



**Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences
Department of Psychology**

PSYC 2301: Introduction to Psychology
CRN 15049 – Fall, 2016
3-hour lecture course / 48 hours per semester/ 12 weeks
HCC Online (formerly known as Distance Education), 09/19/16-12/10/16

Instructor: Kristin K Anderson, PhD

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Department Contact Information: Karen.Saenz@hccs.edu

Office Location and Hours

Please feel free to contact me by email concerning any problems that you are experiencing in this course. Your performance in my class is very important to me. I am available to hear your concerns and just to discuss course topics by appointment. My office is at the Stafford campus.

Email Policy

HCCS policy requires instructors and students to communicate only through the HCCS email system. The Canvas email tool in Eagle Online works within the HCCS email system. Distance Education policy requires students and instructor use it to communicate. If you have not activated your HCCS student email account, you can do so [here](#). *When communicating with me, please remember to allow at least a 24-hour response time during weekdays and 48-hours on weekends.* In addition, be sure to follow the [Guidelines for Emailing a Professor](#) provided in the course.

Course Description

PSYC 2301 is a survey course of the basic principles underlying human behavior. Emphasis is placed on major areas of study in the field of psychology, such as motivation, development, thought processes, personality.

Prerequisites

PSYC 2301 requires college-level reading and writing skills. Research indicates that you are most likely to succeed if you have already taken and passed ENGL 1301. The minimum requirements for enrollment in PSYC 2301 include placement in college-level reading (or take GUST 0342 as a co-requisite) and placement in college-level writing (or take ENGL 0310/0349 as a co-requisite). If you have enrolled in this course without having satisfied these prerequisites, you are at higher risk of failure or withdrawal than students who have done so, and you should carefully read and consider the repeater policy notice that follows.

Program Student Learning Outcomes (PSLOs)

1. **All Students:** Upon completion of any course in the psychology program, students will be able to define, discuss, and apply psychological terms and concepts that are covered in the course and are also referred to in news reports, self-help materials, and the process of seeking and engaging in psychotherapy.
2. **Psychology Majors:** Upon completion of any course in the psychology program, students who are seeking undergraduate degrees in psychology will be able to define, discuss, and apply the key terms and concepts that are covered in the course and are also included in upper division psychology course that are required for an undergraduate degree in psychology (e.g., abnormal psychology, history, and systems of psychology).
3. **Non-Psychology Majors:** Upon completion of any course in the psychology program, students who are seeing degrees in fields other than psychology will be able to define, discuss, and apply the key terms and concepts that are covered in the course and are also included in psychology-related course that are required for degrees in fields other than psychology (e.g., nursing skills, consumer behavior, research methods).

Course Student Learning Outcomes (CSLOs)

Upon completion of PSYC 2301, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge in multiple (8) areas of psychology, including concepts, facts, and theoretical perspectives.
2. Define and identify the basic research and evaluation methods used in psychology, including the strengths and weaknesses of each method.

3. Demonstrate knowledge of and identify concepts related to personal development and the development and behavior of others.
4. Apply psychological concepts to the solution of issues and problems including ethics, coping with stressful events, health and wellness, parenting, learning, memory, and /or evaluation of media presentations.

Core Curriculum Objectives

PSYC 2301 satisfies the social science requirement in the HCCS core curriculum. The HCCS Psychology Discipline Committee has specified that the course addresses the core objectives as follows:

- **Critical Thinking:** Students will demonstrate the ability to engage in inquiry and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information, and creative thinking by completing a written assignment such as a book report, research paper, or essay.
- **Communication Skills:** Students will demonstrate effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication by completing a written assignment such as a book report, research paper, or essay.
- **Quantitative and Empirical Literacy:** Students will demonstrate the ability to draw conclusions based on the systematic analysis of topics using observation, experiment, and/or numerical skills by completing textbook reading assignments, completing assignments, and answering questions on quizzes and exams that pertain to Course Student Learning Outcome #2 above.
- **Social Responsibility:** Students will demonstrate cultural self-awareness, intercultural competency, civil knowledge, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities by completing textbook reading assignments, completing assignments, and answering questions on quizzes and exams that pertain to Course Student Learning Outcome #4 above.

