



GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY

“Psychology can be thought of as a self-portrait of the entire human race. In the field of art, artists closely study themselves in the mirror to create an accurate and revealing visual image of themselves. In the field of psychology, human beings also study and describe themselves. Psychologists use the methods of science to observe themselves and words to paint the picture, but the image is no less revealing than the self-portrait of the artist.”

~BENJAMIN B LAHEY

NOTE from the instructor: *Greetings beautiful people! We have approximately 15 weeks to explore this fascinating topic together. Education is more than just absorbing facts and general knowledge. Your attitude and past experiences matter. I look forward to learning with you this term.*

Extended Emergency Closure: “For emergency campus closings (natural disasters, etc.) call 352-291-4499 or 800-831-9244 or check our website www.CF.edu.”

Spring 2023: January 9, 2023 – May 4, 2022

Course No. & Section	Psyc 2012-70 Psyc 2012-71	COURSE DESCRIPTION This course introduces the student to the study of behavior as a science, the design of experiments, statistical analysis of data, basic vocabulary, classical experiments, major contributors, and current trends in the discipline. <i>Pre/Corequisites:</i> This course is open to students who have no prep need by taking REA002C or REA0017. This course is open to students who have no prep needs in English/Writing or who have satisfied their prep need by taking ENC0010C or ENC0025. COURSE TEXTBOOK Psychology in Everyday Life by David Myers & Nathan Dewall 5 th edition
Credit Hours	3 semester hours	
Location	Canvas	
Meeting times	Monday through Friday online	
Instructor	Amira Sims	
Contact information	simsa@cf.edu Bldg8 Rm 106G Ocala 352-854-2322 ex.1612	
Meeting online	This is a virtual class. Students are free to access course content whenever it suits their needs. The due dates allow for most work to be completed on a weekly basis. Students are expected to meet the due dates and to be active in the course (logged in to Canvas) a minimum of two times per week. Our week begins on Mondays and ends on Fridays.	

Office hours	Face to face: Mondays & Wednesdays 900-1100am 1215-115pm 315-345pm 8-106G Virtual: Tuesdays & Thursdays 900-1030am 600-630pm Canvas, Zoom, or email
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Tips: How to be successful in Ms. Sims Psy2012 class and stuff you should know.

1. READ the syllabus, announcements, and the course textbook... 😊
2. Ask QUESTIONS, use the questions thread, visit me during office hours, connect with other students
3. Get comfortable with CANVAS. This is mandatory!
4. Have fun with group projects and this class in general—be creative and a critical thinker!
5. Take responsibility for your effort and your grade.

Teaching philosophy and expectations: I have three goals as an instructor. I want to inform, inspire, and promote interaction. To accomplish these goals I rely on scholarship, discussion, humor, entertainment, lecture, and an artistic whimsy that is uniquely universal.

Begin with the **Start here: Essentials and extras module** in Canvas. This module has a lot of helpful resources. If you want to do well in the class, thoroughly review all modules. Don’t assume this is class is an easy “A”. Instead aim high and ensure your effort matches your aspiration. An A is attainable if you put in the work and demonstrate mastery of the learning objectives.

ASSESSMENT | Ways to earn points

Discussions 10 x 20	200	Group Charter	10
Tests 2 x 100	200	Group Annotated Bib	10
Reflections 2 x 20	40	Group Project	100
Syllabus quiz	10	Group Evaluation	10
		Group Check-in 1 & 2	20
SUBTOTAL	450		150

600 points | 540-600 A | 539-480 B | 479- 420 C | 419 – 360 D | 359 F; needs improvement

Grading scale: A = 90-100%; B+ = 87%-89%; B = 80-86%; C+ = 77%-79%; C = 70-76%; D = 60-69%; F=59% and below.

- A = Excellent performance. Work is exemplary and worthy of emulation by others. Student constructively contributes to the learning environment.
- B = Above average performance. All assignments are complete and on time and exhibit a complete understanding and an ability to apply concepts.
- C = Average performance. Student accomplishes only the minimum requirements or does not complete all assignments. Oral and written communication is at an acceptable level for a college student.

D = Work is below acceptable level for a college student. Student shows only a very basic understanding of the material or does not meet all assignment requirements as described in this syllabus.

F = Work is not passing. Student's work is incomplete, chronically late, or does not apply information and concepts in a satisfactory manner.

"Consistency of effort over the long run is everything." ~ Angela Duckworth

Assessments: Ways to demonstrate your learning and earn points.

TESTS: 2 x 100 points each = **200 points**

There are 2 tests in this class. Each test assesses your understanding of specific topics essential to general psychology. These tests are given in class. Students are allowed to use one 8x11 cheat sheet (two-sided, handwritten or typed). There is one cumulative test to make up for missing the midterm, no make-up final exams. **All tests are proctored via honorlock.**

GROUP PROJECT | Charter | AB | Eval | Check-ins = 150 points

There is 1 group project in this class and several assignments related to the group project. For more information on the group project watch the youtube video, review the rubric, and ask questions.

The group project is your chance to work with other students. You will be assigned members and a broad topic. Each member is expected to choose what role they would like to play and decide how they plan to contribute. The topic should be narrowed down and revised to something that everyone in the group feels comfortable with.

