Syllabus: PSY 101-3 Introduction to Psychology

Course Information

Course Prefix/Number: PSY 101-3  
Semester: Fall 2020  
Class Days/Times: Asynchronous Online

Credit Hours: 3  
Course Title: Introduction to Psychology  
Room: Getting Started

Instructor Information

Name: Curtis Peterson, PhD  
Phone/Text: 520-349-2494  
E-mail: cpeterson@tocc.edu  
Office Location: https://zoom.us/j/3882876033  
Office times: Monday through Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm by appointment

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.

Student Learning Outcomes

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.

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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.
13. Appraise social psychology research findings related to social thought, behavior, and relations.

Course Structure
This course is structured based on topical modules. Each module takes a different amount of time to complete due to the depth of the knowledge within that field. Each module includes learning materials that includes readings, videos, and audio lectures. Assessment of learning and graded activities in each module includes discussion posts, checks for learning, and end of the section quizzes. There are two exams in the course a mid-term and a final exam.

Course Schedule (Modules must be completes in the following dates):

1. The Study of psychology 08/24 to 09/06
2. Scientific Psychology 09/07 to 09/13
3. The Biological Basis of Psychology 09/14 to 09/20
4. Sensations and Perceptions 09/21 to 09/25
5. Human Development 10/05 to 10/18
6. Emotions and the Social Being 10/19 to 11/15
7. Cognition, Learning, and Memory 11/16 to 11/29
8. Abnormal Psychology 11/30 to 12/15

Semester Calendar:

![Calendar Image]

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Course Learning Materials and Textbook Information

This course uses a textbook as a secondary learning resources, in each module you will see "Required" and "Optional" by learning material and learning activities. The required information is information, assignments, quizzes, and discussion posts that you must complete to finish the module and gain the knowledge from module. The Optional material is there so you can do more in depth study if you choose or if the required material is not enough for you to understand the concept. So, in some modules the textbook reading is "Required" or "Optional" depending in the module topic. Textbook chapters are posted in each module but access to the complete textbook can be found in this module: Getting Started.

The course will use other learning material that includes, blog readings, articles, videos, and podcasts. Make sure you look through each module and have access to all the learning material for that module.

In each module there are embedded short lecture podcasts, which can be viewed directly in the module, you can also view the short lectures through any of the following podcast platforms:

- Podbean: https://selfandidentity.podbean.com (Links to an external site.)
- Android/Google Podcast: https://podcasts.google.com/feed/aHR0cHM6Ly9mZWVkLnBvZGlJYW4uY29tL3NlZhbmRpZGVudGl0eS9mZWVkLnhtbA

Technology Requirements

Software capabilities:

- Ability to run Google Chrome Version 78+
- Updated virus protection, if using PC or Mac. (TOCC recommends the free Windows Defender for Windows machines)
- Security: Must have a password/passcode (login) to access the device. This is responsible computing. Students will be bound by the TOCC IT Policy related to passwords, security, and appropriate usage.

Is there specific software that needs to be installed?

- TOCC recommends installing the Google Chrome browser as it works well with G Suite. Students collaborate with Google Docs and Microsoft 365 on a regular basis.

Can I use Alternative Browsers?

- Firefox, Internet Explorer, Opera, and other unlisted browsers will not be supported.
Which Operating System should the device run?

The decision for the student’s device is a matter of personal preference, but the device needs to be able to run the Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge, or Apple Safari Browser. Devices can run Windows, Mac OS, or Chrome OS as long as the minimum requirements listed here:

**Operating System:**
- Windows 8.1, 10
- MacOS 10.11 or Higher
- Chrome Version 78 or Higher
  - Battery life: 5 hours
  - Startup time: No longer than 120 seconds
  - Wireless: Integrated
  - Keyboard: Integrated, but can be wireless
  - Audio: Headphone jack with headphones/earbuds
  - Microphone: Integrated
  - Camera: Integrated
  - Processor: 1.6 GHZ or faster 64-bit processor
  - Memory: 4 GB RAM or higher
  - Disk Space: 16gb GB or higher
  - Screen Size: 10 inches or larger
  - Monitor Resolution: 1024 x 768

**Evaluations and Grading & Assignments:**

Discussion posts: 10 points for introduction post + 20 points for 2 semester check-in posts + (40 points for discussion posts X 8 modules) = 350 points

Checks for learning: 25 points per module X 8 modules = 200 points

End of section quizzes: 25 points per module X 8 modules = 200 points

Mid-term exam: 100 points

Final exam: 150 Points

Total for Class: 1,000 points

Grade Scale based on percentage of points earned.

