



General Psychology

PSY110

Southwestern College Professional Studies

COURSE SYLLABUS

I. Course Catalog Description

Introduction to Psychology explores the major perspectives, principles, theories, and methods that govern the study of mental processes and behaviors. You will trace psychology's historical roots, scientific basis, and major perspectives. In addition, you will consider contemporary and historical theories of how biological, cognitive, and environmental factors underlie and influence human development, sensation and perception, consciousness, intelligence, and social dynamics. This course also will introduce you to the theories and processes essential to learning, memory, motivation, and personality. Additionally, you will identify psychological disorders and their treatments, and discuss application of psychological principles to everyday experiences and real-life examples. Three credit hours.

II. Required and Supplementary Instructional Materials

Pastorino, E. and Doyle-Portillo, S. (2016). What is Psychology?: Foundations, Applications, and Integration, 3rd Ed. Cengage Learning. ISBN: 9781305088740 This ebook is included in the course fees for this class. No additional book purchase is necessary.

III. Learning Outcomes

Learning outcomes describe the knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes that learners gain as the result of a particular learning experience. Southwestern College Professional Studies has learning outcomes specific to each program of study that are in line with the institutional outcomes of critical thinking, ethical reasoning, leadership, communication, and career preparation. Course outcomes support program outcomes and are listed below.

Upon successfully completing this course, the learner will be able to:

1. Describe the major perspectives and methods that govern the study of mental processes and behaviors.
2. Examine the biological structures and processes that underlie psychological phenomena.
3. Describe the contributions of major figures and scientific studies to the understanding of psychological phenomena.
4. Evaluate theories that attempt to explain various aspects of human behavior and mental processes.
5. Apply psychological principles to the analysis of everyday experiences and real-life examples.
6. Examine the relative influence of biological, environmental, and sociocultural factors on human psychology.
7. Examine current scientific research and findings related to various types of psychological disorders.

At the end of the course, learners may vary in their ability to achieve these outcomes. You are more likely to achieve these outcomes only if you attend class and/or online activities as required by the syllabus, complete the requirements for all assignments to the best of your ability, participate actively in class activities and group work as directed, and study diligently for exams.

IV. Course Policies

Students are expected to read and abide by the course policies located in the instructor-specific syllabus in the blackboard course.

V. Course Requirements:

Requirements	Number of Assignments	Points Possible	Percent of Grade
Discussions	8	200	20%
Case Studies	3	100	10%
Quizzes	2	200	20%
Journal Entries	4	100	10%
Research Paper	1	300	30%
Final Exam	1	100	10%
Total Points		1000	100

VI. Course at a Glance:

Unit	Reading & Preparation Activities	Graded Work Due
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read <i>What is Psychology?</i> Chapters 1, 2, and 9 View lecture slides for Chapters 1, 2, and 9 	Assignment 1.1: Discussion Assignment 1.2: Research Paper Topics List Assignment 1.3: Discussion Assignment 1.4: Journal Entry
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read <i>What is Psychology?</i> Chapters 3 and 4 View lecture slides for Chapters 3 and 4 	Assignment 2.1: Research Question Assignment 2.2: Journal Entry Assignment 2.3: Discussion Assignment 2.4: Cumulative Quiz
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read <i>What is Psychology?</i> Chapters 6-8 View lecture slides for Chapters 6-8 	Assignment 3.1 Discussion Assignment 3.2: Research Paper Bibliography Assignment 3.3: Case Study Assignment 3.4: Journal Entry
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read <i>What is Psychology?</i> Chapters 5 and 11 View lecture slides for Chapters 5 and 11 	Assignment 4.1: Discussion Assignment 4.2: Journal Entry Assignment 4.3: Case Study Assignment 4.4: Research Paper Outline Assignment 4.5: Cumulative Quiz
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read <i>What is Psychology?</i> Chapters 13 and 14 View lecture slides for Chapters 13 and 14 	Assignment 5.1: Discussion Assignment 5.2: Research Paper Draft and Peer Review Assignment 5.3: Case Studies
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read <i>What is Psychology?</i> Chapters 10 and 12 View lecture slides for Chapters 10 and 12 	Assignment 6.1: Discussion Assignment 6.2: Research Paper Final Draft Assignment 6.3: Slide Presentation Assignment 6.4: Final Exam

VII. Other Policies and Requirements

Follow this link to the Southwestern College Professional Studies [Standard Syllabus](#) in Blackboard. You may be required to log in.