Learning Objectives

OBJECTIVES FOR CSLO #1: Discuss the major issues in at least nine areas of psychology.
1.1 Major schools of thought in psychology
1.2 Components of the neuron
1.3 Components of the synapse
1.4 Action potential
1.5 Major neurotransmitters
1.6 Medulla
1.7 Cerebellum
1.8 Hypothalamus
1.9 Limbic system
1.10 Components of the cerebrum
1.11 Plasticity
1.12 Endocrine system
1.13 Learning
1.14 Reinforcement
1.15 Punishment
1.16 Observational learning
1.17 Characteristics of short-term memory
1.18 Characteristics of long-term memory
1.19 Phases of prenatal development
1.20 Piaget's stages of cognitive development
1.21 Erikson's stages of psychosocial development
1.22 Alzheimer's disease
1.23 General Adaptation Syndrome (GAS)
1.24 Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)
1.25 Definition of personality
1.26 Conscious, unconscious, preconscious mind
1.27 Id, ego, and superego
1.28 Freud's psychosexual stages
1.29 Phobias
1.30 Panic disorder
1.31 Obsessive-compulsive disorder
1.32 Dissociative identity disorder
1.33 Schizophrenia
1.34 Major subtypes of schizophrenia
1.35 Major depressive disorder
1.36 Bipolar disorder
1.37 Personality disorders

OBJECTIVES FOR CSLO #2: Explain the scientific method and how it applies to psychological research.
2.1 Scientific method
2.2 Descriptive methods

2.3	Representative sample
2.4	Correlational method
2.5	Experimental method
2.6	Causal hypotheses
2.7	Independent variable
2.8	Dependent variable
2.9	Experimental group
2.10	Control group
2.11	Random assignment
2.12	Placebo effect
2.13	Placebo
2.14	Double-blind procedure
2.15	Methods of studying the brain
2.16	Methods used by Pavlov, Watson, and Skinner

OBJECTIVE FOR CSLO #3: Demonstrate knowledge of and identify concepts related to personal development and the development and behavior of others.	
3.1	Differences among the major theoretical perspectives in psychology
3.2	Processes that occur when a neuron is activated
3.3	How neurotransmitters affect behavior
3.4	Functions of the frontal lobes
3.5	Difference between the central and peripheral nervous systems
3.6	Functions of the sympathetic and parasympathetic nervous systems
3.7	How the pituitary gland affects behavior
3.8	How the adrenal glands affect behavior
3.9	How classical conditioning modifies an organism's responses to stimuli
3.10	How operant conditioning modifies an organism's responses to stimuli
3.11	Difference between positive and negative reinforcement
3.12	Factors that influence the effectiveness of punishment
3.13	Information-processing approach to memory
3.14	Reconstructive memory
3.15	The function of schemas
3.16	Causes of forgetting
3.16	Effects of teratogens and other negative factors on prenatal development
3.18	Relationship between contact comfort and attachment
3.19	Differences among the various patterns of attachment
3.20	Difference between the social learning theory and gender schema theory explanations of gender role development
3.21	Process of cognitive development as Piaget explained it
3.22	Proposed causes of Alzheimer's disease
3.23	Effects of stress on the immune system
3.24	Effects of daily hassles on stress
3.25	Factors that influence individual's capacity for resisting the effects of stress
3.26	Function of defense mechanisms in Freud's theory
3.27	Views of humanistic theorists regarding the personality
3.28	Bandura's concept of reciprocal determinism
3.29	Criteria for abnormal behavior
3.30	Possible causes of schizophrenia
3.31	Symptoms of major depressive disorder.
3.32	Symptoms of bipolar disorder