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90 and above is an A
80 - 89 is a B
70 - 79 is a C
60 - 69 is a D
Under 60 is Failing

Your grade will be determined by the following:

(Points earned / points possible) X 100

**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**

**Attendance Policy**
You are expected to arrive to class on time and be prepared to participate in each class period. Four unexcused absences may result in withdrawal and a “W” or “Y” will be recorded. You may request to be excused from class for religious observances and practices, for illness, for school or work-related travel or for personal or family emergency. If you will be absent, please notify the instructor as soon as possible (approved by Faculty Senate April 2014).

**Incomplete Policy**
Incomplete (I) grades are not awarded automatically. The student must request an "I" from the instructor who can choose to award an Incomplete only if all three of the following conditions are met:

1. The student must be in compliance with the attendance policy.
2. The student must have unavoidable circumstance that would prohibit the student from completing the course.
3. The student must have completed over 75% of the course requirements with at least a “C” grade.

Incompletes are not a substitute for incomplete work due to frequent absences or poor academic performance. Incomplete grades that are not made up by the end of the ninth week of the following semester will be automatically changed to an F if the agreed upon work, as stipulated on the written form signed by the instructor and the student when the I grade is awarded, is not completed.

**Instructor Withdrawals**
Students who have missed four consecutive classes (or the equivalent) not submitted any assignments nor taken any quizzes by the 45th day census report, due on [date of 45th day found in Academic Calendar on TOCC website] are assumed NOT to be participating in the class and may be withdrawn at the faculty member’s discretion. [faculty members should be clear in their withdraw policy, if you do not withdraw students please note in appropriate sections].

**Student Withdrawals**
Students may withdraw from class at any time during the first 2/3 of the semester without instructor permission and without incurring any grade penalty. Please be sure to withdraw yourself by [withdrawal deadline date found in Academic Calendar on TOCC website] if you do not expect to complete the class, otherwise you may receive an "F" grade.

**Special Withdrawals (Y) Grade**
The “Y” grade is an administrative withdrawal given at the instructor’s option when no other grade is deemed appropriate. Your instructor must file a form stating the specific rationale for awarding this grade. “Y” grades are discouraged since they often affect students negatively. Your instructor will not award a "Y" grade without a strong reason.

**Equal Access Statement/Disability Accommodations**
Tohono O’odham Community College seeks to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals with disabilities. The College will comply with all applicable regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to ensure an equal educational opportunity. This process includes self-identifying as a student with a disability, providing supporting documentation of their disability, and being approved for services through the Disability Resources Office (DRO). It is the student’s responsibility to make known to their instructor(s) the student’s specific needs within the context of each class in order to receive appropriate accommodations. We will work together in order to develop an accommodation plan specifically designed to meet the individual student's requirements.

For more information or to request academic accommodations, please contact: Anthony Osborn, TOCC Disabilities Resource Coordinator, aosborn@tocc.edu, or 520-383-0033 for additional information and assistance.

**Title IX**
Tohono O’odham Community College encourages each student to have the knowledge and skills to be an active bystander who intervenes when anyone is observed or being harassed or endangered by sexual violence. Sexual discrimination and sexual violence can undermine students’ academic success and quality of life on campus and beyond. We encourage students who have experienced or witnessed any form of sexual misconduct to talk about their experience and seek the support they need.
Confidential support and academic advocacy can be found with: Student Services Title IX Coordinator/Counselor, Alberta Espinoza, M.Ed. located in I-We:mta Ki: Room 18. Phone 520-383-0033 email: aespinoza@tocc.edu

**Conduct: Bias, Bullying, Discrimination and Harassment**

Tohono O’odham Community College faculty and staff are dedicated to creating a safe and supportive campus environment as a core value. Harassment based on age, class, color, culture, disability and ability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity and expression, immigration status, marital status, political ideology, race, religion/spirituality, sex, sexual orientation, and tribal sovereign status will not be tolerated.

**Academic Integrity:**

Violations of scholastic ethics are considered serious offenses by Tohono O’odham Community College, the Student Services Department, and by your instructor. Students may consult the TOCC Student Handbook sections on student code of conduct, on scholastic ethics and on the grade appeal procedure. Copies are available at Tohono O’odham Community College.

All work done for this class must be your own, or the original work of your group. While you may discuss assignments with other class members, the final written project must clearly be original. You may use work from books and other materials if it is properly cited. Copying from a book without proper reference or from a person under any circumstances will result in an “F” for the assignment, and at the instructor’s discretion, possibly an “F” for the course. If you are uncertain about proper citations ask your instructor or the librarian.

**Course Feedback:**

All assignments will be graded and returned to the students promptly, typically within a week after the assignment is closed for handing in. E-mail and phone messages will be returned within two days. A student or the instructor may request a student conference at any time during the semester. Quarterly grade reports will be provided to each student, either in person, by email or via the electronic system of Canvas.

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