

NORTHWEST-SHOALS COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Course Syllabus
Spring 2008
Social Sciences Division

TITLE OF COURSE: PSY 200 General Psychology

TIME AND LOCATION: Distance Learning Course

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is a survey of behavior with emphasis upon psychological processes. This course includes the biological bases for behavior, thinking, emotion, motivation, and the nature and development of personality.

HOURS:

Credit: 3
Contact: 3
Lecture: 3

FACULTY:

Name: Joseph Nichols, M.A.,A.L.C., Board Eligible NCC
Office Location: Riverbend Center for Mental Health
Florence, AL
Office Hours: By appointment
Phone Number: 768-7500 Extension 230
E-Mail Address: nmcinc1@aol.com

PRE-REQUISITE(S) None

CO-REQUISITE(S) None

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS: Psychology and Connections, Rathus 9th Ed.

RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOK: None

SUPPLIES: None

GENERAL EDUCATIONAL GOALS

All associate degree graduates should be able to analyze various social systems in order to function successfully in them or relate to them.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Students will develop an overall knowledge of the field of general psychology, including: the scientific method, biological bases of behavior, sensation and perception, motivation, learning and memory, cognition and language, and personality psychology.

METHOD(S) OF EVALUATION:

Discussion Participation	40%
Exam 1	15%
Exam 2	15%
Exam 3	15%
Final Exam	15%
Semester Project (Extra Credit)	5 Points Added to your Average

SCHEDULE EXAMINATIONS BY CALLING THE TESTING CENTER AT 256-331-5482

OUTLINE OF COURSE TOPICS:

1. General Historical Overview
2. Biology and Psychology
3. Sensation and Perception
4. Cognition and Language
5. Intelligence and Creativity
6. Motivation and Emotion
7. Eating, Sexual and Learning Behavior
8. Psychological Disorders
9. Stress, Health and Adjustment

SEMESTER PROJECT: (Extra Credit) Students will choose a topic from the outline of course topics and prepare a paper (minimum length 6 pages and maximum length 10 pages double spaced, 12 font) discussing the following:

1. Reason for choosing your topic.
2. General topic overview.
3. Practical implications/applications of the topic
4. Current trends related to topic.
5. General summary.

Students will utilize a minimum of 5 sources plus your textbook. Paper should include a reference list and cover sheet. Adhere to American Psychological Association or MLA citation standards as closely as possible. (Questions: See Mr. Nichols)

DISCUSSION PARTICIPATION: Because class attendance is not required for this course, it will be imperative that you participate fully in the course room discussions. Typically you will have two discussion questions each week. You will be required to post an answer to the discussion question AND respond to AT LEAST one other student's response. Initial responses to each discussion should be no less than 250 words and responses to peers should be no less than 100 words. Participation in this element of the course will count 40% of your semester grade. The first discussion question response is due by WEDNESDAY of each week by MIDNIGHT. The second discussion question response is due by SATURDAY of each week by MIDNIGHT. To maximize your points in this element, please follow up with responses to peers.

MAKEUP POLICY: All work is due on the assigned due date. Should it be necessary for a student to be absent on a test date, it is imperative that the student provide reasonable documentation for the absence. Should a make-up test be required, the student will be penalized 10 points and the make-up test must be completed within one week of return to class. Only one make-up test per student will be allowed.

WITHDRAWAL POLICY: A student who is unable to complete a course is expected to withdraw from that course by February 7, 2008. Withdrawal by February 7, 2008 can be done without penalty, and the student will receive a grade of "W" for the course. This withdrawal is done only by student request. This policy allows a student to "try out" a particular course for six weeks and then withdraw if he/she is unable to be successful in the course. The grade of "W" is allowed regardless of the student's grades to the point of withdrawal. After the sixth week of class, the approval of the Chief Instructional Officer is required prior to allowing a student to withdraw. The determination of "WP" (withdrawal passing) or "WF" (withdrawal failing) will be made by the instructor for the course and is based on the student's grades to the point of withdrawal.

ADA INFORMATION:

It is the policy of Northwest-Shoals Community College to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Any student covered under this act needing and desiring accommodations for this class should notify the instructor and Linda Waide at 331-5321.

PSY 200
General Psychology
TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE
Subject to Change

January 7 – February 3

Module 1

Chapters 1 – 4

Read each chapter and review PowerPoint slides for the corresponding chapters

Participate in Weekly Discussion 1 by Wednesday at Midnight

Participate in Weekly Discussion 2 by Saturday at Midnight

Complete Module 1 Study Guide prior to scheduling Exam 1

Exam 1 to be scheduled January 28 – February 3

February 4 – March 2

Module 2

Chapters 5 – 8

Read each chapter and review PowerPoint slides for the corresponding chapters

Participate in Weekly Discussion 1 by Wednesday at Midnight

Participate in Weekly Discussion 2 by Saturday at Midnight

Complete Module 2 Study Guide prior to scheduling Exam 2

Exam 2 to be scheduled February 4 – 10

March 3 – April 6

Module 3

Chapters 9 – 12

Read each chapter and review PowerPoint slides for the corresponding chapters

Participate in Weekly Discussion 1 by Wednesday at Midnight

Participate in Weekly Discussion 2 by Saturday at Midnight

Complete Module 3 Study Guide prior to scheduling Exam 3

Exam 3 to be scheduled March 31 – April 6

April 7 – May 4

Module 4

Chapters 13 – 16

Read each chapter and review PowerPoint slides for the corresponding chapters

Participate in Weekly Discussion 1 by Wednesday at Midnight

Participate in Weekly Discussion 2 by Saturday at Midnight

Complete Module 4 Study Guide prior to scheduling Exam 4

Exam 4 to be scheduled April 28 – May 4

NO REQUIRED ASSIGNMENTS DUE THE WEEK OF MARCH 24 – 30

EXTRA CREDIT ASSIGNMENT DUE MARCH 30 BY MIDNIGHT

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