

NORTHEASTERN TECHNICAL COLLEGE

PSYCHOLOGY 201 -- GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY
FALL Semester 2007

Course: Psychology 201
Title: General Psychology
Credits: Three Credit Hours

Textbook: “Exploring Psychology 7th Edition, David Myers
Study Guide to accompany text
“Pursuing Human Strengths: A Positive Psychology Guide”
CD: “Student Video Tool Kit for Introductory Psychology

Access to textbook website through Instructor’s web page
WebBoard access through Instructor’s web page

Instructor: Ms. M.J. Martin
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using voice mail)
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Office Hours: Will be posted on my office door and on Web site

Course Description: (NETC college catalog) *This course includes the following topics and concepts in the science of behavior: scientific method, biological basis for behavior, perception, motivation, learning, memory, development, personality, abnormal behavior, therapeutic techniques, and social psychology.*

College-Wide Learning Objective for Social Sciences Department::

Demonstrate an awareness of an international perspective to include ethnic/cultural diversity.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to demonstrate the following competencies:

- Demonstrate knowledge of psychology as a science and a discipline.
- Identify key concepts related to the nature/nurture debate.
- Identify the research methods psychologists use to examine behavior and mental processes.
- Identify specific structures and functions of the brain, nervous system and the senses.
- Define and differentiate between the principles and processes of the various ways that people and animals learn.
- Demonstrate awareness of the impact of environmental and social factors and personality on human behavior.
- Demonstrate awareness of the connection between psychological stressors and physical health.

CLASSROOM/COURSE POLICIES

I.D. Badges: The college requires that all students enrolled in credit courses wear identification badges at all times while on campus. *“Failure to wear the I.D. badge will result in the student not being allowed in classes.”* (Please refer to pg. 47 of the NETC college catalog for additional information.)

Classroom Etiquette and Conduct of Classes: An integral part of education is developing a sense of integrity and responsibility not only toward oneself but also toward others. In the classroom, as on the job or in your home, exhibiting appropriate behavior reflects on your maturity. Arriving late to class, being unprepared, inappropriate talking while class is in session, etc. reflects negatively on you. Please be considerate. *“Students have no right to impinge on the freedom of instructors to teach or the right of students to learn. If a student behaves disruptively in class after*

the instructor explained the unacceptability of such conduct, the instructor may temporarily dismiss the student from the class and refer the matter to the Vice-President for Student Services.” (Refer to pages 45 and 51 of the NETC college catalog for Student Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedure.) Please also note that neither food nor drink is permitted in the classroom.

Electronic Devices in the Classroom: To minimize classroom disruptions and to protect the integrity of testing, activated electronic communication devices such as pagers, beepers, and telephones are not permitted in classrooms at NETC. The only exception is for on-call emergency personnel (police, fire, EMS); these students are required to notify the Instructor of their need for such devices with documentation verifying employment. This information must be provided at the beginning of the term and at the beginning of each applicable class session. **(Refer to page 44 of the NETC college catalog.)**

Students with Disabilities: are encouraged to contact the Vice-President for Student Services to discuss needs or concerns as they pursue an academic program and participate in campus life. The Vice-President for Student Services will provide guidance regarding official documentation of disabilities and/or accommodation of needs. **(See NETC college catalog, page 16 and 31.)**

Attendance: Punctual and regular attendance in all classes is the obligation of every student. There are no excused absences; therefore, students are urged to reserve their absences for emergencies. When illness or other emergencies cause a student to be absent for a period of time, it is the responsibility of the student to notify the Instructor immediately and to make up the work missed. Please consider absences to be for emergencies, not for “skipping” class. It is your responsibility to find out what you missed. Attendance is tracked by sign-in sheets. It is the student’s responsibility to sign in at the beginning of each class period. **(Refer to page 29 of the NETC college catalog for definitions of attendance requirements.)**

Absence and Tardy Policy: Students are required to attend 80% of their classes from the date of enrollment. Students enrolled in a 3-credit hour course that meets on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday are allowed a maximum of 9 absences for a semester. Classes that meet on Monday and Wednesday or on Tuesday and Thursday have a maximum of 6 absences. For evening classes that meet once a week, only 3 absences are allowed.

