

However, probably the only time I will be at that office will be immediately before and after class. Consequently, due to time constraints my main office is “off campus” at my private practice. This means that if you wish to meet with me personally, you will need to check with me after class or set up an appointment. Consequently, you may call me at my office, or at home IF it is for EMERGENCIES ONLY—Missed class is **NOT** considered emergencies).

## COURSE SYLLABUS

### PURPOSE OF COURSE

This introductory course is a social science general education option, which means that it is one of several courses that satisfy the requirement of one of two courses taken in the social area. It will transfer to any post-secondary institution in the state of Utah as social science credit and serves as the prerequisite course for other courses in psychology core programs.

### PRE-REQUISITES

While this is an introductory or General Ed course and Dixie State College has not designated a prerequisite, those who do best in this course seem to have an “expanded” vocabulary of the English language, or are actively working on gaining such., i.e. own or have immediate access to a dictionary, thesaurus, etc. Students are expected to acquire the knowledge and/or meaning of words they do not yet fully understand.

### SOCIAL SCIENCE PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

As an outcome of taking courses in the Social Science program, students shall:

1. Demonstrate an ability to examine human behaviors as a way of understanding the human condition.
2. Demonstrate an ability to identify the ideas, people and events that are generally thought to be important.
3. Develop points of view based on social scientific knowledge.
4. Exhibit elements of critical thinking and scientific methodology in examining human behavior.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of the academic semester, a student earning a transferable grade in general psychology will have met the minimum criteria of performance by:

- a. Completion of ALL chapter examinations with an overall cumulative average score of 55 % or higher, not counting extra credit points.
- b. Completion of at least ONE research document which is written using APA format guidelines. (This requirement may be pre-empted and other written work substituted).
- c. Accumulation of total points from examinations, quizzes, and research which equals or surpasses fifty percent (grade of “D-” of the total points possible for the quarter).

## SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

A student who completes the general psychology course shall be provided with a learning environment which should prepare them to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the human being and its development, an awareness of psychological terminology and a general informational base in this subject area, as measured by observation of presented oral and written communications during the course.
2. Demonstrate a recognition of major theorists in the field of psychology as measured by proper identification of the contributor and an explanation of the contribution made by them. This recognition should reflect the importance of theorist's ideas and events which are generally thought to be important.
3. Exhibit the elements of critical thinking and scientific methodology in examining human behavior. This will be measured by participation of student behavior, which demonstrates an awareness of critical thinking procedures, within the classroom, and by evaluation of written and oral statements
4. Demonstrate a position of acceptance and/or reservation concerning the field of psychology and the scientific and practical contributions it offers in the explanation of human behavior. This will reflect the student's view of the knowledge of psychological, social, economic, and/or political theory in either oral or written expression of these ideas.
5. Present a level of competence which will allow the graduating general psychology student to meet the entry requirements for other psychology courses which require general psychology as a prerequisite.

## NOTICE

The study of human behavior invites subject areas which may be controversial and perhaps even antagonistic to your personal value system. It will be the responsibility of the instructor to present such areas with objectivity, dignity, and respect, yet without avoiding the controversial nature of the issues at hand. It is recognized that the instructor will present biases and perceptions despite attempts to be objective. The student of psychology must recognize this and formulate opinions which would exercise critical thinking. It is the responsibility of the student to recognize divergency of thought as a healthy condition of inquiry and to accept different perceptions as reality.

***It is possible that the study of human sexuality, abnormal behavior, deviancy, and theories of human behavior are incompatible to your personal lifestyle, and a potential cause of feelings of intimidation and/or discomfort. You are encouraged to meet with the course instructor, in private, discuss such trepidations and possible solutions. Or you may elect to withdraw from the course, whichever is more suitable.*** On the other hand, this instructor hopes that students will see the possibility of, or a viable opportunity which is not typically offered to the beginning student. Because the instructor currently is in the active practice of psychotherapy, it is hoped that students will find the practical application of the concepts presented in the class to be intriguing and hopefully stimulating.

## TEXT

Psychology, Themes & Variations Sixth Edition, by Weiten, Wayne G., 2005, Thomson Wadsworth Publishers.

## LECTURES

Lectures will parallel each chapter as indicated in the reading schedule. An attempt will be made to provide the basic concepts within each unit of reading along with relevant current literature on the subject. To maximize your learning efforts, the present instructor feels that it is absolutely necessary for you to have read the chapter prior to its presentation in class.

It is assumed that you have achieved a reading level which allows you to comprehend the chapters in this textbook. The instructor may not follow the textbook, page by page, but will expect you to have thoroughly read each page in your preparation. You are encouraged to ask questions, should your understanding of the

information not seem adequate.

