Course Syllabus  
INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY  
PSYC 2301

Instructor: Esmeralda Cekrezi M.A  
Contact Information:  
Esmeralda.cekrezi@hccs.edu  
Office location and hours:  
By appointment only  
I am your instructor and your success in this course it is very important to me. Therefore, I strongly suggested contacting me concerning any problem that you are experiencing in this course. Feel free to contact me by email.  
Course Location Times: Northeast Northline Campus  
Mon. /Wed. 12:30 p.m. - 2.00 p.m. Room  
CRN 31504  
Credit Hours: 3  
Total Course Contact Hours: 48

Instructional Methods:  This course will consist of lectures, discussions, demonstrations, presentations. Some of the class time will be spent in small groups, teams and pair work.  
Catalogue Description  
Psychology 2301 is a survey of the basic principles underlying human behavior. Emphasis is placed on major areas of study in the field (personality, stress and adjustment, development, and abnormal behavior). This course transfers as 3 hours of credit to most other colleges and universities.  
Prerequisites  
• Placement in co-requisite GUST 0342  
• Placement into ENGL 0310/0349  

Frequent Requisites  
• College Level Reading  
• College Level Writing
Purpose
Psychology is the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. This course will offer students a survey of psychology as a scientific and professional discipline. Students will gain a broad understanding of the major theories, developments, and controversies in psychology. The course will help students to think psychologically about human potential and human problems. Students will gain a better understanding of the many reasons behind behaviors, feelings, and thoughts of themselves and others. This will help them to appreciate how psychology can be used to improve them and to improve the human condition.

Attendance: Come to class every day. You will find to be a successful college student, you must be present. Absences (excused or unexcused) may result in being administratively withdrawn from the course. Attendance is required in this class. When you have been absent two-three times, it is unlikely you can complete the objectives of the course. If you find it necessary to stop attending class, process an official drop form in the Admission’s office. Ultimately, you are responsible for withdrawing if you decide not to complete the course. After the official withdrawal date passes, I must give a grade to everyone still enrolled in the course. Arriving late or leaving early twice equates to one absence. Class will begin promptly. Please be on time.

Course Student Learning Outcomes
SLO
In completing this course, you will

1. Discuss the major issues in at least nine subject of psychology.

2. Describe the historical development of the study of human behavior including current theoretical perspectives prominent in the field of psychology.

3. Introduce terminology unique to the study of psychology.

4. Encourage critical analysis of research findings through application of the scientific method and a basic understanding of research design.

5. Examine, compare and contrast factors contributing to development and the human experience. Include for study accepted approaches and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation.

6. Explore the ways in which humans create their realities including those experiences which deviate from the mainstream of accepted experience and behavior.

7. Develop a theoretical framework by which to examine differing views on the origins of problems and related treatment modalities.

