

PSYC2301 Fall 2013

Instructor Contact Information

Name	Armando Gonzales
Email	agonzales@odessa.edu
Telephone	432-352-4773
Other	scodive@yahoo.com

Instructor Office Hours

By appointment

Required Textbook(s)

Title	Author	Edition	ISBN
Visualizing Psychology	Carpenter, S., & Huffman, K.	3rd	978-1-118-38806-8

Textbooks can be purchased online or at the OC Campus Bookstore.

Course Description

General psychology is intended to provide students with a basic understanding and introduction to psychology and show students how they can use psychology in the workplace and in their personal relationships, while also demonstrating the role psychology plays in other practical everyday issues. The goal is to help students understand the world around them and interpret what they see in a meaningful, accurate and exciting way. The content, design and layout of the titles take advantage of the full capacity in which student's process information – visually as well as verbally. In visualizing psychology, students examine their own personal studying and learning styles with several new pedagogical aids -- encouraging students to apply what they are learning to their everyday lives while offering ongoing study tips and psychological techniques for mastering the material. Most importantly students are provided with numerous opportunities to immediately access their understanding.

Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Identify various research methods and their characteristics used in the scientific study of psychology.
2. Describe the historical influences and early schools of thought that shaped the field of psychology.
3. Describe some of the prominent perspectives and approaches used in the study of psychology.

4. Use terminology unique to the study of psychology.
5. Describe accepted approaches and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation.
6. Identify factors in physiological and psychological processes involved in human behavior.

Schedule

Date (2013)	Module (Chapters)	Lecture	Assignment/Test
Module 1 August 26 & August 28	Chapter 1: Introduction and Research Methods	Introduction and Research Methods	
Module 2 September 2 & September 4	Chapter 2: Neuroscience and Biological Foundations	Neuroscience and Biological Foundations	Quiz 1 (Wed.)
Module 3 September 9 & September 11	Chapter 3: Stress and Health Psychology	Stress and Health Psychology	Psychology in Popular Media Topic (Project 1) due Wednesday, September 11 th Worth: 25 points
Module 4 September 16 & September 18	Chapter 4: Sensation and Perception	Sensation and Perception	Psychology in Popular Media Outline (Project 1) due Monday, September 16 th Worth: 50 points Quiz 2 (Wed.)
Module 5 September 23 & September 25	Chapter 5: States of Consciousness	States of Consciousness	
Module 6 September 30 & October 2	Chapter 6: Learning	Learning	Psychology in Popular Media Final Paper (Project 1) due Monday, September 30 th Worth: 125 points Quiz 3 (Wed.)
Module 7 October 7 & October 9	Chapter 6: Learning	Memory	Topic of Choice Scholarly Paper due Monday, October 7 th Worth: 125 points
Module 8 October 14 & October 16	Chapter 6: Learning	Thinking, Language, Intelligence	Quiz 4 (Wed.)
Module 9	Chapter 7: Memory	Lifespan	

October 21 & October 23		Development I	
Module 10 October 28 & October 30	Chapter 7: Memory	Lifespan Development II	Descriptive Research Survey (Project 2) Selection due Wednesday, October 30 th Worth: 25 points Quiz 5 (Wed.)
Module 11 November 4 & November 6	Chapter 11: Psychological Disorders	Motivation and Emotion	Descriptive Research Survey (Project 2) due Monday, November 4th Worth: 50 points
Module 12 November 11 & November 13	Chapter 12: Personality	Personality	Quiz 6 (Wed.)
Module 13 November 18 & November 20	Chapter 13: Psychological Disorders	Psychological Disorders	Descriptive Research Survey Final Paper (Project 2) due Wednesday, November 13th Worth: 125 points
Module 14 November 25 **Please note November 27 there is no class due to Thanksgiving Holiday**	Chapter 14: Therapy	. Therapy	Community Awareness Paper due Monday, November 25th Worth: 125 points
Module 15 December 2 & December 4	Chapter 15: Social Psychology	Social Psychology	Review for Final Exam
Module 16 December 9 – December 12	Final Exam		Final Exam Worth: 200 points

Grading Criteria (points - grade range)

Letter	Point Range
A	880 - 1000
B	780 - 879
C	680 - 779
D	580 - 679
F	Below 579

Grading – Grading is based on the cumulative points earned from the following:

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|-----------------------------------|------------|
| • Project 1 | 200 points |
| • Project 2 | 200 points |
| • Quizzes (6 x 25 pts.) | 150 points |
| • Topic of Choice Scholarly Paper | 125 points |
| • Community Awareness Paper | 125 points |
| • Final Exam | 200 points |

Total: 1000 points

****Please keep in mind that this syllabus is tentative and subject to change so class attendance is important. Specific information on Project 1 and Project 2, the Scholarly Paper and Community Awareness papers, as well as your quizzes and final exam will be sent to you throughout the semester.****

Submitting assignments: writing assignments will be prepared in word processing documents, in APA format and saved in files that are submitted in class or through Blackboard. They will NOT be accepted by email. All documents should be double spaced and have your name on them. You should also conduct a spell – check on all assignments. Save a copy of all assignments on a flash drive.

