



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

<http://www.hccs.edu/programs/areas-of-study/social--behavioral-sciences/psychology/>

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**PSYC 2301: General Psychology | Lecture | CRN 16978**

Fall 2018 | 16 Weeks (8.27.2018-12.16.2018)

In-Person | Stafford HUB 202 | Tuesday/Thursday 5:30-6:20 p.m.

3 Credit Hours | 48 hours per semester

**Instructor Contact Information**

Instructor:	Shannon Baranski	Office Phone:	(713) 718- 7800
Office:	Classroom	Office Hours:	Before or After Class
HCC Email:	Shannon.baranski@hccs.edu	Office Location:	Stafford Campus

Please feel free to contact me 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.

**Instructor's Preferred Method of Contact**

While a student in this class, please use the "inbox" tool in Eagle Online-Canvas to message me. When necessary, you can also email me directly at [Shannon.baranski@hccs.edu](mailto:Shannon.baranski@hccs.edu)

I strive to respond to students within 24 hours, often much sooner. Please be mindful of due dates- allow enough time for me to respond to your questions about an assignment well before it is due. Plan. Also, note that during the daytime, I do not check my email frequently. Depending on how I perceive the nature of your email (high vs. low priority), I may wait to respond to your email. Please be cognizant in emailing me. It must be professional and edited. Please note that emails that are not professionally written, will not be answered.

**What's Exciting About This Course**

You will learn so much about your life and the lives of those around you. Do you know how one learns? How memory works? Why we have different personalities? How health is related to stress? The course will look at how and why we develop from children that seem to have so much in common to adults that do and do not. What happens? Are there best practices in child rearing and in life-long development or is it just luck? Where are you in your development? And what about schizophrenia and other psychological disorders? Are they avoidable? What causes them? The information in this course will enable you to understand the people in your life as well as develop new habits to increase your personal success.

## My Personal Welcome

Welcome to General Psychology—I'm delighted that you have chosen this course. One of my passions is to know as much as I can about human behavior, and I can hardly wait to pass that on. I will present the information in the most exciting way I know, so that you can grasp the concepts and apply them now and hopefully throughout your life. As you read and wrestle with new ideas and facts that may challenge you, I am available to support you. The fastest way to reach me is by my HCC email. The best way to really discuss issues is in person and I'm available during posted office hours to tackle any questions you might have. My goal is for you to walk out of the course with a better understanding of yourself and of human behavior. So please visit me or contact me whenever you have a question.

## Prerequisites and/or Co-Requisites

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 INRW 0420 or ESOL 0360 as a co-requisite). If you have enrolled in this course having satisfied these prerequisites, you have a higher chance of success than students who have not done so. Please carefully read and consider the repeater policy in the [HCCS Student Handbook](#).

## Eagle Online Canvas Learning Management System

This section of PSYC 2301 will use [Eagle Online Canvas](https://eagleonline.hccs.edu) (<https://eagleonline.hccs.edu>) to supplement in-class assignments, exams, and activities. HCCS Open Lab locations may be used to access the Internet or Eagle Online Canvas. It is recommended that you use Firefox or Chrome as your browser.

HCCS Open Lab locations may be used to access the Internet and Eagle Online Canvas. It is recommended that you **USE FIREFOX OR CHROME AS YOUR BROWSER**.

## HCC Online Information and Policies

Although this is an in-person class, I encourage you to visit the HCC Online information pages. They contain a great deal of useful information about using Canvas. Here is the link to HCC Online: <http://www.hccs.edu/online/>.

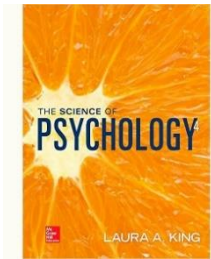
## Scoring Rubrics, Assignment Instructions, etc.

Look in Eagle Online Canvas for the scoring rubrics for assignments, assignment instructions, exam instructions, and other information to assist you in the course.

<https://eagleonline.hccs.edu/login/ldap>

## Instructional Materials

### Textbook Information



The textbook listed below is **required** for this course. ***The Science of Psychology*** (4<sup>th</sup> edition) by Laura King (McGraw-Hill). ISBN: 9781260198805.

