



Syllabus: **PSY 101-1 Introduction to Psychology**

Course Information	
Course Prefix/Number: PSY 101-1	Credit Hours: 3
Semester: Fall 2018	Course Title: Introduction to Psychology
Class Days/Times: Tuesday 5:15pm to 8:15pm	Room: Central Campus, Building 500 RM 503

Instructor Information: Name: Dr. Curtis Peterson, Ph.D.	Phone/Voice Mail: 520-383-0048 E-mail: cpeterson@tocc.edu Office location: Ha-Mascamdham Ha-Ki RM 118 Office hours: Tues-Thurs 1pm to 3pm, Thurs 4pm to 5pm
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Course Description: Survey of general psychology. Includes a definition of psychology, history of psychology, research methods and critical thinking, biological basis of behavior, sensory process, receiving the world, states of consciousness, conditioning and learning, memory process, motivation and emotions, role of health psychologists, role of stress in our lives, major stages in child and life span development, gender identity and sexuality, intelligence, personality theories, psychological disorders, therapeutic approaches, social psychology research.
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Course Objectives: Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to do the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe the history of psychology, including psychological perspectives and research methods. 2. Explain how the nervous system and other biological systems influence behavior. 3. Summarize the stages and major theories of life span development. 4. Describe the processes of perceptual organization and interpretation. 5. Compare and contrast the major learning theories. 6. Discuss memory formation, retention and loss. Explain how memory can be improved. 7. Elucidate the connections between thinking, language, and intelligent behavior. 8. Summarize the major concepts of motivation and emotion and how they relate to behavior. 9. Compare and contrast the major personality theories. 10. Describe the characteristics and causal factors associated with major psychological disorders. 11. Identify and discuss the theoretical underpinnings of approaches to psychotherapy.
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12. Describe the stress process and explain the interaction between stress and health.
13. Appraise social psychology research findings related to social thought, behavior, and relations.

Course Structure:

This course is lecture and activity based. Students are expected to come to class and learn information being presented, willing to ask questions, and ready to engage in classroom activities. Classroom activities may include group work within the class or take-home assignments.

Texts and Materials: All reading and learning material required for this course is posted on the Canvas website under this course title. Go to:

<https://tocc.instructure.com/login/canvas>

Evaluation and Grading & Assignments:

Class attendance and participation (400pts)

16 classes @ 25pts per class = 400pts

Term paper (300pts)

Rough draft 100pts
Final paper 200pts

Learning activities (250pts)

Interpreting research article 50pts
Biological psychology class activity 50pts
Behavior modification project 50pts
Personality assessment 50pts
Mental health screening 50pts

Course quizzes and exams (650pts)

Quiz 1 – Introduction to Psychology and research methods 50pts
Quiz 2 – Biological psychology/sensations & perceptions 50pts
Quiz 3 – Developmental psychology 50pts
Quiz 4 – Learning and memory 50pts
Quiz 5 – Social Psychology 50pts
Quiz 6 – Personality Psychology 50pts
Quiz 7 – Abnormal Psychology 50pts

Mid-term Exam 100pts
Final Exam 200pts

Grade Scale

How to figure (points received/points possible) X 100

Above 90	A
80 – 89	B
70 – 79	C
60 – 69	D
Under 60	F

Himdag Cultural Component: Human behavior and mental processes – and indeed our interpretation of such things – always occurs within the context of culture. During the exploration of each of the topic areas within this course, emphasis will be placed on how each psychological concept is viewed through the lens of the Himdag and Tohono O’odham’s way of life and experience.

Policies and expectations-

Classroom behavior/expectations:

This class is a professional adult learning environment, and both the instructor and students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with respect and academic conduct.

Late work/Make-up rules

Work not turned in by due date will have 10% deduction for first 7 days it is late and 50% deduction after 7 days post due date.

Unless prior arrangements are made with instructor, exams and quizzes can be completed late for 75% of the original value of the exam or quiz.

Attendance and/or Participation requirements

Attendance is required for this course, students may have 3 excused absences per semester, after 3 absences missing class will result in unexcused absence and referral will be made to retention coordinator.