OBJECTIVES FOR CSLO #4: Apply psychological concepts to the solution of issues and problems including ethics, coping with stressful events, health and wellness, parenting, learning, memory, and /or evaluation of media presentations.	
4.1	Ethical standards for psychological research
4.2	Principles of behavior genetics
4.3	Principles of behavior modification
4.4	Improving memory
4.5	Effects of the authoritarian, authoritative, and permissive parenting styles on children's development
4.6	Differences between problem-focused and emotion-focused coping
4.7	Views of Abraham Maslow regarding self-actualization
4.8	Differences between psychologists and psychiatrists

Instructional Methods

Success in the Course

As with any three-hour course, you should expect to spend **at least six hours per week** outside of class reading and studying the material. I will provide assignments to help you use those six hours per week wisely. Additional time will be required for written assignments. Successful completion of this course requires a combination of reading the textbook, completing work in MPL, and completing assignments and exams in Eagle Online. There is no short cut to success in this course; it requires reading (and probably re-reading) and studying the material using the course objectives as your guide.

Canvas Learning Management System

This section of PSYC 2301 will use the [Canvas website](#) and the Connect website to deliver assignments, exams, and activities. HCCS Open Lab locations may be used to access the Internet and Canvas. **YOU MUST USE CHROME OR FIREFOX AS YOUR BROWSER.** For a free download of Chrome click [here](#) for a free download of Firefox click [here](#).

Instructional Materials

Textbook

Wood, S., Wood, E., & Boyd, D. (2015). *Mastering the World of Psychology* 5E. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson.

Free Online Textbook. You may use the following free online textbook. However, please note the chapter numbers and chapter titles will be different than what I am using since I am using *Mastering the World of Psychology*.

[Stangor, C. \(2013\). Introduction to Psychology. Creative Commons. Houston Community College.](#)

Final Exam Handbook (formerly The Student Supplementary Handbook)

The Final Exam Handbook is required for this course. It is free and is posted on Canvas. It contains Learning Objective Questions and Key Terms that you need to know for the Comprehensive Departmental Final Exam.

Additional materials and resources will be found online in your PSYC 2301 course.

Assessments and Assignments

Assignment	Points
"How to Get the Most out of Studying" Video Series Quiz	50
Syllabus Quiz	25
Introduce Yourself Discussion	25
Unit I Practice Quizzes (5 quizzes)	50
Unit I Exam	200
Unit II Practice Quizzes (5 Quizzes)	50
Unit II Exam	200
Unit I Video Summary and Discussion	100
Unit II Video Summary and Discussion	100
Extra Credit Options	
Final Exam	200
Total	1000

"How to Get the Most out of Studying" Quiz

You are required to watch a video series titled "How to Get the Most out of Studying" and complete the quiz that follows it. This activity will count **50 points**.

Syllabus Quiz

You must take a true-false quiz over the syllabus. You must take it as many times as necessary to achieve a score of 100% correct. The Syllabus Quiz will count **25 points**. This must be completed by the due date to stay enrolled in the class.

Introduce Yourself

You must post a brief self-introduction in the Introduce Yourself forum. Your post must be at least 100 words long and include your reason for taking this course and what you hope to learn from it. The self-introduction will count **25 points**.

Chapter Practice Quizzes

Chapter Practice Quizzes consist of 20 multiple-choice questions and are available from the first day of class. The exams have unlimited attempts with a 15 minute time limit for each attempt. Your grade for each exam will be the average of all your attempts. Unit Practice Quizzes will count a total of **100 points** (10 exams x 10 points each).

Unit Exams

Unit Exams consist of 100 multiple-choice questions and are available on the dates shown in the course calendar. The exams have a 2-hour time limit and must be completed in one sitting. You will see only one question at a time. After answering a question, you may not return to it to change your answer. Two attempts are allowed. Highest score is your grade. Unit Exams will count a total of **400 points** (2 exams x 200 points each).

