



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

PSYC 2301: Introduction to Psychology
CRN 86096 – spring 2016
3-Hour Lecture/ Distant Education/SS Term (12 weeks)

Instructor: Nathalie Wolk, PhD, MSW

How to contact the instructor: Please use the e-mail tool on the Eagle On-line course homepage to contact me. Nathalie.Wolk@hccs.edu

Department Contact Information: Karen.Saenz@hccs.edu

Office Location and Hours

By appointment

Please feel free to contact me concerning any problems that you are experiencing in this course. You do not need to wait until you have received a poor grade before asking for my assistance. Your performance in my class is very important to me. I am available to hear your concerns and just to discuss course topics.

Email Policy

HCCS policy requires instructors and students to communicate only through the HCCS email system. If you have not activated your HCCS student email account, you can do so [here](http://www.hccs.edu/district/students/student-e-maileagle-id/) (<http://www.hccs.edu/district/students/student-e-maileagle-id/>). I typically respond to email with two work days. If I do not respond, please send again in case of technological problems.

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 in the [HCCS Student Handbook](#).

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 the written assignment. Successful completion of this course requires a combination of reading the textbook, attending class, completing assignments in Eagle Online, and participating in class discussions. There is no short cut for success in this course; it requires reading (and probably re-reading) and studying the material using the course objectives as your guide.

Eagle Online Learning Management System

Instructor Policies & Student Responsibilities

1. Eagle On-line e-mail is the primary means of communication between the instructor and students. Students should use the e-mail tool on the Eagle On-line course homepage to contact the instructor. I do not use HHC mail or telephone.
2. This is a Distant Education course in which instruction will be delivered via the World Wide Web utilizing Eagle On-line software and online discussions. I highly recommend that you log-on to EO daily for updates and email.
3. Students with disabilities who require modifications must notify the instructor of the specific need as soon as possible after enrollment. To be eligible for modifications, students must be clients of the HCCS Office serving students with disabilities or of a comparable department at their home institution.
4. Instructions for submission of all assignments must be followed to earn full credit for each assignment. If an assignment specifies electronic submission of materials, no other format is acceptable (see Eagle On-line for dates and instructions). For example, the nine Workbooks, four written exercises, Final Exam Study Guide, and the Extra Credit must be submitted following the instructions listed on Eagle On-line or they will not be graded and no credit will be earned. Note: the exercises and extra credit will be submitted to www.turnitin.com as well. Copying or plagiarizing will earn an automatic F and be subject to HCC policy and discipline action.
5. Students are expected to read the syllabus, read the textbook as assigned, adhere to specified deadlines and policies, and to keep up with assignments. I suggest printing the Syllabus and Final Exam Study Guide for frequent reference.
6. Assignments, quizzes, and other materials that have specific due dates must be submitted before that due date at 9:00 AM according to the calendar.
7. Questions for the instructor are to be submitted via Eagle On-line e-mail.
8. Students who are dropped from the class for administrative reasons (e.g. TASP/THEA compliance, failure to pay) may not submit assignments or take exams until documentation of correction of the problem is provided to the instructor.
9. The instructor reserves the right to change the syllabus at any time during the course.
- 10. NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

1. EGLS3 -- Evaluation for Greater Learning Student Survey System: At Houston Community College, professors believe that thoughtful student feedback is necessary to improve teaching and learning. During a designated time, 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 made available to your professors and division chairs for continual improvement of instruction. Look for the survey as part of the Houston Community College Student System online near the end of the term. HCCS Open Lab locations may be used to access the Internet and Eagle Online. **YOU MUST USE FIREFOX AS YOUR BROWSER.** For a free download of Firefox for free, go to <http://www.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/new/>

Instructional Materials

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

A link for the Ebook is available on our course page.

Final Exam Handbook - Posted on Eagle Online

Exams and Assignments

EVALUATION: (your grade is equal to the amount of points you earn)

Chapter Quizzes

Students will complete ten multiple-choice online chapter quizzes using Eagle On-line (25 questions each). The questions are mostly based off of the study guide and the final exam; however there are questions that you might have to research using other material like the internet. The quizzes are available at the beginning of the course, so students can complete them at their own pace, however they are **not available after the due date/time**. Although each quiz is **technically open-book**, it is timed for two hours and must be submitted before the 9:00AM due date shown in the calendar below. Your **first** attempt is the grade of record; be prepared. (If review of the Eagle On-line software shows cheating, you will earn an F for the quiz and possible F for the entire course) Each quiz will count 100 points, for a total of **1000 points**.

Follow these steps to do well on the quizzes:

1. Read the assigned chapters.
2. Complete the Workbook that corresponds with the chapters and any EO discussions.
3. Complete the corresponding sections of the Final Exam Study Guide.
4. Review the assigned chapter, wkbk, and discussions. Ask the instructor questions about anything you don't understand.
5. Take the quiz. You can use the book, notes, wkbks, and Internet, but there is a two-hour time limit on each quiz. So, if you don't know the chapters well before you start, you are unlikely to have time to use the book to your advantage.
6. The **FIRST** attempt will be the grade of record, so be prepared when you start it.

Note: Quiz keys are not provided. If you miss an item, try to find the correct answer on your own. If you can't find it, send me an email and I will direct you to the correct answer.

Workbook and Objectives

There are nine wkbks due throughout the semester. They are meant as a study guide for you to **complete** in a manner that is most useful for your study habits. I do NOT

recommend simply copying definitions, because that will likely not help you when you need to review for exams or look for answers to the quiz questions. The instructions and due dates are listed in the syllabus but also on Eagle On-line.

