GULF COAST STATE COLLEGE
PSY 2012—50032
General Psychology
Instructor: Mary Rimmel, M.S., BCBA

Course Syllabus
A Session, Summer Semester, 2024
Term Dates: May 8, 2024 to August 2, 2024
Face-to-face

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Mary Rimmel, M.S., BCBA
Position: Adjunct Psychology Instructor
Instructor Email Address: mhs1032@gulfcoast.edu
Instructor Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 9:00am to 10:00am
Office Locations: Social Sciences building, room 224

Instructor Education:
AA, Pre-Psychology, Gulf Coast State College, Panama City, Florida, 2010
BS, Psychology, Florida State University, Panama City, Florida, 2014
MS, Psychology-Applied Behavior Analysis, Florida State University, Panama City, FL, 2016

SOCIAL SCIENCES OFFICE CONTACTS

Division Chair: Dr. Bob Saunders
Office: Social Sciences Room 211
Phone: (850) 872-3826
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COURSE INFORMATION

Course: PSY 2012: General Psychology
Section Numbers: 50032
Term: Summer 2024A
Meeting Times: Mondays and Wednesdays 10:00am to 11:50am
Meeting Location: Social Sciences Room 113

Credit Hours: 3 credit hours
Prerequisites/Co-requisites: None

Required Textbook:
The textbook for this course, titled *Psychology 2e*, is a completely free, online, and downloadable textbook. Click the following link for the text: https://openstax.org/details/books/psychology-2e

Title and Edition: Psychology 2e, 2022
Authors: Rose M. Spielman, William J. Jenkins, Marilyn D. Lovett
Publisher: Openstax Creative Commons Attribution License 4.0

There is also an option to buy or rent a print copy of the textbook in the GCSC bookstore.

PSY2012 CATALOG DESCRIPTION

This course is a study of the general field of psychology and is designed to provide an understanding of human thought and behavior by studying the adaptation of the individual to his/her physical and social environment.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of PSY 2012, students will be able to:

1. Categorize the various approaches, fields, and subfields of psychology along with their major concepts and important figures in these domains.
2. Identify preeminent theories, principles, and research findings, and give examples of psychology's integrative perspectives and concepts by applying them to everyday life.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of psychological theories regarding the relationship between physiology, cognition, and emotion.
4. Explain how humans become self-aware, how we learn to interact with others, how we include others, and how they influence us.
5. Classify the strategies with which psychologists study human behavior and how this knowledge is used to explain, predict, and influence behavior.

SPECIFIC LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Achieve an introductory level of reading, interpreting, and paraphrasing peer reviewed journal articles.
- Develop scientific reasoning skills inside and outside educational settings.
- Achieve an introductory understanding of the impact of the culture, race, class, historical era, and gender on psychological outcomes.

- Achieve an introductory understanding of human behavior and why people do the things they do.
- Identify intrinsic interests in psychology.
- Achieve an introductory understanding of how the human brain develops and works throughout the lifespan.
- Students will be able to apply content they have learned to their own lives and learning.

Technology Requirements For This Course:
This section of PSY 2012 requires that students have regular access to a computer in order to use Canvas. Students are not required to have a computer or tablet during lectures; however, students are welcome to use one to take notes and/or to access the textbook as needed during class.

Technical Assistance:

- Technical support is available by phone 24 hours a day 7 days per week by calling (850) 913-3303.

Technicians are available on the Panama City Campus from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday through Friday.

Other materials needed for this course: paper or notebook and a writing utensil (pen or pencil is fine).

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS OF THE INSTRUCTOR

The instructor is available outside of class during office hours only. The instructor's office hours are Mondays and Wednesdays 9:00am to 10:00am. The instructor may be able to be available during other days or times as needed, when scheduled at least one week in advance.

What students enrolled in this course can expect from me:
- I will provide you with a clear, organized course that is designed to ensure you meet our course outcomes in a meaningful manner.
- I will provide a variety of assignment types to ensure everyone's learning needs are met.
- I will be actively present in your learning.
- I will provide a safe and supportive environment for you to share and discuss ideas with your peers.
- I will reach out to you when I sense that you need support.
- I will treat you with dignity and respect and be flexible to support your individual needs.
- I won't be perfect. I am human and will make mistakes at times. I will view mistakes as an opportunity to learn and grow.

Email & Voicemail Response Time:
Instructor will check and respond to messages sent to their gulfcoast.edu email within 48 hours during scheduled workdays, barring illness or emergencies. The instructor may not check email

during outside of normal business hours, during holidays, or on weekends. This policy also applies to messages sent via Canvas, as well as voicemails left on a provided phone number.

Please include your name and what course you are in when sending me an e-mail so I know who you are.

INSTRUCTOR EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS:

Course Requirements:

Content in this course is covered using a combination of lectures, videos, class discussions, individual and group activities, projects, papers, practice quizzes, and exams.

