PSYC 2301 - General Psychology

Instructor's Information

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**Course Description:**

General Psychology is a survey of the major psychological topics, theories and approaches to the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. ***This course is time-bound, structured, and completed totally online.***

**Textbook:**

**Great news**: your textbook for this class is available for **free** online!

*Psychology 2e* from OpenStax

ISBN 978-1-975076-45-0

You have several options to obtain this book:

- View online
- Download a PDF (Links to an external site.)

You can use whichever formats you want. Web view is recommended -- the responsive design works seamlessly on any device.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

*Upon successful completion of the course, students will 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 fieldof psychology.
3. Describe some of the prominent perspectives and approached used in the study of psychology.
4. Use terminology unique to the study of psychology.
5. Describe accepted approached and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation.

6. Identify factors in physiological and psychological processes involved in human behavior.

## Course Content:

- Exploration of major theories, concepts, methods, and research findings in psychology.
- Research methods, including the scientific approach, research design, the use of statistics, and ethics.
- Major sub-disciplines in psychology including but not limited to: the biological bases of brain-behavior relationships, perception, cognition, learning, memory, emotion, motivation, development, personality, social psychology, psychological disorders, and therapeutic approaches, and applied psychology.

## Core Objectives

1. Critical Thinking Skills: To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
2. Communication Skills: To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.
3. Empirical and Quantitative Skills: To include themanipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.
4.  Social Responsibility: To include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

## Course Policies & Procedures

## Instructional Method

This is an online distance learning course. Each week's assignments are summarized on the calendar, accessed from the Calendar button in Blackboard. Learning activities can be found within the Modules area of the course. It takes a great deal of discipline, self-motivation, and effective time management skills to successfully complete an online course. Many students find it helpful to set aside specific times each week to work on course assignments.

## Grades

All grades will be maintained in Blackboard's online grade book. Students are responsible for tracking their progress by referring to the online grade book. Students can generally expect to receive grades and feedback within seven days of the assignment due date. If exceptions occur, the instructor may notify students of changes to this expectation.

## Due Dates & Deadlines

The Syllabus and Calendar are two important tools to help students understand the course, student and instructor expectations, and deadlines. Both tools can be found in Canvas. The Calendar can be accessed from the main navigation area on the left-hand side of Blackboard.

Students are required to submit work on time for a chance to receive credit. Deadlines for each week/assignment are summarized on the calendar. Students should check the calendar frequently for deadlines and to be aware of what to expect next. Deadlines are listed in Central Time and are subject to change.

Students are responsible for timely assignment submission. Should a computer system or network go down, students must still turn in work in a timely manner. Don't wait until the last minute. Plan ahead by seeking alternative means for submitting work before it is due. Local libraries and all campuses can serve as alternative resources. Contact the closest/most convenient campus or other public lab for schedules and Internet availability. Not having access to the required software on a home or work computer is **not** a legitimate excuse for turning in homework late.

**Make-Up Policy**

***Late assignments will be assigned a grade of "0" unless a student has received prior approval from the instructor.*** If a student has a problem or scheduling conflict that prevents the student from submitting an assignment on time, the student should contact the instructor immediately. The instructor will determine if the seriousness of the problem warrants an extension on the assignment. Unless absolutely unavoidable, students need to contact their instructor *before* missing the deadline – not after. Instructors have the right to decline accepting work for any credit after a deadline passes with a few specific exceptions, including but not limited to:

- If there is an outage of the Blacboard system that is verified by central system administrators, instructors will provide an extension for students to submit work at no penalty.
- If the student has documentation of serious illness or death of a family member, instructors will work with the student to determine an alternate deadline.

**Attendance Policy – Don't Get Dropped from Class!**

LIT performs administrative drops for students who do not "attend" class early in the semester. ***Students need to complete an assignment*** (which may include, but are not limited to, such things as attending a live or synchronous session; posting in a graded discussion board, blog or wiki; or submitting a written assignment or taking a quiz) ***prior to Attendance Drop Deadline listed below in order to avoid being dropped for non-attendance.*** Posting any items not related to the graded assignments will be reviewed but may be disqualified for attendance purposes.