### COURSE FORMAT, DAY TO DAY

The learning sequence for each chapter will be as follows:

- preparation assessment: (quiz, survey, and/or spot check with students)
- classroom demonstration on one or more important aspects from the chapter - (opportunity for extra credit)
- explanatory lecture and discussion, theoretical issues
- practical application of theoretical concepts
- examination of chapter(s) by multiple choice questions

### OUTSIDE REPORTS

At the discretion of the instructor, he may require a scientific report as one of the requirements for this course. you will complete library research which will reflect your ability to locate, read, abstract, compose and critique a research subject in psychology. This paper is more specifically identified as a "***position paper***" which differs from a research paper in that you are allowed to choose a position, for or against the subject you have chosen, and present information to support your position. this instructor will suggest sources for research topics on the first day of class. the paper is to be written in APA format (instructor will provide a hand out of instructions the second week of class), with three references minimum. This report will be due on the 12<sup>th</sup> Monday of the semester. The paper will be graded with the following criteria:

Pass with Honors	20 bonus pts.	90% or higher	Honors	10 bonus pts.	80% or higher
Pass	5 bonus pts.	65% or higher	Fail	-10 pts.	65% or lower*

(may be resubmitted for "pass" credit only)

\*Papers receiving a grade of 65% or lower may be resubmitted, but will not be graded higher than 80%, however, they will receive 10 bonus points for effort.

Note then that reports will contribute to total points for the semester. Reports not received or are graded "fail" and not resubmitted, will result in a 10 point deduction from the accumulated points for the semester. In the event that the instructor elects NOT to require a research report, a series of exercises will be given to provide the student with an opportunity to examine the skills necessary to do written research in psychology.

### ATTENDANCE

Attendance in this class will be consistent with policies established by the Instructional Services Council. At the present time, some form of roll call is mandatory. The instructor shall provide a class roll on the bulletin board in front of the classroom. It will be the student's responsibility to check the days present. Attendance shall not be used to determine the final grade, except as listed below. This policy should not be misconstrued to suggest that attendance is not of significant importance. The instructor shall call for quizzes, worth 10 points each, during the term. These quizzes CANNOT be made up. Should you not be in attendance on those days, you can expect to suffer the loss of points. Quizzes will normally be given on the first or second day of the introduction or a new chapter. However, the Instructor reserves the right to present quizzes at his own discretion and freely admits that he has a habit of giving quizzes at the beginning of class, especially when students may show a tendency to be tardy, or on days of excessive absenteeism. This is implemented as an effort to reward those who chose to be on time and regularly attend.

**NOTE:** **Attendance at the final examination time is mandatory. Failure to complete the final on the date and time indicated below under READING SCHEDULE will result in the loss of the final examination points and a penalty of 100 points beyond that. Exceptions to this case may be heard by the instructor, after the student submits a letter directed to the Department Chairperson requesting taking the Final Exam at a different time.**

## GRADING

Your final grade will be realized by the accumulation of points totaled from all quizzes, outside reports, extra credit assignments, and scores on weekly chapter examinations. The highest number of points amassed by a particular student for the semester will be the “criteria of mastery” shown below. In the event that no student performs at or above the 90% level of mastery, the present instructor will inform you of the grading procedure to be used in determining your grade. Your personal grade can be determined at any time during the semester by following this simple formula: Highest score in class / your score + percentage

You will need to know this information in order to compute your grade standing at any time during the semester. Via an average percentage, an estimated grade could be determined by using the following “averaged” criteria:

90-100 = A	82-85 = B+	70-73 = C+	58-61 = D+	BELOW 50% = F
86-89 = A-	78-81 = B	66-69 = C	55-57 = D	
	74-77 = B-	62-65 = C-	50-54 = D-	

## EXAMINATIONS

Examinations will be given on each chapter or series of chapters shown in the READING SCHEDULE below. The examinations will be multiple-choice and will be weighed as follows:

Take-Home Exams	1 point per question
Testing Center Exams	1 point per question
In- Class Exams	2 points per question
Final Exam	2/3 points per question, as per Instructor’s discretion and announced in advance.

**NOTE: All examinations unless otherwise informed, will be administered thru the testing center located in the Browning Building, second floor. There will be some take-home exams. The Final Exam will be an in class exam and attendance is mandatory.** Failure to attend the Final Exam will result in the instructor deducting 100 points from the points you have accumulated prior to the exam. In essence, this could be a penalty of up to 200 points.

***Make-up Examinations:*** Great effort will be made to assess the student’s progress in this course in an objective way. Make-up examinations will rarely be provided due to the fact that it negates the assessment objectively and fairness to students in attendance, and because it places an inappropriate workload on the instructor. If a make up examination is provided, it will be based on highly unusual circumstances over which the student has absolutely no voluntary control. By nature “make-up” exams tend to be more difficult than the regular exam. In instances wherein the student must miss an examination due to college sanctioned activities or approved absence as determined by the instructor, the examination should be completed before THE NEXT SCHEDULED EXAMINATION. No student shall apply for more than one late examination without a written statement to the instructor explaining the circumstances of the continued exception to the examination rule. Such examinations will be given at the testing center. Makeup examinations cannot be made up during class periods.

## EXTRA CREDIT

This instructor reluctantly admits that he has not discovered an equitable and fair procedure for allowing extra credit work. In the past, he has given credit for completing outlines and vocabulary lists for each chapter. But alas, this is not an extra credit function. The responsible student who wishes to earn a grade will normally do this anyway. So, the present instructor will compromise with the following:

1. You may elect to complete a position paper which will be based on three references and will be written using the APA format. You could earn up to 30 points which would be added to your total accumulated score for the semester. These will be reported as bonus points on posted grade printouts.
2. Bonus points may be earned for attendance at special, pre-announced lectures. You will be awarded 5

points per hour of participation.

