

Syllabus

Psychology PSY-140

Professor Christopher Boulter

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Course Description:

This course is introductory in nature. This means we will cover quite a few topics related to the discipline of study known as psychology. By the end of the semester, you will not be a psychologist but you will have been exposed to the major principles, concepts and ideas upon which psychologists' research and debate. We will travel through the material in the textbook at a rapid pace. Yes, you will need the book and yes, you will need to read the book. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU CHECK THE SYLLABUS FOR THE CORRECT TEXTBOOK. THERE HAVE BEEN PROBLEMS IN THE PAST WHERE STUDENTS HAVE GOTTEN THE WRONG BOOK. It is important for you to keep up with the reading of each chapter (approximately 40 to 50 pages per chapter). Always refer back to the attached tentative schedule to see what we will be discussing.

In addition, this class will introduce you to resources at Jackson College. Although JC has a great library on campus, we also have access to the virtual library which you should be using in this class. Your experience working in this library will assist you in future courses as well.

Course Goals:

1. Class attendance ...Do not put this class off, you will find yourself falling behind and it will be extremely difficult to catch back up. Attendance and participation is part of your overall grade, thus the following rules apply: (1) if you miss two classes in a row without

a valid excuse as determined by me, you will be dropped from the class. If you miss three classes without a valid excuse as determined by me, you will be dropped. If you make it a pattern to show up late for class, you will be dropped. Valid excuses include: (1) Medical emergencies (with documentation), (2) death in the family (with documentation), major vehicle problems (with documentation), or anything else as determined by me with appropriate documentation. NOT valid excuses are: (1) I had to work (2) I couldn't get a ride, (3) I had to take the kids trick-or-treating, (4) The dog ate my homework, etc.

2. Prior preparation ... read the assigned chapters.
3. Timely work... you will find that this class requires that we stick to a schedule. To do this, I will assign the workflow. If you do not have an assignment turned in within the required timeframe, it will not be accepted.
4. Questions, questions, questions. Ask questions of me and of your fellow students.
5. Interaction with professor and fellow students. Interaction in this class will depend on you. You will get out of it what you put in to it.

Textbook:

Myers, D. G. (2016). *Psychology* (11th ed.). Holland, MI: Worth Publishing. (Study Guide is highly recommended).

Text Book Zero

This text is available online through Bedford Saint Martin's (MPS). Digital ISBN

9781319018047. <https://www.vitalsource.com/products/psychology-in-modules-myers-david-g-v9781319018030>

Recommended Reading:

Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (5th ed.). (2001). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Maimon, E. P., Peritz, J. H., & Yancey, K. B. (2007). *A writer's resource: A handbook for writing and research* (2nd ed.). New York, NY: McGraw Hill Higher Education.

Academic Honesty Policy:

Academic honesty is expected of all students. Each student will produce his or her own work and not represent the work of others as their own via plagiarism or cheating nor will a student aid other in the violation of the ethical principle of academic honesty. Plagiarism is the failure to give credit for the use of material from outside sources. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

1. Using data, quotations, or paraphrases from other sources without adequate documentation
2. Submitting others' work as your own

Cheating means obtaining answers/material from an outside source without authorization.

Cheating includes but is not limited to:

1. Plagiarism in all forms
2. Using notes/books without authorization
3. Copying
4. Submitting others' work as your own or submitting work for others
5. Altering graded work
6. Falsifying data

I would suggest spending some time researching what intentional and technical plagiarism are. You will be held responsible if you plagiarize in any way.

Consequences/Procedures:

Faculty members who suspect a student of academic dishonesty may penalize the student by taking appropriate action up to and including assigning a failing grade for the paper, project, report, exam, or the course itself. Instructors should document instances of academic dishonesty in writing to the Academic Dean.

Student Appeal Process:

In the event of a dispute, both students and faculty should follow the Conflict Resolution Policy. This policy is presented in the Student Rights and Responsibilities (student handbook) and in the Master Agreement.

REQUIRED CHAPTERS:

We will not be covering every chapter in the text. The college and faculty have agreed that there is only so much time in the semester. To that end, we will be covering the chapters that are most important, and that will carry through to other classes that you may either elect to take, or that are requirements for your chosen profession.

GEO's

This class requires you to start to develop skill in GEO 5. GEO 5 requires that each student “understand human behavior and social systems and the principles which govern them.” We will accomplish this goal by exploring, meaning/understanding, analysis and interpretation, engagement, evaluation of methodology, and systems thinking.

Grading and assessment go hand in hand. I will assess papers and forums subjectively to determine if you are meeting the criteria listed in the GEO. All tests are graded objectively.