It is included in a package that contains the text as well as an access code that may be purchased at the [HCC Bookstore](#). You may either use a print copy of the book or rent the e-book from the publisher. Order your book here: [HCC Bookstore](#)

### Temporary Free Access to E-Book

Here is the link to get temporary free access to a digital version of the text for a limited period of time: [McGraw-Hill Connect](#). Instructions for registering for Connect/LearnSmart are posted in Eagle Online-Canvas.

### Other Instructional Resources

#### Tutoring

HCC provides free, confidential, and convenient academic support, including writing critiques, to HCC students in an online environment and on campus. Tutoring is provided by HCC personnel in order to ensure that it is contextual and appropriate. Visit the [HCC Tutoring Services](#) website for services provided.

#### Libraries

The HCC Library System consists of 9 libraries and 6 Electronic Resource Centers (ERCs) that are inviting places to study and collaborate on projects. Librarians are available both at the libraries and online to show you how to locate and use the resources you need. The libraries maintain a large selection of electronic resources as well as collections of books, magazines, newspapers, and audiovisual materials. The portal to all libraries' resources and services is the HCCS library web page at <http://library.hccs.edu>.

#### Supplementary Instruction

Supplemental Instruction is an academic enrichment and support program that uses peer-assisted study sessions to improve student retention and success in historically difficult courses. Peer support is provided by students who have already succeeded in completion of the specified course, and who earned a grade of A or B. Find details at <http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/supplemental-instruction/>.

## Course Overview

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, and personality.

## Core Curriculum Objectives (CCOs)

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

- **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.
- **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.

## Program Student Learning Outcomes (PSLOs)

Can be found at:

<http://www.hccs.edu/programs/areas-of-study/social--behavioral-sciences/psychology/>

## Course Student Learning Outcomes (CSLOs)

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

- Demonstrate knowledge in multiple (8) areas of psychology, including concepts, facts, and theoretical perspectives.
- Define and identify the basic research and evaluation methods used in psychology, including the strengths and weaknesses of each method.
- Demonstrate knowledge of and identify concepts related to personal development and the development and behavior of others.
- 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.

## Learning Objectives

Learning Objectives for each CSLO can be found at [Learning Objectives for PSYC 2301](#)

## Student Success

Expect to spend at least twice as many hours per week outside of class as you do in class studying the course content. Additional time will be required for written assignments. The assignments provided will help you use your study hours wisely. Successful completion of this course requires a combination of the following:

- Reading the textbook
- Attending class in person and/or online
- Completing assignments
- Participating in class activities

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.

## **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 learner-centered instructional techniques
- Provide a description of any special projects or assignments
- Inform students of policies such as attendance, withdrawal, tardiness, and make ups
- 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

As a student, it is your responsibility to:

- Attend class in person and/or online
- Participate actively by reviewing course material, interacting with classmates, and responding promptly in your communication with me
- 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](#)

## **Assignments, Exams, and Activities**

Please carefully review all the information in this section and don't hesitate to ask questions if anything is unclear to you. Be assured that I have thoughtfully designed all the assignments, exams, and activities in this course to enable you to learn the material and to be successful. By providing due dates, I am helping you stay on track and accomplish your goal of getting the best grade you can in this course.

### **Written Assignment**

The written assignment in this course will contain two parts. The written part will require a group of two to write and skit about a therapist and a patient (with a specific psychological disorder, impairment or disability). The group will perform the skit in class at the end of the semester. The written assignment will be worth 20% of your grade in this course.

