Hill College
112 Lamar Drive
Hillsboro, Texas 76645

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Prefix and Number  |  Course Title
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PSYC 2301                | General Psychology

Instructor:

Contact:

Catalog Description:

PSYC 2301
General Psychology is a survey of the major psychological topics, theories and approaches to the scientific study of behavior and mental processes.

Lecture Hours: 3  Lab Hours: 0  Semester Hours: 3

Introduction and Purpose:

The purpose of this course is to develop student awareness of the field of psychology by examining theory and research. The course is a descriptive survey of the field of psychology. Topics include: theory and research development, biology/behavior, sensation/perception, consciousness, learning, memory, cognition/language/intelligence, human development, motivation/emotion, health/stress, personality, psychological disorders/therapies, and social psychology.

The course can be used to fulfill core requirements for graduation and/or transfer to senior institutions.

Instructional Materials:


Objectives/Student Learning Outcomes:

At the completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Identify various research methods and their characteristics used in the scientific study of psychology.
2. Describe the historical influences and early schools of thought that shaped the field of psychology.
3. Describe some of the prominent perspectives and approaches used in the study of psychology.
4. Use terminology unique to the study of psychology.
5. Describe accepted approaches and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation.
6. Identify factors in physiological and psychological processes involved in human behavior.

Method of Instruction:

This course will be taught face-to-face and by various distance learning delivery methods.

Audio-visual materials and computer-based technology will be used when appropriate. Students will be shown how to use a calculator where appropriate.

Methods of Evaluation:

Grades in this course will be based on the following evaluative criteria:

The average of the course curriculum will make up 75% of the students’ grades. The final exam will make up 25% of the students’ grades.

Exams containing objective and subjective questions – 25%
Assignments – 25%
Research Paper – 25%
Final Exam – 25%

Letter grades for the course will be based on the following percentages:

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

Course Outline:

Course Policies:

1. Regular and punctual attendance is expected and required unless in an online format.
2. Disruptions in class will not be tolerated.
3. No plagiarism, cheating, or collusion.

Topic Outline

I. BIOLOGY, PERCEPTION AND STATE OF CONSCIOUSNESS

1. Schools of Thought
2. Descriptive Research Methods
3. Experimental Method
4. Ethics
5. Neurons and Neurotransmitters
6. Human Nervous System
7. Age and Gender Differences
8. The Endocrine System
9. Genes and Behavioral Genetics
10. Process of Sensation and Perception
11. Vision/Hearing/Smell & Taste
12. The Skin Senses
13. Balance and Movement
14. Principles of Perception
15. Unusual Perceptual Experiences
16. Consciousness and Circadian Rhythms
17. Sleep/Dreams
18. Meditation and Hypnosis
19. Psychoactive Drugs

II. LEARNING/MEMORY, COGNITION/LANGUAGE/INTELLIGENCE AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

1. Classical/Operant Conditioning
2. Cognitive Learning
3. Biology and Memory
4. Nature of Remembering
5. Forgetting
6. Cognition/Language/Intelligence
7. Theories of Human Development
8. Prenatal Development
9. Early and Middle Childhood
10. Adolescence
11. Early and Middle Adulthood
12. Later Adulthood
13. Death and Dying

III. MOTIVATION/EMOTION, HEALTH/STRESS, PSYCHOLOGICAL DISORDERS AND SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

1. Hunger/Emotion and Sexual Motivation
2. Sources of and Responding to Stress
3. Health and Illness
4. Theories and Therapies of Psychology
5. Defining Psychological Disorders
6. Anxiety and Mood Disorders
7. Schizophrenia
8. Social Perception
9. Attraction
10. Conformity, Obedience and Compliance
11. Group Influence
12. Attitudes and Attitude Change
13. Prosaically Behavior
14. Aggression
Disabilities/ADA

In accordance with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the regulations published by the United States Department of Justice 28 C.F.R. 35.107(a), Hill College’s designated ADA coordinator, Melanie Betz, Director of Academic Advising & Student Success, shall be responsible for coordinating the College’s efforts to comply with and carry out its responsibilities under ADA. Students with disabilities requiring physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact the Director of Academic Advising & Student Success, Melanie Betz, at (254) 659-7651.