What I expect from students enrolled in my class:

- You will actively listen to and take thorough notes on the lectures.
- You will refrain from wearing headphones/earbuds or doing activities unrelated to my course while in my class.
- You will actively participate in classroom discussions/assignments/activities.
- You will complete quizzes and exams as scheduled.
- You will contact me via email at once with any problems or issues. I cannot handle problems unless you make me aware of them.
- You will communicate with me in advance if you need to miss class for any reason, or if you know you will need to make up an assignment/exam.
- You will treat your peers with dignity and respect at all times.
- You will give yourself grace. Expect to make mistakes.

Academic Integrity Policy:

Honest participation in academic endeavors fosters an environment in which optimal learning can take place and is consistent with the college's mission. Academic misconduct, including cheating or plagiarism, is destructive to the spirit of an educational environment and therefore will not be tolerated.

The following definitions will apply:
a. "Cheating" includes but is not limited to use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests or examinations; dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; the acquisition without permission of tests or other academic materials belonging to a member of the College's faculty.

b. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment.

• "Self-plagiarism" occurs when a student submits the same or considerably similar document to fulfill requirements in different classes. For example, if a student submits a term paper in Religion they originally wrote for an English class, this is self-plagiarism.

• Plagiarism also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

• Plagiarism also includes overuse of an editing program like Grammarly or submitting work written by an Artificial Intelligence (AI) generator like ChatGPT. Make certain to consult your course syllabi for your instructors' guidelines on AI material.

c. Individual instructors or programs may provide students with additional academic integrity policy statements at the start of a semester.

d. Sanctions for incidences of academic misconduct, depending on the severity of the incidence and/or its repetition, may range from receiving an F grade (or zero) for the test, assignment, or activity to failure of the course, to suspension, or dismissal from the program or the college.

e. An instructor who believes that an incidence of academic misconduct has occurred will discuss it immediately with the student. If, in the judgment of the instructor, the student has committed an act of academic misconduct, or if the student admits that there has been misconduct, the instructor will assess the appropriate penalty.

f. Instances of admitted or proven academic misconduct should be reported in writing to the Dean of Student Life. The purpose of this reporting is to track individuals who have repeated incidences. The Vice President of Academic Affairs reserves the right to pursue disciplinary action against a student if deemed necessary.

g. Students who think they have been treated unfairly may invoke the Student Academic Grievance Procedure.

Student Accessibility Statement:
Gulf Coast State College supports an inclusive learning environment for all students. If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that hinder your full participation, reasonable accommodations can be arranged. Prior to receiving accommodations, you must register with Student Accessibility Resources. Appropriate academic accommodations will be determined based on the documented needs of the student. For information regarding the registration process, email sar@gulfcoast.edu or call 850-747-3243. Accommodations will not be made for students who have not registered with Student Accessibility Resources.

Recording Lectures:
In accordance with federal and state privacy laws, students may record class lectures for their own personal educational use, in connection with a complaint to the college, or as evidence in internal or external legal proceedings. Students may not publish or upload the recordings or any components thereof without the knowledge and written permission of the faculty member. Failure to obtain permission to publish could lead to the students' having to pay damages, attorney fees, and court costs. For more information about what can be recorded, please see the guidelines in the GCSC Student Handbook.

Attendance:
Regular class attendance and participation are significant factors that help to promote success in college. In face-to-face courses, students are required to be in class at the beginning of each class session, as attendance will be taken at this time. If a student arrives late, it is his/her responsibility to inform the instructor after class of his/her presence. Failure to do so may result in the student being marked as "Absent."

Withdrawals:
Students may withdraw themselves from any course until the published withdrawal deadline for that term in the Gulf Coast State College catalog. Students wishing to withdraw from a course and receive a "W" must complete a withdrawal form and submit this to the Office of Enrollment Services prior to the scheduled withdrawal date as published on the college calendar. **Social Sciences instructors do not withdraw students from their individual courses under any circumstances.** If you feel you have a unique situation that warrants removal from all of your courses for a term after the withdrawal deadline has passed, you may contact the Vice President of Student Affairs to discuss your situation.

Consequences Of Withdrawals:
Two withdrawals are permitted per credit course; after that, a grade will be assigned. Please be concerned about withdrawals. When admitting students into certain programs, universities may calculate withdrawals as grades. It is your responsibility to verify the effects of enrollment and/or withdrawal upon your financial assistance (financial aid, scholarships, grants, etc.).

Incomplete Grades:
Grades of Incomplete in any Social Sciences course can only be assigned to students who have an emergency arise during the last two weeks of the course.

To receive an Incomplete, students must:

- Submit a written request to the instructor prior to the last face-to-face class meeting. For online courses, a written Incomplete request must be received no later than the week before the Final Exam period begins.
- Have completed no less than 60 percent of the course requirements and be passing the course at the time the request for an Incomplete is submitted.

Important Note: The Incomplete option provides 30 days from the date grades are due to make up any missing work; if work is not submitted during this period, the grade will automatically change to an "F."

