Course Description
This course is an introduction to the field of psychology. It includes the history, scientific methodology, major theoretical schools of thought, various approaches to interpersonal functioning and human development. The course examines the ways in which age, gender, ethnicity and race are integrated into the study of the discipline.

Instructor Information
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Academic Department Information
Academic Chair: Kimberly G. Jackson, Esq.
Phone: 727-398-8286
Office Location: MT JC 307

Meeting Information
Start & End Dates: Aug 13, 2018 – Dec 7, 2018
Days & Times: We 7:00PM-9:40PM
Class Location: DT-DC125

Course Objectives
At the end of the course the student will demonstrate each of the course goals in the following performance terms.

1. Students will recall the historical roots in the science of psychology by identifying major theorists and theories from the late 1800’s to the present, including the eclecticism of contemporary psychology.

2. Students will examine research approaches used in psychology by: a. explaining the case study, naturalistic observation, survey, correlational, and experimental methods. b. differentiating the purpose, strengths, and weaknesses of case study, naturalistic observation, survey, correlational, and experimental methods used in psychological research. c. identifying ethical considerations in research.

3. Students will analyze the main pillars in psychology by: a. examining the biological approach applied to the science of psychology, such as two or more of the following topics; neuroscience, sensation, consciousness, and motivation. b. examining the cognitive approach as applied to the science of psychology, such as two or more of the following topics; cognition, memory, and perception. c. examining life span as applied to the science of psychology, such as two or more of the following topics; learning, development, and language. d. examining the effects of social and personality factors as applied to the science of psychology, such as two or more of the following topics; social, personality, intelligence, and emotion. e. examining mental and physical health as applied to the science of psychology, such as two or more of the following topics; mental illness, health, and therapies (both biological therapies and psychotherapies).

4. Students will identify cultural and social diversity as applied to human behavior, thought, and emotion by: a. recognizing commonalities and variations in human functioning. b. describing the impact of ethnicity, age, gender, sexuality, and/or socioeconomic status.

5. Students will demonstrate research, writing, use of APA style, and critical thinking skills by: a. utilizing credible sources, such as peer-reviewed academic journals, primary sources, or sources from academic databases. b. developing an APA formatted paper with use of in-text citations and references. c. applying thoroughness of thought to the academic writing process, including substantiating assertions and integrating higher-order thinking.

Required Textbook
Class Overview

This course will be taught using a variety of teaching methodologies including traditional lecture, in-class demonstrations & activities, student discussion/debates, audio-visual media, and online quizzes/exams & assignments. Access and login to MyCourses and email at least twice per week is required. Research will also be utilized in order to become familiar with scientific research studies.

Method of Final Grade Determination

- Homework, Class Assignments, & Quizzes: 25%
- Library Research Paper: 25%
- Midterm & Final Exams: 50%
- Total: 100%

Grading Policy

Grades are awarded on the numerical scale as follows:
- A: 90-100
- B: 80-89
- C: 70-79
- D: 60-69
- F: 0-59

Attendance, Participation, & Electronics Policies

Attendance: Students are expected to attend all classes on time. Attendance is extremely important to obtain the full value for your education and statistically have earned better grades than students who do not attend class. If there is an emergency, the student is responsible for contacting their professor as soon as possible. If a student has prior knowledge that they will be absent from a class, it is the responsibility of the student to notify and make arrangements with the professor to submit the required work early and obtain missed notes from a classmate. If you do not know your classmates, make friends now! Any student who has more than 2 absences, frequent tardies and/or dismissals may earn a lower grade or class failure.

Electronic Usage Policy: Please turn off your phone during class. If you need to have your phone on for emergency purposes, put it on vibrate and step into the hall to take a call or answer a text. If you use a laptop or tablet during class, only use it for class purposes. Do not surf the web, text, or use social media during class. Students who are on any electronic device (such as tablets, laptops, earphones, etc.) texting or otherwise not paying attention due to electronic “distractions” may result in the entire class losing electronic privileges. A warning may or may not be given.

Expected Participation: Students are expected to be alert and participating in class. This means that students should be listening to the instructor, writing notes, using electronics according to policy, asking course related questions, and sometimes adding to class lectures by sharing their knowledge and experiences related to lecture material. Stories should be related to class material and are shared with the class, not your neighbor! Students are required to actively participate by logging in to MyCourses at least twice a week to check email and keep up with lecture material and all assignments.

Make-up Policy

Students are responsible for all course requirements as well as submitting assignments on the date they are due regardless of absence. Many of the assignments for this class will be posted online in MyCourses. However, some may not and will require your attendance in class. If you are absent, please contact a fellow student to find out if you have missed a homework assignment. Please avoid emailing your instructor for missed work. On the first day, get the contact information for at least 2 fellow classmates.