DISCUSSIONS

There is a total of 10 discussion prompts in this class. Each discussion is an opportunity for you to show what you know. You will be expected to go beyond sharing your personal opinions. To earn the maximum points, you will include information gleaned from reading your course textbook, or another credible source including videos.

Initial post due Tuesday 15 points

Respond to one or more classmates by Thursdays 5 points | Discussions close Sunday at 1159pm

20 points x 10 = **200 points**

Reflections | Syllabus Quiz | Personal Introduction

You will also have an opportunity to earn points for telling us about yourself, demonstrating your understanding of the class basics via the syllabus quiz, and reflecting on what you learned at the midpoint and end of the semester. **50 points**

MISSING & MAKE-UP ASSESSMENTS/ LATE POLICY/ EXTRA CREDIT

If a student misses an assessment, the student will receive a 0. If a student wishes to make-up the assessment, the student must adhere to the parameters below.

Tests- If a student misses the midterm, the student can take an alternate version of the midterm at the end of the semester. If a student misses the alternate, they will receive a 0. There are no-make-up final exams. If you are not satisfied with your midterm score you can take the alternate.

Group Project- All group members do not need to be present during the group presentation, but all members must contribute to the research and development of the group project. If a member is missing, the group will either present without the member, with no penalty, or delay the presentation by one class period with a 10% late penalty incurred by the entire group.

Class Participation- There are no make-up class participation points.

EXTRA CREDIT- There are a few opportunities for extra credit (determined by the instructor). These points can be thought of as substitutes for missing points (up to 30 points).

Late policy- 10% per day late penalty for the first three days after the due date. No assignments accepted after 3 days. Once the assignment is closed it will not be re-opened.

Example: Due Monday 11:00am – Late after Monday 11:59pm - 10% Tues. - 20%, Wednesday - 30% Thursday | NO assignments accepted after the assignment is closed on Canvas.

Student Learning Outcomes/Course Objectives

Institutional Learning Outcomes		Tests	Group Project	Discussion	Reflection
Critical Reasoning: The student will reflect, analyze, synthesize, and apply critical thinking.					
4. Identify assumptions, bias, and point of view of information presented.		X	X	X	X
Communication: The student will read, write, speak, and listen effectively.					
1. Read materials and effectively understand essential facts and concepts.			X	X	X
2. Write an organized document that communicates effectively and appropriately for the situation.					X
Global Socio-Cultural Responsibility: The student will be an informed and responsible citizen in social, cultural, and global matters.					

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the values and expressions of other cultures that arise from human experience.			X	X	
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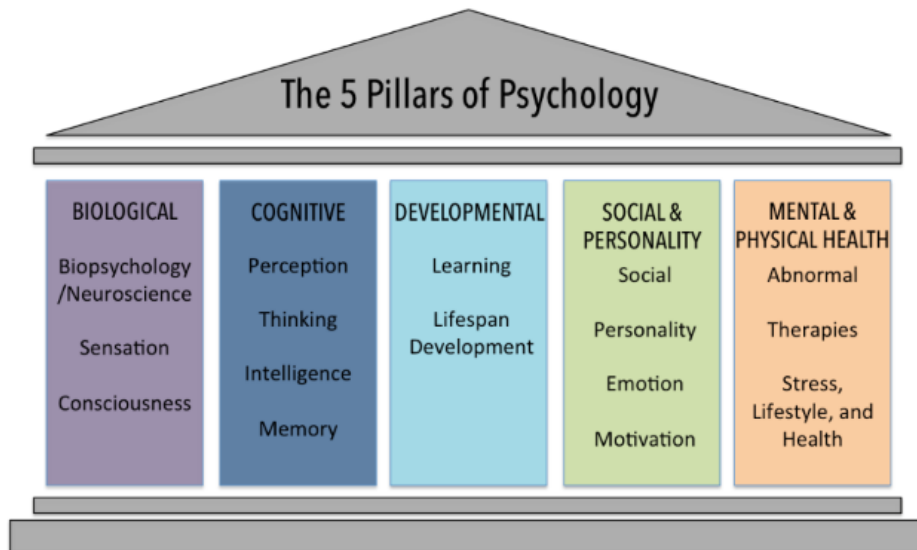
Online classroom decorum- NETIQUETTE

1. Using all caps is the same as yelling. There are exceptions – using all caps for emphasis or organization.
2. Spell check and grammar check is a courtesy and a requirement.
3. Address the person you are replying to by name every time and sign your post with your name.
4. When possible provide a label for your post, this helps to organize the thread.
5. Remember there is a person reading your post- Show Respect!

Technology: This is an online class. Students are expected to be comfortable with CANVAS and MS office. Technological difficulties do not count as a reasonable excuse for inactivity, missing, or incomplete work.

- For Help: Technical problems in your online course, call E-Learning Help Desk, 352-854-2322, ext. 1317, or email dlhelp@cf.edu.
- Web registration issues or MyCF portal login help, call 352-854-2322, ext. 1378.
- Once you are in Canvas, CF provides 24/7 technical help through Canvas Support. Look for the help menu on your left-hand navigation bar.