You will see that on our course page, there is a link that corresponds to each week of class. For each workbook, there is a link called "Download wkbk." After you have downloaded each wkbk to your computer or jumpdrive, save it with your last name and the number wkbk that corresponds; for instance "Wolk1." **If you do not submit this assignment with the correct file name, it will not be graded and you will not receive credit.** I suggest that you download all of the wkbks at the beginning of the semester and save them with the correct file names, now. The wkbks must be completed to receive credit. They are worth 34 points each if completed and worth 0 points if not submitted correctly or incomplete. You will submit **completed** wkbks by using "Upload" link for that week. The workbooks will be graded for total points earned at the end of the semester and altogether worth a possible **300 points**.

Discussions or Forums

Periodically throughout the course, I will post a discussion topic, the first one being an introduction of yourself and to others. Appropriate, professional comments are expected. **Offensive posts will be approached as violations of academic code.** In order to receive full credit, you must **post your response and reply to two of your classmates' posts** for a total of three posts for each discussion. These discussions are meant to serve as the equivalent to an in-class conversation that is why there are threads of communication between students. If you complete them all, they are worth a possible **100 points**.

Practice Final Exam

A practice final exam will be available on the course homepage during the last week of classes and will be due by the date shown in the course schedule below. When you finish the practice final, you will receive a percentage grade to help you determine how ready you are for the final or which areas you need to focus your review. Once the practice final is closed on the due date, it will be graded on completion only. If you do it, you will get **100 points**.

Note: Correct answers will be provided for the Practice Final Exam as soon as you complete it.

Final Exam Study Guide

Similar to the wkbks, you will see a "download" and upload option for this assignment. You should work on this throughout the semester with the corresponding chapters we discuss. At the end of the semester, you will submit this as you did the workbooks. If it is **complete**, you will earn **50 points**.

Departmental Final Exam

All students will be required to take a comprehensive departmental final exam consisting of 100 multiple-choice questions. Students must provide their own Scantron forms (FORM NUMBER 882-E-LOVAS). All the information students need to prepare for the exam is in the *Final Exam Handbook*. The final exam ***may not be taken early under any circumstances***.

You must get at least 50% of the items correct on the final to pass the course. Students who are absent from the final exam without discussing their absence with the instructor in advance or within 24 hours afterward will receive a course grade of Incomplete. Any student who does not take a makeup exam by the end of the following long semester will

receive a final exam grade of zero and a course grade of F. The department final is worth a possible **250 points**.

Extra Credit

There is one extra credit for this course that also will be submitted to www.turnitin.com by the due date and time. If you copy or plagiarize you will earn an F and are subject to HCC discipline according to policies. A perfect score, it will count for **50 points**.

Course point total system

Course point total system: 2000 total possible points

Chapter Exams	10 exams; 100 points each; total 1000 points
Written Exercises	There are four written exercises worth 50 points = 200 together
Workbook/Objectives	34 points each: 300 points (points added at the end of the semester)
Discussions	Altogether 100 points
Final Exam Study Guide	50 points
Practice Final	100 points (graded on completion)
Final Exam	250 points
Extra Credit	If you get full credit; it is 50 points

Course grades

Grade	Points Required
A	1800-2000 (90%+)
B	1600-1799 points (80-89%)
C	1400-1599 points (70-79%)
D	1200-1399 points (60-69%)
F	<1200 points (<60%)

Grades will be available through Eagle On-line and at hccs.edu. College policy prohibits posting of grades.

HCC Grading Scale

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.

Makeup Policy

There are no make-up opportunities in this course.

Incomplete Grades

In order to receive a grade of Incomplete (“I”), you must have completed at least 85% if the work in the course. In all cases, the instructor reserves the right to decline a student’s request to receive a grade of Incomplete.

Syllabus Modifications

The instructor reserves the right to modify the syllabus at any time during the semester.

Calendar PSYC 2301 spring 2016 DE class

Due date	CHAPTERS	ASSIGNMENTS are due before 9am Wed I cannot accept late assignments
1/18	Last day to drop course	
1/19	Introduction to course	Begin ch 1 First discussion
1/26	Chapters 1 History & Research	Discussion Workbook I Quiz for chapters 1
2/2	Chapter 1	Exercise 1 is due
2/9	Chapter 2 Biological Basis	Workbook II Quiz for chapter 2 Discussion
2/16	Chapter 5 Learning	Workbook III Quiz for chapter 5 Discussion
2/23	Chapter 6 Memory	Workbook IV Quiz for chapter 6
3/1	Chapter 5 & 6	Exercise 2 is due
3/8	Chapter 8 Development & Sexuality (parts of ch 9 Motivation)	Workbook V Quiz for chapter 8

3/22	Sexuality	Quiz for sexuality Discussion Exercise 3 is due
3/29	Chapter 11 Personality	Workbook VI Quiz for chapter 11
4/5	Chapter 11	Exercise 4 is due
4/12	Chapter 10 Stress & health	Workbook VII Quiz for chapter 10
4/19	Chapter 12 Disorders	Workbook VIII Quiz for chapter 12
4/26	Chapter 12-13 Therapy	Workbook IX Quiz for chapter 13 Discussion
5/3	Review and complete	Practice Final Final Exam Study Guide Extra credit
5/6-5/8	Final exams week	You must take Final either Fri, Sat, or Sun at the designated time/location

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
- Attain a raw score of at least 50% on the departmental final exam
- Be aware of and comply with academic honesty policies in the [HCCS Student Handbook](#) and [HCCS Distance Education Student Handbook](#).

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.

Classroom Conduct

I expect students 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.

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

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 this link:

<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 is posted at <http://www.hccs.edu/district/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.