All assignments with the exception of in-class assignments and the final exam can be made up on the following class meeting date. The total grade that can be earned is 80% of the total earned grade (in other words, a 20% reduction in the earned grade).

- Example A: A student passes in a homework assignment late and earns a “100” for the quality of work, but because it was late they earn 80% of the earned grade (100*.8= 80). The student’s late penalty is 20 points.
- Example B: A student passes in a paper late and earns a “70” for the quality of work, but because
it was late they earn 80% of the earned grade (70\times0.8= 56). The student’s late penalty is 14 points.

The final exam cannot be made up and will result in a grade of 0. Extenuating circumstances may apply in some extreme cases and are at the discretion of the instructor. There is no extra credit offered in this course. Please make sure you meet all course expectations as they happen.

Your instructor takes plagiarism and academic honesty very seriously. Students are responsible for knowing the class policy on plagiarism. To help you avoid plagiarism, here are some examples of “What NOT to do”:

**Serious plagiarism violations warranting a possible class failure and/or report to the Dean of Student Affairs:**
- Purchasing and submitting a paper from the internet
- Using an assignment that has already previously been submitted. (i.e. from another student, or from a previous class you’ve taken, even if it your own work)
- Copying from a source without using quotations (even if you change a few words)

**Moderate plagiarism violations warranting a possible assignment failure:**
- More than 25% of an assignment is in quotations and properly cited
- More than 50% of an assignment is not in your own words
- Copying from a source without using quotations and changing many words

**Minor plagiarism violations warranting a possible assignment failure and/or lower grade:**
- Using information from a source in your own words and not citing the source
- Improper citation of sources (i.e. wrong source, missing/untraceable citation information)

As reflected in SPC’s Honor Code, honesty and integrity are core values that should guide your conduct and decisions as members of the SPC community. Plagiarism and cheating contradict these values, and so are very serious academic offenses. Penalties can include a failing grade on an assignment or in the course, or expulsion from the college. You are expected to familiarize yourself with and follow the college’s Honor Code (see [http://www.spcollege.edu/webcentral/catalog/current/stu_affairs_honesty.htm](http://www.spcollege.edu/webcentral/catalog/current/stu_affairs_honesty.htm)).

This course is designed to be welcoming to, accessible to, and usable by everyone, including students who are English-language learners, have a variety of learning styles, have disabilities, or are new to online learning. Be sure to let your instructor know immediately if you encounter a required element or resource in the course that is not accessible to you. Also, let your instructor know of changes that can be made to the course so that it is more welcoming to, accessible to, or usable by students who take this course in the future. If you have documentation of a disability or feel you may have a disability, St. Petersburg College recognizes the importance of equal access to learning opportunities for all students. Accessibility Services (AS) is the name of the campus office that works with students who have disabilities to provide and/or arrange reasonable accommodations. Students registered with AS, who are requesting accommodations, are encouraged to contact their instructor by the first week of the semester. Students who have, or think they may have, a disability (e.g. learning disability, ADD/ADHD, psychiatric, medical/orthopedic, vision, and/or hearing), are invited to contact the Accessibility Coordinator (AC) that serves your campus for a confidential discussion. To find your AC for your specific campus, please go to the college-wide Accessibility Services website: [https://www.spcollege.edu/accessibility](https://www.spcollege.edu/accessibility) or ask your instructor for their contact information on the first day of class or as soon as possible to process your documentation in a timely manner.
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<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>15-Aug</td>
<td>Introductions; Course &amp; Syllabus Overview</td>
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| 2    | 22-Aug | DISCUSSION BOARD #1 DUE  
Chapter 1: Introduction to the Science of Psychology: Psychology Basics, Research Perspectives, Psychological Research, Statistics & Interpreting Results, Empirical & Review Research Articles |
| 3    | 29-Aug | TOPIC DUE: ONLINE DISCUSSION BOARD  
Chapter 2: Neuroscience and Behavior |
| 4    | 5-Sep | Quiz 1: Chapters 1 & 2 DUE BEFORE CLASS ONLINE  
Chapter 3: Sensation and Perception (partial lecture); Stress, Health & Coping |
| 5    | 12-Sep | Quiz 2: Chapters 3 & 4 DUE BEFORE CLASS ONLINE  
Chapter 3: Sensation and Perception (partial lecture)  
Chapter 4: Influences of Consciousness and Its Variations |
| 6    | 19-Sep | Quiz 3: Chapters 5 & 6 DUE ONLINE DATE TBA - NO LATE SUBMISSIONS ON THIS ONE  
ASSIGNMENT 1 DUE DATE TBA - Announced in this class  
Chapter 5: Learning; Stress, Health & Coping (cont?) |
| 7    | 26-Sep | Quiz 4: Chapters 7 & 8 DUE BEFORE CLASS ONLINE  
Chapter 6: Memory  
Chapter 7: Thinking, Language, and Intelligence  
Chapter 8: Motivation and Emotion |
| 8    | 3-Oct | MIDTERM EXAM: Chapters 1-6 DUE BEFORE CLASS ONLINE  
Chapter 9: Lifespan Development |
| 9    | 10-Oct | Quiz 5: Chapters 9, 10 & 11 DUE BEFORE CLASS ONLINE  
RESEARCH PAPERS DUE TO MYCOURSES DROPBOX  
Chapter 10: Personality |
| 10   | 17-Oct | FLEX DAY - CLASS TBA  
ASSIGNMENT 2 DUE DATE TBA - Announced in this class |
| 11   | 24-Oct | DISCUSSION BOARD #2 DUE  
Chapter 11: Social Psychology |
| 12   | 31-Oct | Quiz 6: Chapters 12, 13 & 14 DUE BEFORE CLASS ONLINE  
Chapter 12: Stress, Coping and Health |
| 13   | 7-Nov | NO CLASS - HAPPY THANKSGIVING! |
| 14   | 14-Nov | Chapter 13: Psychological Disorders |
| 15   | 21-Nov | FINAL EXAM Chapters 1-13 IN CLASS |
ST. PETERSBURG COLLEGE  
General Psychology  
Library Research Paper Directions