Personal Technology Policy:
Students are encouraged to use a laptop or other electronic device to access their textbook and/or to take notes during lectures. Students are expected to refrain from using their electronic devices for any purpose that is not related to the course while in the classroom. If a student is using an electronic device for something unrelated to the course, is being disruptive to other students or the instructor, and/or is not actively listening or participating in the discussion or activity because of their device, the student may be asked to put the device away. If a student needs to take a phone call, they are expected to step outside.

METHOD OF EVALUATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF GRADES

1. All assignments requiring original work that is uploaded into a Canvas drop box will automatically be processed through the plagiarism software called Turnitin. Turnitin (TII) provides a score that indicates the degree to which the information in the submission matches information from millions of available sources. High TII scores indicate large amounts of material has been taken from other sources. All TII scores are checked to ensure that proper and appropriate citations are used for material taken from another's ideas, writings, theories, media, etc. In the

event an assignment is found to not be properly cited, it will receive a zero. It is critical that students review their TII scores for each submission and make corrections or revisions. Canvas allows for multiple uploads into a drop box, so feel free to upload as many revisions as needed to address the problem.

2. Assignments MUST be typewritten (unless otherwise noted) and must be uploaded using one of these four file types: .doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf. Pictures of assignments will not be accepted or graded. Moreover, submissions and files generated from a phone or from a device that uses a program not listed above will also not be graded.

3. In the event a student encounters a problem with technology (for example, their computer breaks down), there are several places on campus where students have access to computers and printers, namely the library and the ATC. Similarly, if a situation arises where a scanned document is required to complete an assignment, scanning equipment is also available in the library and the ATC.

5. Final grades will be based on a combination of assignments, projects/papers, participation in course activities, quizzes, attendance/class participation, and exams.

6. Your grades will be available via Canvas. However, I use Excel for computing final grades. The Canvas grade book is used only as a placeholder for student grades and may not accurately reflect your grade. There will be no “individual-only” extra credit offered; occasionally, I will offer extra credit opportunities for all students in a class. Extra credit MUST be submitted on time; there are no late submissions accepted for extra credit.

7. Each chapter will have an individual module on Canvas. Each module will “open” on Friday, 12:00 AM before the week the module will be covered. Modules will include an overview of the chapter(s) and assignments, lecture PowerPoints, classroom assignments/activities, and additional learning resources.

8. The instructor will NOT accept late assignments or activities without communication from the student. If you need to submit something late for any reason, you MUST communicate this with me PRIOR to the due date. Approved late turn ins will receive a penalty of -5 points per weekday.

Course work, which may be modified as needed, will be weighted as follows (total points can be subject to change):

- Attendance and class participation = 100 points
- Homework assignments = 100 points
- Projects/Papers = 100 points
- Practice Quizzes = 260 points
- Exams = 400 Points
- TOTAL = 960 points

GRADING SCALE

Grade	Points	Percentage
A	864 - 960	90% - 100%
B	768 - 863	80% - 89%
C	672 - 767	70% - 79%
D	576 - 671	60% - 69%
F	575 and below	Below 60%

Final grade computations will use the same process, regardless of the total number of points available at the end of the semester. For example, if the total points for in class activities only equal 260 points, the total points available at the end of the course will be 980, instead of 1,000.

To compute one's score, simply add all the obtained scores for all work and divide by the number of total points possible. I also round decimals according to the standard rules of mathematics; so, if a student receives an 89.54, that grade will be rounded to a 90. If, on the other hand, a final score is 89.44, that grade is rounded to an 89.

Make-up Work Policy:

Missing any part of class may prevent completion of the course. If you foresee difficulty of any type (i.e., an illness, employment change, etc.) which may prevent completion of this course, notify the instructor as soon as possible. Failure to do so will result in failure for an assignment and/or failure of the course.

If I have not heard from you by the deadline dates for assignments or scheduled times for exams, no make-up work will be allowed (unless extraordinary circumstances exist, such as hospitalization). Requests for extensions must be made in advance and accompanied by appropriate written documentation. "Computer problems" is not an acceptable excuse.

Missed assignments may be made up within one week of the missed class. It is YOUR responsibility to get the activity/assignment from me. I will NOT reach out to you for you to make up missed activities/assignments. Missed activities/assignments may be made up no more than 4 times throughout the semester. All subsequent missed class activities/assignments will automatically receive a score of 0 (unless extraordinary circumstances exist, such as hospitalization).

SPECIAL NOTICE: COLLEGE POLICIES REGARDING COVID-19

The health and safety of students and faculty are a priority. If you are sick with COVID symptoms, please stay home to protect others. Notify your professor of your condition by phone or email. If you test positive for the COVID virus, please inform your instructor(s) to make arrangements to

complete course requirements and please contact David Thomasee, Campus Safety & Security, at 873-3582. You will receive additional instructions from him at that time. Your confidentiality will be maintained.

This information is subject to change. For the most recent information, please refer to the Gulf Coast State College website regarding COVID-19: https://www.gulfcoast.edu/covid-19-coronavirus.html.