### **Directions for Written Assignment and Skit:**

1. Choose a partner. You may only work in groups of two.
2. You and your partner will decide who will play the therapist and patient in the skit.
3. Choose a psychological disorder or disability that will be diagnosed during the therapy session or that is in the process of being treated.
4. Choose the type of therapy or therapies the therapist will be using during the session.
5. You need to have your disorder and your method of treatment (type of therapy) improved by the instructor.
6. You and your partner will need educate yourselves about the psychological disorder/disability chosen and they type of therapy applied. Knowledge of the disorder will need to be incorporated into the skit as to educate the audience. Please refer to the DSM-V first for complete clarification of your disorder.
7. Write a skit about a patient going in to see a therapist for your specific psychological disorder/disability and the therapist using a specific type of therapy or therapies to treat the disorder.
8. The skit will need to be written with plot (storyline), characters and each line the therapist and patient will say in the skit. Other information may be incorporated into the skit if necessary. Example: Dr. Smith: Good Afternoon. My name is Dr. Smith. What has brought you in today? Allison: I have been having some issues in my life and my husband encouraged me to come and see you today, so that I might find a solution and understand what is going on.
9. The written skit must be typed. Each group must turn in at least one copy of their skit. The performed skit must last for a minimum of five minutes. You will be assigned the day the skit will be performed in class. Failure to be present the required day your skit is scheduled will result in a loss of 25 points to that individual.
10. The written skit and the performed skit must mirror one another. Grading will consist of; knowledge of psychological disorder/disability and type of therapy applied, minimum 5-minute performance, written skit, ability to educate audience with a detailed plot and storyline.
  - This assignment is worth 20% of your grade.

### **Exams**

There are **four major exams** given in class in this course. Each exam will have **50 multiple-choice questions**. Each question will be worth 2 points for a total of 100 points. **The lowest exam grade will be dropped**. Each exam will be worth 20% of your grade for a total of 60% of your grade for the three highest exam scores. You will need a green scantron form for each exam. HCC does not provide students with Scantron forms. They are sold in campus bookstore.

***Student must be prepared to take the exams on time- I do not generally allow make-up exams.***

## In-Class Activities

## Other Assignments and Activities

See syllabus template instructions for details regarding departmental requirements. Enter assignments and activities that do not fit the other categories, including any required digital workbook assignments. Be sure that your other assignments and activities conform to department requirements.

## Practice Final Exam

To help students prepare for and gauge their readiness for the final exam, a practice final exam will be given in two class periods. The number of questions and testing conditions mimic the actual final exam.

- Contains 100 multiple-choice questions
- Time limit: 60 minutes for Part One and 60 minutes for Part Two
- No grade will be given for taking the final exam. Extra Credit will be given for those students who take the exam based on the score for Part One and Part Two.

## Comprehensive Departmental Final Exam

All students will be required to take a comprehensive departmental final exam consisting of 100 multiple-choice questions. All the information students need to prepare for the exam is in the <https://learning.hccs.edu/programs/psychology/psyc-2301-departmental-final-exam-preparation-resources>. The exam will be administered in class on the date shown in the Course Calendar. Students must provide their own Scantron forms (FORM NUMBER 882-E-LOVAS). The final exam ***may not be taken early under any circumstances.***

**Students must correctly answer at least 50 of the 100 questions on the final exam (50%) to pass the course.**

Students who are absent from the final exam must discuss their absence with the instructor in advance or within 24 hours afterward. A grade of zero will be given unless documented proof for missing the exam can be provided.

## Grading Formula

Grades will not be curved in this course. You will have a few opportunities for extra credit given by your instructor. Please do not ask for extra credit. At the end of the semester, all five grades will be averaged. All grades are worth 20% of your final grade.

Written Assignment(s)	20%
Exams	60%
In-Class Activities	NA
Other Assignments and Activities	NA
Practice Final Exam	Extra Credit
Comprehensive Departmental Final Exam	20%
Total	100%
Maximum Extra Credit	To be discussed

Grade	Total Points
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	59- below

HCC Grading Scale can be found on this site under Academic Information:  
<http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/student-handbook/>

## Course Calendar

Regular Term		
Week	Dates	Topic/What's due
1	T- 8/28 TR- 8/30	Syllabus Review Chapter One: What is Psychology?
2	T- 9/4 TR- 9/6	Chapter Two: Research Methods Chapter Three: Biological Foundations of Behavior
3	T- 9/11 TR- 9/13	Chapter Three: Biological Foundations of Behavior <b>Exam One (50 Questions Multiple Choice) over Chapters One, Two and Three</b>
4	T-9/18 TR- 9/20	Chapter Six: Learning Chapter Six: Learning
5	T-9/25 TR- 9/27	Chapter Seven: Memory Chapter Seven: Memory
6	T- 10/2 TR- 10/4	Chapter Seven: Memory <b>Exam Two (50 Questions Multiple Choice) over Chapters Six and Seven</b>
7	T- 10/9 TR- 10/11	Chapter Nine: Human Development Chapter Nine: Human Development
8	T- 10/16 TR- 10/18	Chapter Nine: Human Development Chapter Twelve: Personality
9	T- 10/23 TR- 10/25	Chapter Twelve: Personality <b>Exam Three (50 Questions Multiple Choice) over Chapters Nine and Twelve</b>
10	T- 10/30 TR- 11/1	Chapter Seventeen: Health Psychology Chapter Fifteen: Psychological Disorders <b>NOVEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>- LAST DAY TO DROP COURSE</b>
11	T-11/6	Chapter Sixteen: Therapies