Weekly Calendar /Road Map

<p>| Week 1       | Set Academic Demeanors/Syllabus |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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| 01/14      | Reading Strategies: SQ3R Reading Process/ 12 Disease of Learning. Chapter 1: Introduction – Introduction to psychological perspectives and the scientific method. Activities:  
 Achievements Tree /Arco sticks Activity  
 Thinking critically about our notions of psychology and behavior |
| 01/16      |                                                                      |
| Week 2     | Chapter 2 –The Research Enterprise in Psychology  
 Syllabus Quiz  
 Correlation versus Causation  
 Design an Experiment  
 Applying Psychology’s major Perspectives |
| 01/21      |                                                                      |
| 01/23      |                                                                      |
| Week 3     | Chapter 3: The Biological Bases of Behavior  
 Reflection on the video |
| 01/28      |                                                                      |
| 01/30      |                                                                      |
| Week 4     | Chapter 4 and 5 : Sensation and Perception/ Variations of Consciousness  
 Is Alcoholism a Disease? Visit to the Library |
| 02/04      |                                                                      |
| 02/06      |                                                                      |
| Week 5     | Review  
 Exam 1 Chapters 1, 2, 3 and 4  
 WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT #1 DUE |
| 02/11      |                                                                      |
| 02/13      |                                                                      |
| Week 6     | 02/18 No school President Day  
 Chapter 6: Learning  
 Learning Pyramid  
 Manipulating Emotions |
| 02/18      |                                                                      |
| 02/20      |                                                                      |
| Week 7     | Chapter 7: Human Memory  
 How can we improve our memories?  
 Types of Memories  
 Assignments of Chapter Quiz * |
| 02/25      |                                                                      |
| 02/27      |                                                                      |
| Week 8     | Chapter 10:Human Development Across Life Span  
 Understanding Gender Differences  
 Chapter 10: Part 2 |
| 03/04      |                                                                      |
| 03/06      |                                                                      |
| Week 9     | March 11-17 Spring Break  
 Review  
 Exam 2 Chapters 6, 7, 10  
 WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT #2 DUE |
| 03/18      |                                                                      |
| 03/20      |                                                                      |
| Week 10    | Chapter 11: Personality: Theory, Research and Assessment  
 Understanding Personality Assessments  
 Online personality test |
<p>| 03/25      |                                                                      |
| 03/27      |                                                                      |</p>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 11</th>
<th>04/01</th>
<th>Chapter 12 : Stress, Coping and Health</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>04/03</td>
<td>- Improving Coping And Stress Management</td>
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<td>- Team work</td>
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<td>Week 12</td>
<td>04/08</td>
<td>Review</td>
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<td>04/10</td>
<td>Exam 3 Chapters 11 and 12</td>
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<td>WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT # 3DUE</td>
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<td>Week 13</td>
<td>04/15</td>
<td>Chapter : 13 Psychological Disorders</td>
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<td>04/17</td>
<td>- Understanding Eating Disorders</td>
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<td>- Supplementary Reading</td>
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<td>- Personality Disorders</td>
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<td>Week 14</td>
<td>04/22</td>
<td>Chapter 14: Treatment of Psychological Disorders</td>
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<td></td>
<td>04/24</td>
<td>- Looking for a therapist</td>
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<td>- From Crises to Wellness-But it was a Therapist?</td>
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<td>- Review Chapters 13,14</td>
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<td>Week 15</td>
<td>04/28</td>
<td>Exam 4 Chapters 13 and 14</td>
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<td>04/30</td>
<td>WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT # 4DUE</td>
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<td>Week 16</td>
<td>05/05</td>
<td>Review For The Final</td>
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<td>05/07</td>
<td>Presentations DUE</td>
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<td>05/13</td>
<td>COMPREHENSIVE DEPARTMENTAL FINAL EXAM</td>
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<td>FINAL EXAM  May 13, 2103</td>
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**STUDENT ASSESSMENT**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Exams 4</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Written Assignments 4</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daily Activities/Class Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Projects</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Departmental Final Exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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**Chapter Exams**
There will be 4 Chapters exams worth 10% each. Most items will be selected from the text, but a few may come from class activities, lectures, and the study guide. They will vary from multiple choice quizzes to essay based exams.

**Written Assignments**

You will complete four (4) written assignments during the semester (each assignment is worth 25 points). One written assignment will be submitted on/before the date of each test. All assignments must be typed and submitted on time. Hand written and/or late papers will not be accepted. Please note that WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS and TESTS are separate components of your grade. Therefore, if you choose (or must) miss a test, please arrange to turn in the written assignment on or before the due day (the test day).

The purpose of the written assignments is to give you practice in using the Internet to research information in the field of psychology. For each paper you are to choose an Internet article on any subject/topic covered in the assigned chapters or reading material for the next test. Write a one page summary of the article. Choose an article on a topic or subject that is of personal interest to you and that is related to the assigned chapters or reading material. In each summary, make sure you answer the following questions:

1. Why did you choose this article?
2. What is the article about and how is this article relevant to assigned chapters or readings?
3. What did you learn that is meaningful to you?

Each paper is to be a maximum two double-spaced typed page. A cover sheet must be included that contains the following information: your name, professor’s name, date, Psychology 2301, your class meeting days & time, and the title of paper (5 points off if incorrect). Staple your paper—do not put in a folder.

You are required to use a form provided by your instructor to guide you and you must attach a copy of your journal article. Journals must be APA listed and involve experimental research.