Video Discussions

You will watch a documentary video and post your thoughts about it in a discussion forum for each unit. You will also reply to at least one of your classmates' postings. See the unit modules for complete instructions. Video Discussions will count **200 points** (2 discussions x 100 points each).

Final Exam

You are required to take a comprehensive final exam consisting of 100 multiple-choice questions. The exam covers all of the objectives and key terms in the Final Exam Handbook. The test will be available on the dates shown in the course calendar. You will have one attempt. The exam has a two-hour time limit and must be completed in one sitting. You will view one question at a time. After you answer a question, you cannot return to it. You must get at least 50% of the items correct on the departmental final to pass the course. The final exam will count **200 points**.

Grading Formula and HCC Grading Scale

Course grades will be determined according to total points earned in the course in accordance with the table below:

Grade	Points Required
A	900+ (90%+)
B	800-899 points (80-89%)
C	700-799 points (70-79%)
D	600-699 points (60-69%)
F	<600 points (<60%)

A	100-90	4 points per semester
B	89-80	3 points per semester
C	79-70	2 points per semester
D	69-60	1 point per semester
F	<60	0 points per semester
FX	Failure due to non-attendance	0 points per semester
IP (In Progress)		0 points per semester
W (Withdrawn)		0 points per semester
I (Incomplete)		0 points per semester
AUD (Audit)		0 points per semester

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.

Course Calendar

Weeks	Date	Assignments/What's due (all assignments due by 11:55PM)
1 to 2	Sept 19 to Oct 2	<p>"Start Here" Assignments due by Sept 28 or you will be dropped from the course:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce Yourself Discussion • Syllabus Quiz • "How to Get the Most Out of Studying Quiz" <p><u>Unit I</u> Read Chapters 1 and 2 Chapter 1 Practice Quiz--due Sept 29 Chapter 2 Practice Quiz--due Oct 1</p>
3 to 4	Oct 3 to Oct 16	Read Chapters 5 and 6 Chapter 5 Practice Quiz--due Oct 8 Chapter 6 Practice Quiz--due Oct 15 Unit 1 Video Summary and Discussion--due Oct 16
5 to 6	Oct 17 to Oct 30	Read Chapter 8 Chapter 8 Practice Quiz--due Oct 22 Unit I Exam--due Oct 23 <i>last day to Withdraw--Oct 28</i> <p><u>Unit II</u> Read Chapter 9 Chapter 9 Practice Quiz--due Oct 29</p>
7 to 8	Oct 31 to Nov 13	Read Chapters 10 and 11 Chapter 10 Practice Quiz--due Nov 5 Chapter 11 Practice Quiz--due Nov 12 Unit II Video Summary and Discussion--due Nov 13
9 to 10	Nov 14 to Nov 27	Read Chapter 12 Chapter 12 Practice Quiz--due Nov 19
11 to 12	Nov 28 to Dec 10	Read Chapter 13 Chapter 13 Practice Quiz--due Nov 30 Unit II Exam--due Dec 4 Practice Final Exam--due Dec 6
Finals	Dec 7 to Dec 9	Departmental Final Exam--available Dec 7 to Dec 9 Departmental Final Exam--due Dec 9

Late Work and Makeup Policy

Late Chapter Quizzes will be deducted 5 points per day. Late Assignments will be deducted 25 points per day. In the event you take a Unit Exam late it will be deducted 50 points per day.

Incomplete Grades

In order to receive a grade of Incomplete ("I"), you must have completed at least 85% of the work in the course. In all cases, I reserve the right to decline a student's request to receive a grade of Incomplete.

Syllabus Modifications

I reserve the right to modify the syllabus at any time during the semester.