	TR- 11/8	Psychological Disorder Skits
12	T- 11/13 TR- 11/15	<b>Psychological Disorders Skits</b> <b>Psychological Disorders Skits</b>
13	T- 11/20 TR- 11/22	<b>Psychological Disorders Skits</b> <b>Thanksgiving Holiday- No Class!!!</b>
14	T- 11/29 TR- 11/29	<b>Exam Four (50 Questions Multiple Choice) over Chapters Fifteen, Sixteen and Seventeen</b> Final Exam Practice Exam – Part One
15	T- 12/4 TR- 12/6	Final Exam Practice Exam- Part Two Final Exam Review
16	T- 12/11	<b>FINAL EXAM from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.</b>

### Syllabus and Calendar Modifications

The instructor reserves the right to modify the syllabus and/or course calendar at any time during the semester and will promptly notify students in writing, typically by e-mail, of any such changes.

## Instructor's Practices and Procedures

### Missed Assignments

Please note that I do not generally accept late work or offer make-up exams. However, there may be an exception made which is determined on a case-by-case basis. If you miss a major assignment, talk to me about your unique situation -but be aware that exceptions to this are rare and require very drastic circumstances or emergencies. If a make-up exam is offered, please note this is not a "retake". A make-up exam only applies to those who missed an exam.

### Academic Integrity

Students are responsible for conducting themselves with honor and integrity in fulfilling course requirements. Penalties and/or disciplinary proceedings may be initiated by college district officials against a student accused of scholastic dishonesty. "Scholastic Dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism and collusion. Any instance of scholastic dishonesty may be reported to the Maxiant system. Possible punishments for scholastic dishonesty include a grade of "0" or "F" on the assignment, failure in the course, and/or recommendation for probation or dismissal from the college district. A recommendation for suspension or expulsion will be referred to the college Dean of Students for disciplinary disposition. Students have the right to appeal the decision.

If it is determined that a student has committed an academic integrity offense, I will attempt to communicate with the student to determine the best course of action for that situation.

Here's the link to the HCC information about academic integrity (Scholastic Dishonesty and Violation of Academic Scholastic Dishonesty and Grievance):

<http://www.hccs.edu/about-hcc/procedures/student-rights-policies--procedures/student-procedures/>

## Attendance Policy

You are expected to attend all lecture classes regularly. You are also responsible for materials covered during your absences. Class attendance is monitored daily. Although it is your responsibility to drop a course for nonattendance, the instructor has the authority to drop you for excessive absences. You may be dropped from a course after accumulating absences more than 12.5 percent of the total hours of instruction (lecture and lab). For example:

- For a 3 credit-hour lecture class meeting 3 hour per week (48 hours of instruction), you can be dropped after 6 hours of absence.

Departments and programs governed by accreditation or certification standards may have different attendance policies. Administrative drops are at the discretion of the instructor. Failure to **withdraw officially can result in a grade of “F” in the course.**

## Student Conduct

Houston Community College views college-level students as adults who subscribe to a basic standard of conduct, which requires that they not violate any municipal, state or federal laws. Furthermore, no student may disrupt or otherwise interfere with any educational activity or fellow students' right to pursue academic goals to the fullest in an atmosphere appropriate to a community of scholars. Any student failing to abide by appropriate standards of conduct during scheduled college activities may result in disciplinary action. Students suspected of violating the student code of conduct will be subject to the disciplinary process. Students have the right to due process. For detailed information regarding violations of the student code of conduct and the disciplinary and appeal process, visit [www.hccs.edu](http://www.hccs.edu).

## Instructor's Course-Specific Information

There will be a total of five grades that make up your final grade in the course. Exams will be graded and the grades will be posted on Canvas. The written assignment and final exam grade will also be posted on Canvas.