3. It is possible that the instructor will make some situations available during the length of the term. Such as:

**EXTRA CREDIT (Continued)**

- a. involvement in “Red Ribbon Week,” “Health Fair,” or “Career Day.”
- b. volunteer presentation of psychology concepts “in class.” This may be individually presented or produced by a small group of students working together.
- c. assistance in scoring, recording, and reporting results of the drug and alcohol surveys. (Spring Only)
- d. by invitation, possible involvement in some aspect of the instructors private psychotherapy practice.
- e. If enough students show interest, attendance and participation at an all-day (Saturday) experiential “ROPES” course. This will require an additional fee, (\$30.00 plus signing a liability waiver. Participants will be expected to bring their own lunch for the day. This will an experience you will never forget.
- f. the instructor will provide a list of selected movies which can be viewed, and a 11/2 page,(minimum), type written, (double spaced) review can be turned in for 5 points each— the review must focus’ specifically on the subject provided on the list by the instructor.

Regardless of the origin of points, the maximum number of points possible for extra credit (bonus points) **shall not exceed 30**. All extra credit must be turned in no later than the last Tuesday **prior** to the Final Exam.

## READING AND EXAMINATION SCHEDULE PSYCHOLOGY 1010-05 Fall 2006

WEEK	DATES	CHAPTER	NAMES OF MODULES	ACTIVITY
1	Aug 22 & 24	Appendix B	Introduction & Overview	
2	Aug 29 & 31	1-2	The Evolution of Psychology	Statistical Methods (Also discussed in Chap 2)
3	Sept 5 & 7	2	Research in Psychology	50 Point Take Home Exam on Chap. 1 & 2
4	Sept 12 & 14	3	Biological Basis of Behavior	25 Point In-Class Test on Chap 3
5	Sept 19 & 21	10	Human Development	40 Point Testing Center Exam
6	Sept 26 & 28	5	Variations of Consciousness	50 Point Testing Center Exam <i>Extra Credit-Ask</i>
7	Oct 3 & 5	6	Learning	<i>Extra Credit Possibilities</i>
8	Oct 10	6	Learning (Continued)	100 Point Take Home Exam (Mid-Term Test)
9	Oct 17 & 19	7	Human Memory	40 Point Testing Center Test.
10	Oct 24 & 26	8	Cognition & Intelligence	20 Point In Class Quiz
11	Oct 31/Nov 2	9	Motivation & Emotion	40 Point Testing Center Exam
12	Nov 7 & 9	11	Personality-Theory-Research	<i>Extra Credit + 35 Point Take Home Assignment</i>
13	Nov 14 & 16	11	Personality-Theory-Research	50 Point Testing Center Exam + <i>Extra Credit?</i>
14	Nov 22	13	Psychological DX & TX	20 Point In Class Quiz
15	Nov 28 & 30	14	Psychological DX & TX	75 Point Exam + <i>Extra Credit?</i>
16	Dec 5 & 7	15	Social Behavior	25 Point Exam + Dist. Final Exam Prep. Sheet

17	Date TBD	Final Exam	TBD	100 Questions - @ 2 Points per = 200 Point
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**NOTE:** Any student who accumulates a 90% avg of the points possible prior to the Final Exam.....**Not counting any Extra Credit Points**, will be considered “Exempt” from the final Exam and will receive an automatic “A” Final Grade.

## Regular Semester Dates

April 17 - Registration begins for Fall

Aug 22 - Classwork begins

Aug 24 - Last day to add classes w/o instructor permit

Sep 4 - Labor Day Holiday

Sep 5 - \$50 late registration/payment fee. DSC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO DROP CLASSES FOR NON-PAYMENT OF THE BALANCE DUE AFTER THIS DATE.

Sep 18 - Last day for refund of tuition & fees. NO REFUND AFTER 5:00 PM ON THIS DATE AND DROPPED CLASSES WILL BE ASSIGNED A "W" GRADE ON TRANSCRIPTS"

Sep 20 - Last day to ADD classes

Sep 27 - Last day to DROP classes

Oct 2 - Block Courses Begin

Oct 12,13 - Semester Break

Nov 14 - Career Day

Nov 17 - Last day for Complete Withdrawal

Nov 22-24 - Thanksgiving Break

Dec 8 - Last day of Classes

Dec 11-15 - Final Exams

## **TUTORING**

Students who find the material difficult to the point of needing extra assistance may contact the Tutoring Center located in the North Instructional Building (NIB).

## **SPECIAL NOTICE**

**If you are a student with a physical or mental impairment and would like to request accommodations, please contact the Disability Resource Center (652-7516) in Room 201of the Student Services Center. The Disability Resource Center will determine your eligibility for services based upon complete professional documentation. If you are deemed eligible, the Disability Resource Center will further evaluate the effectiveness of your accommodation requests and will authorize reasonable accommodations that are appropriate for your disability.**