (as listed above).**

**TIPS FOR SUCCESS:**

* Conduct independent study on what it means to be a “critical thinker”.
* Save sources from discussion posts and completes…students may be able to use these in the paper and it saves time!
* Start work on your assignments early…do not procrastinate…it will be due before you realize it and you’ll stress yourself out if you wait to start the day before the paper is due.
* Exceed the minimum requirements…don’t just do enough to get by…seek to stand above the rest by exceeding and surpassing expectations.
* Study APA formatting and seek help from the instructor.