ADA Statement

Tohono O’odham Community College complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. In addition, TOCC complies with other applicable federal and state laws and regulations that prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability. Reasonable accommodations, including materials in an alternative format, will be made for individuals with disabilities when a minimum of five working days advance notice is given. Students needing accommodations are encouraged to contact the Vice President of Student Services, at (520) 383-8401. For additional information, see the TOCC Student Handbook.

Academic dishonesty definition/policy statement:

Plagiarism, cheating and other forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited. Students guilty of academic misconduct, either directly or indirectly, through participation or assistance, are immediately responsible to the instructor of the class. In addition to other possible disciplinary sanctions, which may be imposed through the regular classroom policy and college policy. Cheating in this course is based on the perception of the instructor.

Course Outline:

The course outline is based on topics, during the semester to meet the standard requirements of an Introduction to Psychology, we must get through all the topics. How quickly we get through each topic is based on the needs and interest of the class. In order the topics are as follow:

Topic 1: Introduction to the study of psychology. Surveys the history and major fields of thoughts.

Topic 2: Scientific Method. While psychology grew out of philosophy, modern psychology uses the scientific method to investigate human behavior and mental processes. This topic explores the different ways in which psychologist use the scientific method to investigate psychological process.

Topic 3: The biological basis of psychology explores mainly the nervous system of the human body and how it gives way to our physical experience of the world around us.

Topic 4: Sensation and Perceptions. In order to have a conscious experience of our world, we first must be able to sense our surrounding and then understand it through our perceptions. Topic 4 explores the study of sensations and perceptions, and how many times our perceptions are not what we actually sense in the world.

Topic 5: Development. Psychologist have learned over the past several decades that we develop and change through-out the life cycle. This topic section will survey what we know happens at each stage of life and how we change across the lifespan.

Topic 6: Learning. Learning for psychologist is not necessarily what we experience in the classroom but rather how our behaviors change in response to a given experience. This section will explore how behavior change occurs and the rules that govern those changes.

Topic 7: Cognition and memory. One of the unique things about being a human is our ability to do self-reflection, and to consciously remember past experiences and purposely change our behavior and emotions in our current situation based on those past experiences. This ability is so engrained in us that we often do not realize how uniquely human this ability is and has resulted in many of human being success, and unfortunately failures as well.

Topic 8: Emotions and attitudes. While our emotions and our attitudes are actually poor predictors of our actual behavior, they do determine our experience of those behaviors and situations. They also can gravitate us towards others who will help maintain those emotions and attitudes either for the better or the worst. This section examines how emotions and attitudes are used to govern and determine our experience of a given situation.

Topic 9: Personality and individual differences. Ever wonder what makes you unique? The study of personality and individual differences is the field that tries to answer that particular question. This section will explore how different personality factors shape our individual experience of the world around us.

Topic 10: Social psychology. Humans as a species is one of the most social based species, indeed, most of the higher areas of the human brain is dedicated to processing social information, unlike most other species where their brains mainly focus on processing of incoming stimuli and immediate

responses. This section explores how individuals influence others, and how others can influence an individual's behavior.

Topic 11: Abnormal psychology. The last topic of the course will explore how a society determines what is abnormal behavior, and will explore the concepts of psychological disorders (including mood disorders, psychosis, anxiety disorders, and personality disorders). Some emphasis will be placed on the identification and treatment of different disorders.

Important Dates

Fall Semester 2018	
First Day of Classes with Welcome/Blessing	Aug 20, 2018
Add without Instructor's signature	Aug 20 - 24, 2018
Add with Instructor's signature	Aug 27 - 31, 2018
Labor Day - College Closed	Sep 3, 2018
Drop/Full Refund Deadline	Sep 4, 2018
O'odham Tas - College Closed	Sep 28, 2018
Fall Break	October 1 - 5, 2018
St. Francis Day - College Closed	Oct 4, 2018
45th Day Census	Oct 5, 2018
Withdrawal Deadline	Nov 2, 2018
Veteran's Day - College Closed	Nov 12, 2018
Thanksgiving Holiday - College Closed	Nov 22-23, 2018
Last Week of Classes/Final Exams	Dec 10-14, 2018
Final Grades Due	Dec 18, 2018
Winter Break - College Closed	Dec 24, 2018 - Jan 1, 2019

DISCLAIMER: This syllabus is designed to evolve and change throughout the semester based on class progress and interests. You will be notified of any changes as they occur.