Instructor and Student Responsibilities

As your Instructor, it is my responsibility to:

- Provide the grading scale and detailed grading formula explaining how student grades are to be derived
- Facilitate an effective learning environment through class activities, discussions, and lectures
- Description of any special projects or assignments
- Inform students of policies such as attendance, withdrawal, tardiness and make up
- Provide the course outline and class calendar which will include a description of any special projects or assignments
- Arrange to meet with individual students before and after class as required

To be successful in this class, it is the student's responsibility to:

- Attend class and participate in class discussions and activities
- Read and comprehend the textbook
- Complete the required assignments and exams:
- Ask for help when there is a question or problem
- Keep copies of all paperwork, including this syllabus, handouts and all assignments
- Be aware of and comply with academic honesty policies in the [HCCS Student Handbook](#) and [HCCS Distance Education Student Handbook](#).

Attendance

In a Distance Education course, attendance consists of logging in and completing assignments. If you do not log in and complete the quiz over "How to Get the Most out of Studying" by the due date in the course calendar, you will be dropped for non-attendance.

Withdrawal

If you decide to withdraw from the course, it is your responsibility to file the proper paperwork with the registrar's office. Discuss your decision to withdraw from the class with your instructor before you finalize the paperwork.

Virtual Classroom Conduct

Students are to conduct themselves professionally in their communications with me, their classmates, and college staff and administration. Behavior inappropriate to the collegiate setting (including but not limited to abusive/derogatory/threatening/harassing language directed at the instructor or towards other students, staff or administrators) will not be tolerated, and may result in removal from the course if severe and/or repeated.

Student Organizations

Psi Kappa

All students are invited to join Psi Kappa, an organization that can help students learn about psychology outside the classroom, serve the community, meet students in other PSYC classes, interact with PSYC faculty, and learn leadership skills. For more information, visit the [Psi Kappa page](#) on the HCC Learning Web, the [Psi Kappa blog](#), and the [Psi Kappa Facebook page](#).

Psi Beta

HCC has an active chapter of Psi Beta: National Honor Society in Psychology for Community and Junior Colleges. To learn more about this organization visit the [Psi Beta website](#). For information about the HCC chapter, visit the [Psi Beta page](#) on the HCC

Learning Web.

Psychology Achievers Scholarship

To be eligible for the \$125 per semester Psychology Achievers Scholarship, a student must (1) meet all HCC Foundation criteria for scholarship eligibility, and (2) make an A in either PSYC 2301 or PSYC 2314. For more information, visit the [HCC Foundation scholarship website](#).

Tutoring

[AskOnline](#) provides free, confidential, and convenient academic support to HCC students in an online environment. Tutoring is provided by HCC personnel in order to ensure that it is contextual and appropriate.

HCCS Student Policies

All students are responsible for reading and understanding the HCCS Student Handbook, which contains policies, information about conduct, and other important information. Access the handbook at <http://central.hccs.edu/students/student-handbook/>

HCCS Distance Education Policies

All Distance Education students are responsible for reading and understanding the DE Student Handbook, which contains policies, information about conduct, and other important information. The DE Student Handbook contains policies and procedures unique to the DE student. Students should have reviewed the handbook as part of the mandatory orientation. It is the student's responsibility to be familiar with the handbook's contents. The handbook contains valuable information, answers, and resources, such as DE contacts, policies and procedures (how to drop, attendance requirements, etc.), student services (ADA, financial aid, degree planning, etc.), course information, testing procedures, technical support, and academic calendars. Refer to the [DE Student Handbook](#).

Office of Institutional Equity

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 requires that institutions have policies and procedures that protect students' rights with regard to sex/gender discrimination. Information regarding these rights are on the HCC website under Students-Anti-discrimination. Students who are pregnant and require accommodations should contact any of the ADA Counselors for assistance. It is important that every student understands and conforms to respectful behavior while at HCC. Sexual misconduct is not condoned and will be addressed promptly. Know your rights and how to avoid these difficult situations. Log in to www.edurisksolutions.org. Sign in using your HCC student email account, then go to the button at the top right that says Login and enter your student number.