For an approved list of journals go to: www.apa.org/journals/by_subjects.html (not in HCC database) or go to: http://www.epnet.com/titleLists/pb-complete.htm / HCC database

**Daily Activities/Class Participation**

I am a strong believer that classroom activities hold a great importance on your understanding and acquiring of the material. Therefore, daily activities will be individual and group activities that will include verbal presentations or written work to be turned in and evaluated. Grading will be based on demonstration of participation, preparation before class, and critical thinking exercises. If you are not in attendance you will receive a zero for that day.

**Projects**
Projects will count 5% of the final course grade. You will choose one of the topics covered in class.
Answer the following question and do a visual presentation.
How did the topic relate to your personal life?
What was new to you and some misunderstanding regarding the topic?

**Comprehensive Departmental Final Exam**

The comprehensive Departmental Final Exam will be 100 multiple-choice items over the core chapters and assigned chapter sections.

**INSTRUCTOR’S REQUIREMENTS**

As your instructor, I am responsible for:

- Providing you with a syllabus which details course information and policies of the classroom as well as the college as well as a course calendar
- Providing instructional support in class and in the lab
- Providing feedback on assignments and special projects
- Assuring a positive learning environment
- Respecting and being fair to each student
- Being available for office hours to meet with students on an individual basis

As your instructor, I expect you:

- To attend class and participate in discussions and activities
- To arrive to class on time
- To complete all assignments and submit by the deadline
- To respect each person’s opinion
- To ask instructor for assistance when needed
- To follow the rules of the class and the institution
- To keep copies syllabus, calendar, handouts, and all graded assignments

**PROGRAM DISCIPLINE REQUIREMENTS**

The psychology discipline committee has approved the following requirement for PSYC 2301: **All students must take the department final exam.**

**HCC GRADING SCALE**

A = 100 – 90: .................................................................4 points per semester hour
B = 89 – 80: .................................................................3 points per semester hour
C = 79 – 70: .........................................................2 points per semester hour
D = 69 – 60: ..........................................................1 point per semester hour
59 and below = F ...................................................0 points per semester hour
IP (In Progress) .......................................................0 points per semester hour
W (Withdrawn) .......................................................0 points per semester hour
I (Incomplete) ......................................................0 points per semester hour
AUD (Audit) ..........................................................0 points per semester hour
IP (In Progress) is given only in certain developmental courses. The student must re-enroll to receive credit. COM (Completed) is given in non-credit and continuing education courses. To compute grade point average (GPA), divide the total grade points by the total number of semester hours attempted. The grades “IP,” “COM” and “I” do not affect GPA.

A = 90-100%
B = 80–89%
C = 70–79%
D = 60–69%
F = Below 60%

Instructional Materials

Text

TEXTBOOK & SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS:

Monday April 1st  4.30 P.M LAST DAY OF ADMINISTRATIVE/STUDENT WITHDRAWALS

HCC Policy Statement - ADA
Services to Students with Disabilities

Any student with a documented disability (e.g. physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the Disability Services Office at the respective college at the beginning of each semester. Faculty are authorized to provide only the accommodations requested by the Disability Support Services Office. For questions, contact Donna Price at 713-718-5165 or the Disability Counselor at your college. Visit the ADA Web site at http://www.hccs.edu/students/disability/index

HCC Policy Statement: Academic Honesty
A student who is academically dishonest is, by definition, not showing that the coursework has been learned, and that student is claiming an advantage not available to other students. The instructor is responsible for measuring each student's individual achievements and also for ensuring that all students compete on a level playing field. Thus, in our system, the instructor has teaching, grading, and enforcement roles. You are expected to be familiar with the University's Policy on Academic Honesty, found in the catalog. What that means is: If you are charged with an offense, pleading ignorance of the rules will not help you. Students are responsible for conducting themselves with honor and integrity in fulfilling course requirements. Penalties and/or disciplinary proceedings may be initiated by College System officials against a student accused of scholastic dishonesty. “Scholastic dishonesty”: includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion.