Class Rules:

All conversations are to remain confidential and are to stay in the classroom when discussing personal information.

No cell phone, tablet, or computer use during class unless you are reading an e-book (I will verify)

Be polite.

Do not interrupt others.

If you leave early, you will receive no points for attendance or participation.

If you make a mess, clean it up.

No nasty smelling food or loud food (will be discussed in class).

Class schedule:

Week 1 (1-15-18):	Introduction and syllabus
Week 2 (1-22-18):	Chapter 1 (Thinking critical with psychological science) Terms for chapter 1 due at the beginning of class. (50 points)
Week 3(1-29-18):	Chapters 2 (The biology of the mind). Terms for chapter 2 due at the beginning of class. (50 points)
Week 4 (2-5-18):	Chapter 4 (Nature, nurture and Human Diversity). Terms for chapter 4 due at the beginning of class. (50 points)
Week 5 (2-12-18):	Mid-Term Examination (200 points). Development throughout the lifespan paper preparation.

Week 6 (2-19-18):	Chapter 5 (Development throughout the lifespan). Paper 2 Due and Presentations start (200 points)
Week 7 (2-26-18):	Chapters 7 (Learning) Presentations continued Terms for chapters 7 due at the beginning of class. (50 points)
Week 8 (3-5-18):	Chapter 8 (Memory) Presentations finished Terms for chapter 8 due at the beginning of class. (50 points)
Week 9 (3-12-18):	Spring Break – No class
Week 10 (3-19-18):	Chapter 12 (Emotions, Stress, and Health) Chapter 12 Terms due at the beginning of class. (50 points)
Week 11 (4-2-18)	Chapter 13 (Social Psychology) Chapter 13 terms due at the beginning of class. (50 points)
Week 11 (4-9-18):	Chapter 14 (Personality) Chapter 14 Terms due at the beginning of class. (50 points)
Week 12 (4-16-18):	Chapter 15 (Psychological Disorders) Chapter 15 Terms are due at the beginning of class. (50 points)
Week 13 (4-23-18):	Chapter 16 (Therapy) Chapter 16 Terms are due at the beginning of class. (50 points)
Week 14 (5-7-18):	Final exam preparation
Week 15 (5-14-18):	Final Exam (300 point)

Grading Scale

Grades will be based on class attendance and participation, tests, terms, and papers. The following breakdown will apply to each student.

1. Final Exam: 300 points

2. Mid Term: 200 points
3. Terms: 550 points
4. Development throughout the life span paper and presentation: 200 points
5. Attendance and participation: 750 points

Total number of points available: 2000 points

The final grading scale will be based on the totals of the above graded activities. I do not grade on a curve; your grade will be what you earn.

90-100 % = 4.0

85-89 % = 3.5

80-84 % = 3.0

75-79 % = 2.5

70-74 % = 2.0

65-69% = 1.5

60-65 % = 1.0

59 % and below = 0.0

WITHDRAWAL FROM CLASS:

The last day to withdraw from classes is LISTED IN THE SCHEDULE OF CLASSES.

You must initiate a withdrawal in person at the main campus or one of the extension centers.

Note that I do not withdraw students from class other than what is described under attendance.

If the withdrawal from class is student-initiated, it is necessary for an advisor or counselor to approve the schedule change. The student's official date of withdrawal will be the date received at the Registrar's office. A student is not considered withdrawn from class until the withdrawal form has been processed (add/drop form).

“I” (INCOMPLETE) GRADE:

An incomplete (I) will be considered when, in my opinion, your work is sufficient in quality but is lacking in quantity to meet the course objectives. This does not mean that it is automatically given if you request it. It is not a substitute for a W grade. **It assumes you have faithfully have done good quality work (2.0 or better), and that you have a good and sufficient reason (as determined by me) not to complete the class.** Please note that while I do not routinely assign this grade, I will be glad to discuss your individual situation with you.

A grade of “I” may be removed by satisfactorily meeting the course objectives during either of the next full-length semesters (fall/winter) or at an earlier date specified by me. We will have a written agreement as to what you would need to do in order to remove the “I” grade.

If the “I” is not removed by the end of the specified time, it will be replaced with whatever grade you earned before the “I” grade was assigned. This could result in you receiving a 0.0 for the class. Under no circumstances will the “I” grade be allowed as the final grade in the class.