## Electronic Devices

**Out of respect for your fellow students, your professor, and the educational process, all technology devices (cell / smart phones, I-pods, Laptops) must be powered down and put away, not on the desk or in your pocket, or on your lap, during class. Also, please do not take pictures of anything on the board during class. If texting, using social media, and attending to tasks other than the class material is more important than paying attention for 70 minutes, please do not come to class. If you feel you have an emergency that requires your phone to be on vibrate, please clear this with the me before class begins. Students who disregard the policy will be asked to leave class and will be considered absent that day. I will not play games with this policy.**

## Psychology Program Information

### Majoring in Psychology

Visit the [Psychology Program Pages](#) on the Learning Web for information about our faculty and courses. You will also find information about majoring in psychology.

### 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.

### HCC Foundation: 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.

## HCC Policies

Here's the link to the HCC Student Handbook <http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/student-handbook/> In it you will find information about the following:

Academic Information	Incomplete Grades
Academic Support	International Student Services
Attendance, Repeating Courses, and Withdrawal	Health Awareness
Career Planning and Job Search	Libraries/Bookstore

Childcare	Police Services & Campus Safety
Disability Support Services	Student Life at HCC
Electronic Devices	Student Rights and Responsibilities
Equal Educational Opportunity	Student Services
Financial Aid TV (FATV)	Testing
General Student Complaints	Transfer Planning
Grade of FX	Veteran Services

### **EGLS<sup>3</sup>**

The EGLS<sup>3</sup> ([Evaluation for Greater Learning Student Survey System](#)) will be available for most courses near the end of the term until finals start. This brief survey will give invaluable information to your faculty about their teaching. Results are anonymous and will be available to faculty and division chairs after the end of the term. EGLS<sup>3</sup> surveys are only available for the Fall and Spring semesters. -EGLS3 surveys are not offered during the Summer semester due to logistical constraints.

<http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/egls3-evaluate-your-professors/>

### **Campus Carry Link**

Here's the link to the HCC information about Campus Carry:

<http://www.hccs.edu/departments/police/campus-carry/>

### **HCC Email Policy**

When communicating via email, HCC requires students to communicate only through the HCC email system to protect your privacy. If you have not activated your HCC student email account, you can go [to HCC Eagle ID and activate it now](#). You may also use Canvas Inbox to communicate.

### **Housing and Food Assistance for Students**

Any student who faces challenges securing their foods or housing and believes this may affect their performance in the course is urged to contact the Dean of Students at their college for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so.

This will enable HCC to provide any resources that HCC may possess.

## **Office of Institutional Equity**

Use the link below to access the HCC Office of Institutional Equity, Inclusion, and Engagement (<http://www.hccs.edu/departments/institutional-equity/>)

### **Disability Services**

HCC strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please meet with a campus Abilities Counselor as soon as possible to establish reasonable accommodations. Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process between you, your instructor(s) and Ability Services. It is the policy and practice of HCC to create inclusive and accessible learning environments consistent with federal and state law. For more information, please go to <http://www.hccs.edu/support-services/disability-services/>

## **Title IX**

Houston Community College is committed to cultivating an environment free from inappropriate conduct of a sexual or gender-based nature including sex discrimination, sexual assault, sexual harassment, and sexual violence. Sex discrimination includes all forms of sexual and gender-based misconduct and violates an individual's fundamental rights and personal dignity. Title IX prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex-including pregnancy and parental status in educational programs and activities. If you require an accommodation due to pregnancy please contact an Abilities Services Counselor. The Director of EEO/Compliance is designated as the Title IX Coordinator and Section 504 Coordinator. All inquiries concerning HCC policies, compliance with applicable laws, statutes, and regulations (such as Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504), and complaints may be directed to:

David Cross  
Director EEO/Compliance  
Office of Institutional Equity & Diversity  
3100 Main  
(713) 718-8271  
Houston, TX 77266-7517 or [Institutional.Equity@hccs.edu](mailto:Institutional.Equity@hccs.edu)  
<http://www.hccs.edu/departments/institutional-equity/title-ix-know-your-rights/>

## **Department Chair Contact Information**

Dr. Karen Saenz  
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713-718-7034