**Cheating** on a test includes:

- Copying from another students’ test paper;
- Using materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
- Collaborating with another student during a test without authorization;
- Knowingly using, buying, selling, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of a test that has not been administered;
- Bribing another person to obtain a test that is to be administered.

**Plagiarism** means the appropriation of another’s work and the unacknowledged incorporation of that work in one’s own written work offered for credit.

**Collusion** means the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work offered for credit. Possible punishments for academic dishonesty may include a grade of 0 or F in the particular assignment, failure in the course, and/or recommendation for probation or dismissal from the College System. (See the Student Handbook)

**HCC Policy Statements**

**Class Attendance - It is important that you come to class!** Attending class regularly is the best way to succeed in this class. Research has shown that the single most important factor in student success is attendance. Simply put, going to class greatly increases your ability to succeed. You are expected to attend classes regularly. You are responsible for materials covered during your absences. Class attendance is checked daily. Although it is your responsibility to drop a course for nonattendance, the instructor has the authority to drop you for excessive absences.

If you are not attending class, you are not learning the information. As the information that is discussed in class is important for your career, students may be dropped from a course after accumulating absences in excess of 12.5% hours of instruction. The six hours of class time would include any total classes missed or for excessive tardiness or leaving class early. Your instructor is NOT required to notify you prior to completing the drop. If you have missed more than 12.5% of the hours of instruction, you will need to check with the instructor to see if you have been dropped.
You may decide NOT to come to class for whatever reason. As an adult making the decision not to attend, you do not have to notify the instructor prior to missing a class. However, if this happens too many times, you may suddenly find that you have “lost” the class.

Poor attendance records tend to correlate with poor grades. If you miss any class, including the first week, you are responsible for all material missed. It is a good idea to find a friend or a buddy in class who would be willing to share class notes or discussion or be able to hand in paper if you unavoidably miss a class.

**HCC Course Withdrawal Policy**
If you feel that you cannot complete this course, you will need to withdraw from the course prior to the final date of withdrawal. Before you withdraw from your course; please take the time to meet with the instructor to discuss why you feel it is necessary to do so. The instructor may be able to provide you with suggestions that would enable you to complete the course. Your success is very important. Beginning in fall 2007, the Texas Legislature passed a law limiting first time entering freshmen to no more than SIX total course withdrawals throughout their educational career in obtaining a certificate and/or degree.

To help students avoid having to drop/withdraw from any class, HCC has instituted an Early Alert process by which your professor may “alert” you and HCC counselors that you might fail a class because of excessive absences and/or poor academic performance. It is your responsibility to visit with your professor or a counselor to learn about what, if any, HCC interventions might be available to assist you – online tutoring, child care, financial aid, job placement, etc. – to stay in class and improve your academic performance.

If you plan on withdrawing from your class, you MUST go to the PeopleSoft Registration site and fill out the online forms prior to the withdrawal deadline to receive a “W” on your transcript. **Final withdrawal deadlines vary each semester and/or depending on class length, please visit the online registration calendars, HCC schedule of classes and catalog, any HCC Registration Office, or any HCC counselor to determine class withdrawal deadlines.** If you do not withdraw before the deadline, you will receive the grade that you are making in the class as your final grade.

**Repeat Course Fee**
The State of Texas encourages students to complete college without having to repeat failed classes. To increase student success, students who repeat the same course more than twice, are required to pay extra tuition. The purpose of this extra tuition fee is to encourage students to pass their courses and to graduate. Effective fall 2006, HCC will charge a higher tuition rate to students registering the third or subsequent time for a course. If you are considering course withdrawal because you are not earning passing grades, confer with your instructor/counselor as early as possible about your study habits, reading and writing homework, test taking skills, attendance, course participation, and opportunities for tutoring or other assistance that might be available.

**STUDENT HANDBOOK**
All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the information, policies, and other details in the Student Handbook. Please refer to:
At HCC, professors believe that thoughtful student feedback is necessary to improve teaching and learning. During a designated time near the end of the term, you will be asked to answer a short online survey of research based questions related to instruction. The anonymous results of the survey will be available to your professors and department chairs for continual improvement of instruction. Look for the survey as part of the HCCS system online near the end of the term.