Computer skills:

Students should be able to navigate the Internet and conduct required research, create word processing documents and navigate the course web site. Students must also be able to use email, attach files and use various features of Blackboard.

Specific Policies and Procedures:

Attendance Policy: students are required to attend class each week as well as check in to the course at least once each week. The course entry page is the Announcements page. Students should also check their OC email accounts and the General Discussion Board at least 1 time each week. You should read all posts there.

If you have any specific questions, please feel free to email me as I check those regularly throughout the day and unless there are extenuating circumstances or it is the weekend, I will respond to you within 24 hours.

Do not use a texting style of communication/writing (“c u”; “ur”) in group discussion nor in Writing Assignments. This is a college class, and academic writing is expected.

Late Submission Policy:

Late work is not accepted except under special circumstances. Acceptance of late work is up to the instructor’s discretion. If you feel you have a unique situation/circumstance that prohibits your meeting a deadline, you should communicate it to me privately via email. Students are strongly encouraged to communicate any problems to the instructor in a timely manner.

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. A contract between student and instructor must be signed.

Statement of Academic Dishonesty:

Ethics, Cheating and Plagiarism "Using someone else's ideas or phrasing and representing those ideas or phrasing as our own, either on purpose or through carelessness, is a serious offense known as plagiarism." "Ideas or phrasing" includes written or spoken material, of course, from whole papers and paragraphs to sentences, and, indeed, phrases. but it also includes statistics, lab results, art work, etc. "Someone else" can mean a professional source, such as a published writer or critic in a book, magazine, encyclopedia, or journal; an electronic resource such as material we discover on the World Wide Web; another student at our school or anywhere else; a paper-writing "service" (online or otherwise), which offers to sell written papers for a fee."

(statement taken from <http://webster.commnet.edu/mla/plagiarism.shtml>)

I do not tolerate cheating in any form. If you plagiarize an essay or cheat on an exam once, that assignment will receive a "0." If you plagiarize or cheat the second time, you will receive an "F" in the course.

Cutting and pasting any information from any Internet source is considered cyberplagiarism and will result on a 0 for the first offense and an F in the course for any subsequent offenses.

See the section on "Scholastic Dishonesty" in the updated Odessa College *Student Handbook*.

See: <http://www.riosalado.edu/library/tutorials/Pages/avoidingPlagiarism.aspx> for plagiarism and citation information.

Statement of Special Accommodations:

In accordance with federal and state laws and regulations, Odessa College does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the recruitment and admission of students, the employment of faculty and staff, and the operation of any of its programs and activities. Students with a disability should contact *ADA Accommodation/Support personnel* Becky Rivera-Weiss @ 432-335-6861 or brivera@odessa.edu

Student Support/Success Coaches:

The Odessa College Student Success Coaches will help you stay focused and on track to complete your educational goals. If an instructor sees that you might need additional help or success coaching, he or she may submit a Retention Alert or a Starfish Alert. A Student Success Coach will contact you to work toward a solution.

Preparation for Computer Emergencies

Computer Crash

Not having a working computer or a crashed computer during the semester will NOT be considered as an acceptable reason for not completing course activities at a scheduled time. NOTE: Identify a second computer that you can use when/if your personal computer crashes.

Server problems

When the Blackboard server needs downtime for maintenance, the Blackboard administrator will post an announcement in your course informing the time and the date. If the server experiences unforeseen problems your course instructor will send an email.

Complete Loss of Contact

If you lose contact with me completely (i.e. you cannot contact me via Blackboard or email), you need to call me at 432-352-3773, and explain the reason you cannot contact me and leave me a way to contact you.

Lost/Corrupt/Disappeared files

You must keep/save a copy of every project/assignment on an external disk or personal computer. In the event of any kind of failure (e.g., Blackboard server crash or virus infection, students own computer crashes, loss of files in cyberspace, etc) or any contradictions/problems, I may/will request you to resubmit the files. In other words, if you submit a document to me, and I either do not receive it (lost in cyberspace) or it is corrupted when I open it, it is incumbent upon you to resend it to me, corrected, with little or no "downtime" in regard to the timeline for submission.

Computer and System Requirements:

Please see <https://www.odessa.edu/OCGlobal/blackboard/requirements.htm>

Email: Students enrolled in Odessa College must use an Odessa College email address. Please go to <http://www.odessa.edu/gmail/>