

Introduction to Psychology

Central Campus, JM 147

Monday 6-9:52 p.m.

PSY 140.04

Fall 2018

Kristen Mudge

Welcome to introductory psychology. In this class we will explore the science of psychology by examining its theoretical foundations with the overall goal of increasing our understanding of human behavior. This knowledge will help you better understand yourself and others. You can apply the course concepts to every relationship, personal and professional, for the rest of your life. We will work together to discover the implications of research and theories from a historical and modern day perspective. This course is designed to increase your ability to critically think and analyze concepts from a scientific standpoint.

Prerequisites: ENG 085* and ENG 090*

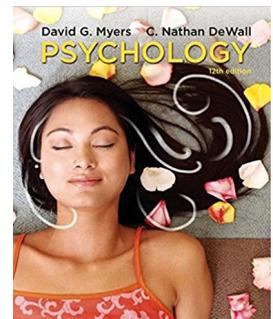
Goals: As a result of this class, you should be able to:

1. Define psychology and explain how it differs from other social and biological sciences.
2. Describe types of research, data collection and analysis methods, and describe the difference between a hypothesis and a theory.
3. Define psychological terminology and explain major psychological concepts and theories.
4. Identify the leading contributors to the field of psychology and describe their work
5. Explain the effects of sociocultural, biological, and psychological influences on behavior.
6. Identify specific psychological principles in real life.
7. Critically analyze information and identify scientifically supported conclusions versus conjecture.
8. Recognize real-life situations that may require professional help and know how to find it.

General Education Outcomes: Reaching the goals describe above are important indicators of achieving the General Educational Outcome listed below, which is an important measurable outcome defined by the college as vital to the educated individual at the Associate Degree level:

Understand human behavior and socials systems, and the principles which govern them

Reading Schedule: Our course uses *Psychology* (12th edition), by David G. Myers and C. Nathan DeWall. Text Book Zero: An electronic version of this text is available at the bookstore on Central Campus.



Each week you **MUST** complete the assigned reading before class. The majority of activities during class expand on the textbook concepts. Your success depends on your ability to apply what you learned from the reading. Please follow the schedule listed at the end. I will notify you of any changes in class and on JetNet.

Tests: Tests are a way to receive feedback, reinforce learning, and help instructors determine your level of understanding. We will have a variety of tests on JetNet and in class. **There are NO make-up tests.** It is up to you to make your education a priority.

Homework Assignments: There are a variety of writing and other assignments throughout the course. These will help you apply the concepts we learn to real life situations, think critically, and share your opinions. Late assignments will receive 50% reduced credit so be on time!

Group Outcomes: Part of understanding human behavior is understanding social influences, an important consideration throughout your careers. This class uses collaboration and cooperation in team setting to increase your understanding of the course concepts. You will work with a team on various in-class activities and projects.

Final Project: Your final project explores the history and progression of psychology. The project requires careful thought and planning. Ensure you and your team work together THROUGHOUT the semester to develop and refine your presentation. No late submissions are allowed for this project.

Attendance: You are expected to attend all class meetings. There is **NO make-up for in-class assignments**. If you expect you will not make it to class, please email me prior to the class start. If you feel you have extenuating circumstances, please let me know. This DOES NOT include family vacations, routine doctor appointments, being scheduled to work, or other similar circumstances. I will evaluate on a case-by-case basis.

Grades: Grades are tracked using JetNet and updated regularly. Please pay close attention to your grades to ensure accuracy. Ask for help if you are falling behind. Your final course grade uses the following scale, determined by summing the points from all assignments, papers, test, and other graded activities:

Grade	Percent of Max	Grade	Percent of Max
4.0	94-100%	2.0	75-79
3.5	90-93	1.5	70-74
3.0	85-89	1.0	65-69
2.5	80-84	0	0-64

JC Academic Honesty Policy: Academic Honesty is expected of all students. It is unethical to misrepresent others' work as your own either by plagiarism, cheating, or helping others to do so. See the student handbook for policy details. ANY violation is immediately reported to the Dean.

Classroom Expectations: We will respect each other and remain civil at ALL times. We will discuss further expectations the first day of class.

Contacting the Instructor: Any time you have questions or concerns, or if you want to discuss in more detail some aspect of the course, please feel free to email me. I am happy to schedule a meeting or provide you with resources available to improve your educational experience. My email is mudgekristena@jccmi.edu.

Please note: If you have a disability requiring accommodations, please contact the Center for Student Success at 517-796-8415 as soon as possible.

**Syllabus is subject to change at the sole discretion of the instructor. Students will receive notification of any changes.

Reading and Course Schedule

Date	Reading (Due for class on this date)	Essential Questions	Additional Assignments
Sep 10	Prologue	How did psychology begin and how is it growing today?	Introduction Post
Sep 17	Ch. 1 Ch. 9 (329-343)	What is critical thinking and scientific research? How does our brain process information?	APA Style #1 Due Sep 24
Sep 24	Ch. 2	How do biological factors influence behavior and mental processes?	
Oct 1	Ch. 4	What is the relationship between genetics, sociocultural, and environmental influences?	APA Style #2 Due Oct 8
Oct 8	Ch. 6	How can two people experience the same thing completely differently?	
Oct 15	Ch. 3 Ch. 8	How do we remember things and how do we know the memories are real?	Learning Strategies Due Oct 22
Oct 22	Ch. 7	What is the significance of learning in psychology?	
Oct 29	Ch. 12 (425-449) Ch. 11	Emotion and motivation: What drives us?	Intelligence Assign Due Nov 5
Nov 5	Ch. 10	Is there one kind of intelligence or many?	
Nov 12	Ch. 5 Ch. 9 (344-358)	How do we change over time?	Personality Assign Due Nov 19
Nov 19	Ch. 14	How do we define who we are?	
Nov 26	Ch. 12 (450-476)	What choices can we make to lead healthier lives?	Social Assign Due Dec 3
Dec 3	Ch. 13	How do other people influence our behavior?	
Dec 10	Ch. 15 Ch. 16	What are the major psychological disorders and how can we treat them?	Final Projects Due Dec 17
Dec 17		What can you carry forward?	

* Bolded dates indicate test days