

Syllabus for PSYC 2301 (630)

GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY

Instructor: Anna Taylor

Class Day/Time:

Thurs. 7:00-9:50 p.m.

Message Phone: (432) 634-3880

Classroom:

Wilkerson Hall 238

Email: ataylor@odessa.edu

Office: None - I

am available after class, by

e-mail and phone.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is intended to present a basic understanding of psychological terms, theories and methods of study. The field of Psychology focuses on mental abilities/disabilities (cognition), emotional states (affect) and disorders, and

behavioral events of the individual and as a group member (social). The basis of this course is learning, interpreting and communicating information of a psychological nature.

TEXTBOOK:

Carpenter, S. & Huffman, K. (2009). Visualizing Psychology 2e, USA: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

COURSE CALENDAR:

Aug. 25 Course Introduction, Chapter 1

Sept. 1 Chapter 2

Assignment#1: Complete handout on Charles Whitman (will be discussed in class)

Sept. 8 Chapter 3 & 4

Sept. 15 Movie: "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest"

Assignment#2: Complete handout on "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest"

Sept 22 Test #1 (Chapters 1-4),

Sept. 29 Chapter 5 & 6

Oct. 6 Chapter 7 & 8

Oct. 13 Chapter 9 & 10

Oct. 20 Movie: "The Mighty"

Assignment#3: Complete handout on "The Mighty"

Oct. 27 Test #2 (Chapters 5-10)

Nov. 3 Chapter 11 & 12 (last day to drop or withdraw with a "W")

Nov. 10 Chapter 13 & 14

Nov. 17 Movie: "A Beautiful Mind"

Assignment#4: Complete handout on "A Beautiful Mind"

Nov. 24 THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Dec. 1 Chapter 15

Dec. 8 FINAL EXAM (Chapter 11-15)

GRADING:

Your final grade is calculated based on test grades, assignments and attendance. Following is a breakdown of these grades. You may use it to keep track of your grades throughout the semester:

ASSIGNMENT#1: 5

POINTS _____

ASSIGNMENT#2: 5

POINTS_____

ASSIGNMENT#3: 5

POINTS_____

ASSIGNMENT#4: 5

POINTS_____

Extra Credit (TBA) 5

POINTS_____

TEST #1 25

POINTS_____

TEST #2 25

POINTS_____

TEST #3 (FINAL EXAM) 25

POINTS_____

ATTENDANCE 5

POINTS_____

TOTAL POSSIBLE: 105

POINTS_____

Letter grades for the semester will be assigned based upon your total points earned

105-90: A 89-80: B 79-70: C 60-60: D 59 or below: F

Attendance: I know that real life happens and that sometimes there are circumstances that make absences unavoidable. You will still be responsible for learning the material and taking tests that may include material you missed. Being late interrupts the entire class, so be considerate of others and arrive on time or enter very quietly if late. Attendance will be taken daily. As a positive reinforcement for regular attendance, those who miss 4 (or fewer) classes will have 5 additional points added to their final grade (making a 75 into an 80).

***NOTE TO THOSE IN

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES***:

Involvement in various activities and interests is important for overall mental and emotional wellbeing, and I encourage it. However, balance is necessary! You will still be held responsible for the work involved in the classes you signed

up for. No exceptions will be made for athletes, musicians, cheerleaders, political candidates, Zen Buddhists, etc.

Classroom behavior: Personal Conduct and Academic Honesty

- Cheating, plagiarism, disrespect, or any conduct which interferes with the teaching of this course, or interferes with ability for others to learn will not be tolerated. Plagiarism is representing someone else's work as your own. If cheating or plagiarism is discovered, it will be forwarded to the department chair for disposition.

You may bring drinks and snacks to class, but if it interferes with the class, it will be discontinued.

Remember to turn off/silence your cell phones. If you are texting during class, you will be asked to leave class and receive an absence for the evening. The second time you are texting in class, you will be asked to leave, receive an absence

and will have points taken off your most recent test grade. If you continue to text during class after this, you will continue losing points and racking up absences.

Finally...come PREPARED for every class! This includes bringing your book, a notebook for writing your notes, pen or pencil. You will need Scantrons for the tests – so buy a pack because I do not supply them.

MAKE-UP EXAMS POLICY:

If you miss a test, you will be responsible to make it up. Makeup Exams are to be scheduled with the teacher and may be taken after class the following week. Although you can choose to not do a test, remember it will significantly affect your overall grade.

OC INCOMPLETE POLICY:

A grade of "Incomplete" may be given only if (1) the student has passed all work completed, and (2) he/she has completed a minimum of 75% of the required coursework. A grade of "I" will only be assigned when the conditions for completions have been discussed and agreed upon by the instructor and the student.

SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS:

Odessa College complies with Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you have any special needs or issues pertaining to your access to and participation in this or any other class at Odessa College, please feel free to contact me to discuss your concerns. You may also call the Office of Disability Services at 335-6861 to request assistance and accommodations.

ASSIGNMENTS:

There are 4 short assignments this semester, each worth 5 points of your final grade (all 4 assignments equals 20 total points). The full 5 points are not

automatically given, so some time and thought is required on the assignments. As always, it is your choice to do the assignments or not, however keep in mind completed assignments increase your final grade. As an extra incentive, one of the assignments will include a bonus question worth an additional 2 points (for a possible total of 7 points on that assignment).

All these assignments are due to be turned in at the next class. But since real life includes daily hassles, obstacles and conflicts at times, these papers will be accepted late, if necessary. Reminders will not be given.

ACADEMIC ETHICS AND "THE HONOR CODE":

You are expected to do your work without cheating. Assignments and tests should reflect your own efforts.

This syllabus is subject to change at the instructor's discretion