HQV Grades:

Three times during the semester I am required by the college to submit HQV grades. “H” indicates that the student may need some additional help in the class. This generally means the student is either turning in assignments late, has missed at least one assignment, or is generally borderline in the class. “V” means verify which indicates the student has completed all activities and is doing just fine in the class. “Q” means quit. In essence, this means the student never started with the class, has disengaged from class, is not completing work, or has not accumulated enough points to successfully complete the class. If the student receives a “Q” grade, the student will not be allowed back into the class.

Writing requirements:

Each paper submitted will meet the following writing requirements:

The student will submit each paper with a title page and a reference page that is in accordance with APA standards (unless specified otherwise). The title page at a minimum will contain the class name, the students name, the instructors' name, and the semester in which the class is taken along with the course number. Neither the title page nor the reference page will be counted when considering the overall document length.

APA Format:

The paper will be submitted with double spacing, using Times New Roman font and a 12-font size. Appropriate APA references are required if you quote paraphrase, or use someone's work. Please be familiar with all forms of plagiarism, I take it seriously. The author's thoughts will be separated by using appropriate headings and subheadings. If you fail to follow these instructions, your paper will not be accepted and you will receive "zero" points. Because this is a psychology class, I will accept APA FORMAT ONLY. All papers unless specified otherwise will require professional references. A professional peer reviewed reference can be located through Jackson College's online library or the regular library. References from a simple Google search, Wikipedia search, etc. will not be accepted.

Document format:

The paper will be submitted and turned into the instructor at the beginning of class.

Additionally, you will EMAIL me a copy of your paper before the class starts in which the paper is due. If I do not receive the assignment by the required time regardless of circumstances, it will not be accepted.

Contact with the instructor:

If you need to speak with me about this class, please use the email services provided by JC.

Please do not send me an email using your private email address. I know that JC's system is secure and has appropriate spyware and antivirus capabilities. If you would like to speak to me about your grade, send me an email or see me before or after class. I will not reply through any messaging system about any type of personal information.

IN THE BODY OF EACH AND EVERY E-MAIL YOU SEND, YOU WILL INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND THE CLASS YOU ARE TAKING.

If you fail to include any of these items, I will not be able to assist you, and will ask you to submit another e-mail with this information included.

Please understand that politeness will be expected in any correspondence we have. This includes in class conversations as well as phone and email contacts. Keep this in mind as you progress through this course and in your dealings with fellow class members and with me.

In the event you email me with a question, I reserve the right to determine how and in what mode to respond. For example, if you have a question that has already been answered in the syllabus, I will in all likelihood refer you back to that document. However, if you have a question regarding a concept, etc., related to the class, and I determine the most efficient and effective means of dealing with it would be to discuss the issue(s) over the phone, (or in person), I will inform you of same and we will proceed from there. Please keep in mind that regardless of the mode of communication we use, civility and appropriate manners will be maintained. You are required to check your JC email regularly.

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS:

I will make every effort to assist you in mastering the course material. If you need additional assistance in clarification of lecture materials, or in improving your study habits,

please feel free to consult me. I invite you to ask questions in class and to disagree with my opinions if you so desire. However, I do not feel it is necessary for me to defend my methods of instruction, grading and evaluation. I am very willing to discuss differences of opinion that you may have with me. I strongly recommend that you purchase the study guide with the text and work the exercises contained within it. I will provide further studying tips that you can benefit from during the first week of classes.

Please remember that I am here to help you achieve your academic goals. However, I am unable to do so if you do not communicate with me. Feel free to e-mail and let me know how I can help.

I hope that you approach this class with an attitude of inquiry, curiosity, and a willingness to learn. I will try to make the learning environment in the class as safe and accepting as possible. However, sensitive subjects that may offend you may be discussed. My actions and words might, on occasion, create circumstances where you feel you cannot learn and perform well. Under these circumstances, I would expect that you would inform me of your concerns and that cooperatively we can address these concerns and reach an amicable resolution.

Additional information:

There will be no make-up tests or late assignments allowed without major extenuating circumstances. A major extenuating circumstance means surgery, a death in the family, or some other MAJOR issue. Documentation will be required from a doctor etc. before the instructor will consider allowing the student to make up an assignment or test. Vacations, family trips, having to work are not major extenuating circumstances. You knew when the class was scheduled, you signed up for it, and you are expected to be here.

Americans with Disabilities Act:

If any student taking this class has a physical or mental impairment (e.g., hearing or visual problems, learning disabilities) that could reasonably be considered to affect your performance in this class, I would appreciate it if you informed me of this condition if you wish for me and/or the college to assist you with reasonable learning accommodations. You may also apply for services with the office of learning support services.

This syllabus is subject to change at any time, for any reason by the instructor. If it does change, the changes will be placed in writing.