For this assignment, you will be writing about a psychological disorder or condition in a piece of popular media (movie, novel, poem, song, TV show, etc.), and describe how it is either accurately (and/or inaccurately) represented while supporting your view with peer-reviewed primary research articles and journals. You can use this link to get ideas: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mental_disorders_in_film

**Your paper should be in APA Style including:**

**TITLE PAGE**

INTRODUCTION, BODY, AND CONCLUSION: The paper should be 4 pages long (not including the title page and reference page), Times New Roman, Cambria, or Calibri 12-point font typed, and double spaced. (no abstract).

**In the introduction, include:**

- Your disorder and your chosen media
- Briefly identify the examples in the media that accurately and/or inaccurately show the disorder or concept

**In the body, include examples from the media that show ANY OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:**

- Characteristics and/or diagnostic criteria of the disorder
- Causes of the disorder
- Treatments of the disorder
- Potential outlook for people with this disorder (Prognosis)

**In the conclusion, please include:**

- An overall summary assessment of whether the media is accurate or not is its representation of the disorder or condition. What was good what could have been done better?
- Impact the disorder may have on a person, his or her family, or society.
- Why you choose this disorder and media example

**REFERENCE LIST:** Include at least three scholarly peer-reviewed articles or journals (no Wikipedia, or other unreliable sources) with correct in-text citations.

- Other sources, like reliable websites, books or other articles, may be used in your paper, however they are supplementary to the required 3 peer-reviewed articles or journals.

**USE MY APA TEMPLATE - download it (don’t just view it) to your computer so you can see comments!**

**Grading Rubric:**

**A** Student follows all assignment directions above. The paper is clear and organized. It does not have any sign of plagiarism. There are no errors in spelling and grammar and APA style is used correctly.

**B** Student follows some or all assignment directions above. The paper is written with effort but may have some organizational or clarity issues. It does not have any sign of plagiarism. There may be errors in spelling and grammar and APA style is used correctly in most of the paper. The paper is only a few sentences short of the required length.

**C** Student follows some assignment directions above. The paper has organizational issues or lacks clarity. It may have minor signs of plagiarism. There may be errors in spelling and grammar or APA style is not used correctly. The paper may be less than one page short of the required length.

**D** Student follows some or few of the assignment directions above. The paper has organizational issues and lacks clarity. It may have signs of minor to moderate plagiarism violations. There may be errors in spelling and grammar or APA style is not used correctly. The paper may be more than one page short of the required length.

**F** Student failed to follow assignment directions above. The paper is poorly written or has signs of major plagiarism violations. There are many errors in spelling and grammar or APA style is not used at all or correctly.

* +/- variations of grades may be given.

**Note:** Plagiarism is a serious offense and illegal. Students who copy/paste, or otherwise copy someone else’s work without proper reference may earn a grade of zero and/or face disciplinary measures. A significantly reduced grade will result if a large portion of the paper is in citations. The majority of your paper should be your own words. *See syllabus for details.