The absence allowances for summer school are 8 for daytime classes and will be dropped with a grade of “F” after the ninth absence. Summer students enrolled in evening classes that meet once a week are allowed two absences and will be dropped after the third absence.

Tardy Policy: A student is considered tardy if not in the classroom at the time the teacher begins class instruction. Three (3) times tardy equals one full absence.

Exceeding the Absence Limit: Once the absence limit has been reached, students will be dropped from class for excessive absences. If this occurs at any time during the semester, the student will receive an F for the course. **(It is advised that the student review p. 29 of the NETC college catalog regarding absence policies.)**

Withdrawal from Course: Consider carefully any decision regarding dropping a course. It is important that you check first with the Financial Aid Office to be able to consider all possible ramifications such as insurance coverage and financial aid benefits. If circumstances warrant withdrawing from a course, a grade of W will be assigned as long as the student is passing the course at the time of withdrawal and initiates the appropriate paperwork by contacting their instructor or advisor. If a student is failing the course and drops after midterm, a WF will be assigned as **outlined on page 30 and 38 of the NETC college catalog.**

Academic Discipline and Honesty: The College expects each student to earn his/her own grades; if academic dishonesty occurs, disciplinary action will be taken. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and falsification of information. **(Refer to pp. 27-28 of the NETC college catalog.)**

COURSE INFORMATION AND POLICIES/PROCEDURES

Instructional Methods to Complete Objectives/Learning Outcomes: Classroom lectures will be supplemented by videos, work sheets, assessments, readings, computer research, and other materials at the discretion of the Instructor. We will use the textbook for content, terminology and information and web sites will be used to supplement classroom and textbook material and content. The textbook web site is accessed through my web site located at www.netc.edu. Here you will find additional information and a variety of resources for learning opportunities.

Videos will further enhance and enrich the course's topics. You will do a little research (but not write a research paper) to learn more about how psychologists conduct their research, what topics they study, and how that applies to people's lives. Other topics will also be explored through web sites and the Student Tool Kit, that will provide additional resources and opportunities to enhance and extend the course materials.

Another resource we will use is a book that also came with your textbook called "Pursuing Human Strengths: A Positive Psychology Guide." This book will be used as a supplement and give you additional insights into one of Psychology's newest subfields.

A course management system called WebBoard will be available through my web site. This will be used for announcements, assignments and class notes

Evaluation Methods to Appraise Objectives/Learning Outcomes: There will be **EIGHT tests** (both in-class and take-home.) All tests carry equal weight.

A grade worksheet is attached to this syllabus so you can keep track of your own grades and progress in the course. Please write down your grades each time tests are returned so that you can keep up with your own progress.

The grading scale is as follows:

90 – 100 = A

80 -- 89 = B

70 -- 79 = C

60 -- 69 = D

0 -- 59 = F

As a general rule, there will be no make-up tests. If you know that you will be unable to take a test on the day it is assigned because of a previously made appointment, work obligations, family health problems, etc., then you may take the test early by prior arrangements with the Instructor. Take-home tests and other assignments are expected to be turned in on time.

Please avoid making doctor and dentist appointments during class times.

If an emergency arises or you are too sick to take a scheduled exam, please call or E-mail the Instructor ASAP, within 24 hours of the test. Make-up tests will be at the discretion of the Instructor and must be taken as quickly as possible.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF CHAPTERS COVERED
TESTS AND GRADE SHEET

		Grades
Chapter 1	Thinking Critically With Psychological Science pp. 1-13; 29-30	Test #1____ Sept.6
Chapter 1	pp. 14-28	Test #2____ Sept. 27
Chapter 3	Nature, Nurture, and Human Diversity	<u>Test #3</u> ____ Oct 2
Chapter 2	Neuroscience and Behavior	Test #4____ Oct. 18
Chapter 5	Sensation and Perception	Test #5____ Nov. 1
Chapter 6	States of Consciousness	<u>Test #6</u> ____ Nov. 13
Chapter 7	Learning	Test #7____ Nov. 29
Chapter 11	Emotions, Stress, and Health	<u>Test #8</u> ____ Final Exam

FINAL GRADE_____

NOTE: Tests # 3, 6, 8 will be take home exams.