**Am I Required to Come to Campus for this Course?**

Some online courses require students to go to Lincoln Land's campus for an activity, lab, or proctored assessment.

**For this course:**

No, students do not have to come to campus for this course. There are no activities, labs, or assessments that require students to come to campus.

**Instructor Commitment**

LIT instructors are committed to responding to students' written inquiries sent via email, within 48 hours. If you send an email/Blackboard message over the weekend, expect a response by the following business day (normally Monday's).

**Notifications**

Blackboard has a robust notification system that students can opt to use to receive course notifications for many course activities and events such as new announcements, due dates, and grade updates. Students can receive those notifications via many different channels including text messages and are highly encouraged to customize their notifications.

**Student Rights and Responsibilities**

As a LIT student, it is important that you familiarize yourself with LIT's Student Rights and Responsibilities.

**Academic Integrity**

The use of another person's words, ideas, organization or approach – be it published material, someone's help/advice – without crediting that person at the time of use is considered plagiarism. Plagiarism is intellectually dishonest and cheats the student who commits it out of valuable learning and diminishes the hard work of other students. It will also result in failure of the assignment and potentially failing the course. Consult your student handbook or use link above for additional information about the "Student Code of Conduct."

LIT has an Academic Integrity Policy Penalties may include a grade of zero for the assignment and/or a grade of F for the course (even if the student attempts to withdraw from the course after the plagiarism is detected).  Written warnings along with copies of the plagiarized work will be submitted to the Fine Arts and Humanities department and the Vice President of Student Services.

**Additional Support**

In support of the college's mission to identify and meet the educational needs of its community through innovative, dynamic programs, Counseling and Disability Services ensures equal access to all campus programs and activities. The office promotes full participation in campus life for

individuals with disabilities. Services are provided collaboratively to empower students to advocate for themselves and assume responsibility for their academic outcomes and personal goals.

LIT does not discriminate in its educational and employment policies and procedures with regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status.

**Assignments & Grading**

**How is my grade calculated?**

NOTE: The syllabus gives a general idea of what will take place in class on a given week. Students should read through the entire course syllabus now and mark the dates of all tests. This will highlight them in your mind. The syllabus is subject to revision as necessitated by the progress of the class over the course of the term.

**Discussion Boards**

In this course, you will participate in many discussion forums on Blacobard. Active participation in the discussion board is essential in this course. The discussion board forums are designed for you to reflect on the readings from each chapter and interact with your peers.

**Mid-Term Essay**

We will have a 500-word research-based mid-term essay that is tailored to your academic interests. Further details will be listed in Blackboard.

**Final Project**

At the end of the semester, you will complete a final project for the course on how Psychology can be applied to your life. Further details will be listed in the last module in Canvas.

**Note: Use of tutors**

Students must submit their own work and not that done by a tutor or someone else. A tutor may GUIDE you in correcting errors but may not write or record activities for you and may not assist you when taking quizzes or tests. A tutor must refrain from suggesting that you use vocabulary and structures not yet introduced in the textbook. In addition to the prohibition of using Internet translations as stated in the paragraph above, the use of a tutor to write or record activities or to assist with quizzes or tests will result in a zero (0) for that assignment. (Refer to the Academic Honesty Statement in this syllabus.)

*ALL ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE DUE ON SATURDAY'S AT 11:59PM*

**Grades in this course are determined by the following criteria:**

| Assignment | Quantity | Points each | Total points | Percentage of final grade |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Discussion Boards | 11 | 100 | 1100 | 80% |
| Assignments (Mid-Term Essay & Final Project) | 1 | 100 | 200 | 20% |

*NO make-up work or extra credit will be available at any time during the course.

**Grading Scale**

90% - 100%      A

80% - 89%       B

70% - 79%       C

60% - 69%       D

Below 60%     F

*The instructor reserves the right to make alterations to this schedule as he deems fit and/or necessary to assist students in the successful completion of this course.*