Due to unforeseen happenings, it may be necessary for the course assignment schedule to be altered. The instructor will always strive to be fair about any changes.



We will discuss two or more topics from each of the 5 pillars of psychology above. Psychology is a social science and as such our foundation for exploring all topics begins with attitudes central to science and the scientific method. **Refer to the weekly announcements to know which topic to read about in your course textbook.** Each topic has a corresponding module in Canvas that includes videos, slideshows, and articles.

Expect to discuss one to two topics per week and a total of between 12 and 15 topics for the entire semester. Refer to the course description on page 1 of this document.

Tentative Schedule- instructor reserves the right to revise as needed. **Review the weekly announcements for the most current schedule.**

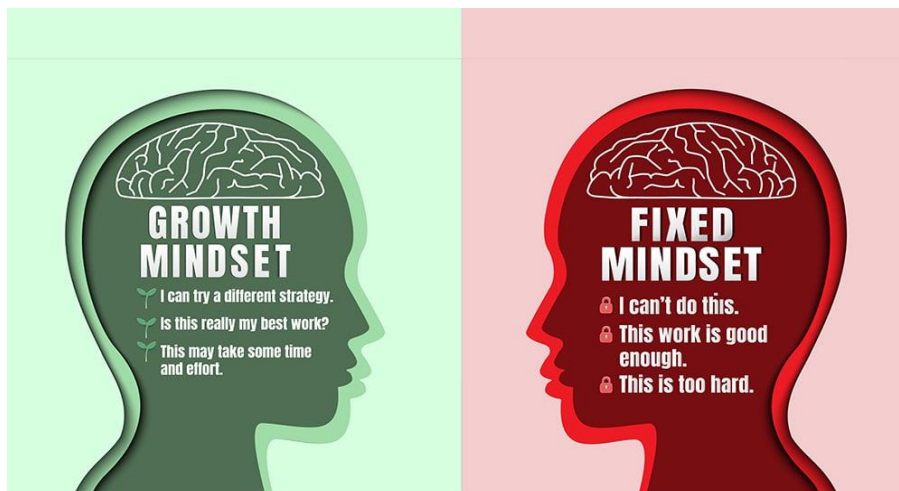
Week	Monday	Assignments	Points	Topic
1	1/9	Personal introductions Syllabus quiz	**5 10	What is psychology?
2	1/16*	Discussion 1	20	The science of psychology
3	1/23	Group charter	10	Biological psychology
4	1/30	Discussion 2 Group check-in 1	20 10	
5	2/6	Discussion 3	20	Developmental psychology
6	2/13	Discussion 4 Group annotated bibliography	20 10	
7	2/20	Discussion 5	20	Learning
8	2/27	Discussion 6 Group check-in 2	20 10	Memory
9	3/6	Test 1 Reflection 1	100 20	
	3/13*	Spring Break		
10	3/20	Discussion 7	20	Thinking, Language & Intelligence
11	3/27	Discussion 8	20	Personality
12	4/3	Discussion 9	20	Social Psychology
13	4/10	Group evaluation	10	Assorted Topics
14	4/17	Group Project	100	Psychological disorders
15	4/24	Discussion 10 Reflection	20 20	Therapy
4/28 – 5/4		Test 2	100	No assignments accepted after 5/4.

College Policies (consistent across College of Central Florida) see CANVAS

The College of Central Florida is committed to helping you succeed and achieve your academic, personal and career goals. There are a wide range of resources and support services available to you. When you connect to resources and support systems on campus early, you are much more likely to be successful in your classes and complete your path more quickly. One example is through an Early Support Program, where you may receive an email indicating your professor or advisor is reaching out directly to help connect you to support services. This may include connecting you to tutoring, financial support, psychological support services, and disability services just to name a few. Be aware, you can also reach out to these services on your own as well. Additionally, we offer free tutoring, disability services, a testing center, and many other resources which are all available to you. Please refer to the College Resources, Dates, and Policies document in your Canvas course to learn more about these supports and policies.

Questions to consider on a weekly basis.

1. What is **due** this week?
2. What do I have to **do** to meet the due date?
3. Why am I in this class?
4. How much time should I spend reading, reviewing my notes, and quizzing myself?



MORE WORTHWHILE STUFF... keep reading 📖

Eight Essential Critical-thinking Guidelines | Carole Wade & Carol Tavris (2008)

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|---|------------------------------------|
| 1. Ask questions; be willing to wonder. | 5. Don't oversimplify. |
| 2. Define your terms. | 6. Avoid emotional reasoning. |
| 3. Examine the evidence. | 7. Consider other interpretations. |
| 4. Analyze assumptions and biases. | 8. Tolerate uncertainty. |

*“Education is not the learning of facts but the training of the mind to think.”
~ Albert Einstein*

IMPORTANT DATES

*January 16th holiday – MLK jr day - No school

*February 14th Faculty Professional Day – No scheduled classes

*March 13th – 19th Spring break – No school

May 4th The last day to turn in graded assignments.

Amira Sims, MS | Psychology Faculty

Learning is my thing.

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