



Syllabus: **PSY 101-2 Introduction to Psychology**

Course Information	
Course Prefix/Number: PSY 101-2	Credit Hours: 3
Semester: Spring 2018	Course Title: Introduction to Psychology
Class Days/Times: Monday & Wednesday, 10:50am to 12:05 PM	Room: Main Campus, Gewkdag Son Ki, GSK 1

Instructor Information: Name: Curtis Peterson	Phone/Voice Mail: 520-383-0048 E-mail: cpeterson@tocc.edu Office location: Ha-Mascamdah Ha-Ki Office hours: Mon-Wed 12pm to 2pm; Tues-Thurs 1pm to 3pm
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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.

- Course Objectives:**
- Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to do the following:**
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.
 12. Describe the stress process and explain the interaction between stress and health.
- 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:

Evaluation will be based on the following three criteria:

1. Attendance and participation in the class.
2. Passing to semester-based exams and comprehensive final exam.
3. Completion of all class activities as assigned through-out the semester.

Attendance and participation (512 points, 39% of final grade)

There are 32 scheduled classes. Each class is worth 16 points for a total of 512 points. In order to get full points students must attend on time (5 points will be deducted for every 5 minutes a student is late for class) and fully participate in the class. Students who watch the course streaming must enter their name at the time they arrive, and must ask at least 2 questions throughout the class. Students who watch the archived version of the class must complete a worksheet posted with the video recorded lecture and turn it in no less than 11 days after the lecture was given.

Exams (500 points, 38% of final grade)

Exam 1	100 pts
Exam 2	100 pts
Final Exam	300 pts
Total	500 pts

Class activities (288 points, 23% of final grade)

Throughout the course students will be asked to complete an activity either in-class or during the following week. These activities will total to 288 points.

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. The instructor gives all of his student’s permission to ask others in the classroom to stop disruptive behaviors (ex. texting, talking to others during lecture, chewing gum or eating food loudly, etc.). If a student is asked to stop being disruptive they are expected to (a) act like an adult, (b) stop their behavior, or (c) leave the class. If the instructor has to ask a student to leave (or stop their disruptive behavior) they will have need to meet with the Assistant Dean of Student Affairs before being able to return to the class.

Extra credit/Late work/Make-up rules

Extra credit maybe offered throughout the course, but is not guaranteed.

Late work can only be made up if arrangements are made with the instructor BEFORE the due date of the given work. If a student has an emergency, it is up to the instructor to decide if the student will be allowed to make-up the work, but is not guaranteed (some emergencies are just not an excuse to place your academic career in second place).

Students should have a back-up plan for common emergencies such as vehicle breaking down, loss of childcare, problems with work, and managing personal crises

Attendance and/or Participation requirements

In order to pass the course a student must attend 90% of all lectures, student’s participation will also be assessed through classroom assignments, exams, and term paper.

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

- Jan 16: first day of class
- Jan 16-19: Add without Instructor's signature
- Jan 22-26: Add with Instructor's signature
- Jan 26: Drop/Full refund Deadline
- Feb 19: Presidents day, College closed
- Mar 2: 45th day Census
- Mar 12-16: Spring Break
- Mar 30: Withdrawal Deadline
- May 4: last day of classes
- May 7-11: Finals Week

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.