

**PSY 1010 SYLLABUS**  
**Dixie State University**  
**Spring 2015 Online**

**Instructor: Spencer Kohler**

**Email: srkohler@dixie.edu**

**Office hours: By appointment.**

**Required Textbook:**

Psychology by Schacter, Gilbert and Wegner Second Edition.

Frankl, Viktor (2002). *Man's Search for Meaning*. New York: Simon & Schuster. ISBN: 0-671-023373-3. (Available at Dixie Bookstore, approximately \$7.00 - \$12.00).

**Course Goal:**

The goal of this course is to provide the student with a general overview of Psychology. We will approach the behavioral and mental processes from various theoretical perspectives which include neuroscience, evolution, genetics, psychoanalytic, behavioral, cognitive and social cultural research. This will be accomplished by including lectures from the text, class discussion, response papers, and exams. Upon completion of the course the student should be conversant regarding psychological theories and research and enjoy implementing critical thinking skills. More importantly, the student will have a solid understanding of psychology being a scientific study of behavior and mental processes.

**Course Outcomes:**

Students should have a basic understanding of psychology and how psychology works in everyday life.

Students should be able to relate psychology to their life's personally.

Students should know key topics like nature vs. nurture, self-awareness, human behavior, mental diagnosis, treatments and the theorists who developed fundamental psychological theories.

Students should be able to do psychological self-assessments to improve their quality of life.

**My Expectations of students:**

It is expected that each student will consistently attend online classes prepared to discuss assigned modules from our textbook. **Lively discourse in a respectful manner is encouraged.**

**Attendance/Participation:**

Online attendance is mandatory as you will need to communicate online quite often.

Attendance is not tracked in this class but participation is a large part of your grade.

Participation is key to online learning.

**Grading**

Grading will include scores from exams, a written paper based on the Viktor Frankl book, reviews of scholarly articles and attendance. Each exam will carry the same weight as the Frankl paper and the article reviews. **NO MAKEUP EXAMS WILL BE GIVEN! Assignments are due at the date specified and are to be submitted in Canvas.**

**Sample Grading Standard**

**Rubric**

| Assignment    | Points Possible |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Participation | 20              |

A = 93% & above  
 A- = 90 - 92  
 B+ = 87 - 89  
 B = 83 - 86  
 B- = 80 - 82  
 C+ = 77 - 79  
 C = 73 - 76  
 C - = 70 - 73  
 D+ = 67-69  
 D = 63 - 66  
 D - = 60 - 62  
 E (failing) = Below 60

|                            |            |
|----------------------------|------------|
| <b>Assessment # 1</b>      | <b>5</b>   |
| <b>Assessment # 2</b>      | <b>5</b>   |
| <b>Viktor Frankl Paper</b> | <b>20</b>  |
| <b>Psy and You Paper</b>   | <b>15</b>  |
| <b>Presentation</b>        | <b>15</b>  |
| <b>Final</b>               | <b>20</b>  |
| <b>Total</b>               | <b>100</b> |

### **ATTENTION STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

If you have any disability which may impair your ability to successfully complete this course, please contact the Accessibility Services Department (room BU-145). Academic Accommodations are granted for all students who have qualified documented disabilities. Services are coordinated with the student and instructor by the Accessibility Services Department.

### **Academic Dishonesty Information**

It is expected that each student will perform their class work with academic integrity. In other words, it is expected that each student will be responsible for their own original work. Exams will be taken as directed as by the instructor. If an exam is to be “closed book” and “no notes” it is expected that this rule will be obeyed. Backpacks should be placed under the desks during exams.

If assignments are given in which you are to obtain information from other sources such as the internet, films, attendance at academic activities, it is expected that you will use your own efforts and not replicate the work of others. This is particularly important when you are writing papers. **Always, always, always cite the source from which you draw your information.**

According to the Utah Valley State College Students Right and Responsibility Code: Each student is expected to maintain academic ethics and honesty in all its forms, including but not limited to, cheating and plagiarism as defined hereafter:

1. *Cheating* is the act of using or attempting to use or providing others with unauthorized information, materials or study aids in academic work. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, passing examination answers to or taking examinations for someone else, or preparing or copying others academic work.
2. *Plagiarism* is the act of appropriating any other persons or groups ideas or work (written, computerized, artistic, etc.) or portions therefore and passing them off as the product of one’s own work in any academic exercise or study.

### **CONFORMING TO PROFESSIONAL WRITING**

**STANDARDS:** APA writing style will be required for all written work.

### **LATE AND MAKE UP WORK:**

**Assignments** are due the date indicated on the syllabus. Deadlines and scheduled activities are indicated in the schedule section of this syllabus. Late assignments will be handled on case by case bases. Keep in mind I reserve the right to doc points for late assignments.

Proof your work. Using “Spell Check” is not enough. Use resources such as a dictionary, the Writing Lab and the (Online Writing Lab) and/or someone else who can proofread.

**PLAGIARISM:**

This is the use of another source's words, ideas or statistics without their permission and/or proper citation. Those who plagiarize material will receive a grade of zero on that assignment. I also reserve the right to assign you an "F" for the course and/or refer you to our department chair for further sanctions. Please keep in mind that one can be expelled from the college for academic dishonesty. **FREE SPEECH:**

Ideas are to be challenged, inspected, dismantled and re-evaluated. People, on the other hand, are to be treated with respect, even when we disagree.

**Extra Credit:**

Extra credit is available *only* to those who have turned in all required assignments on time.

**Absences Related to College Functions:**

Because this is an online class there should be little or no Absences or any issues related to collage functions!

**Academic Dishonesty:**

Academic dishonesty in any form is not tolerated at Dixie State University, including but not limited to plagiarism on written assignments, submitting other person's work as one's own, and cheating on exams or quizzes. Teachers at Dixie may discipline students proven guilty of academic dishonesty by: (1) giving a failing grade on the specific assignment where dishonesty occurred, (2) failing the student in the entire course, (3) Immediately dismissing and removing the student from the course, and/or (4) Referring the student to Student Affairs, a committee which may reprimand, place on probation, suspend, and/or expel the student. In addition, the Communication department may consider dropping such students from its academic degree program.

**3-34 ACADEMIC DISCIPLINE**

34.1 Cheating: Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated at Dixie State College, including but not limited to plagiarism on written assignments, submitting other person's work as one's own, and cheating on exams or quizzes. Teachers at Dixie State College may discipline students proven guilty of academic dishonesty by:

34.1.1 Giving a failing grade on the specific assignment where dishonesty occurred,

34.1.2 Failing the student in the entire course,

34.1.3 Immediately dismissing and removing the student from the course, and/or

34.1.4 Referring the student to Student Affairs, a committee which may reprimand, place on probation, suspend, and/or expel the student.

34.2 Disruptive Behavior: Teachers at Dixie State College have the right to manage the classroom environment to ensure a good learning climate. Toward this end, teachers (or college security) may dismiss and remove disruptive students from individual class activities. If a student's behavior continues to disrupt class activities, the teacher may dismiss and cause the removal of disruptive students from their course.

34.3 Student Appeals: Students who believe themselves wrongfully disciplined may appeal those disciplinary actions through the standard grievance procedure. (Policy 5-35)

### **Important Links:**

Disability Resource Center - [dixie.edu/drcenter](http://dixie.edu/drcenter)

Disability Statement

- If you suspect or are aware that you have a disability that may affect your success in the course you are strongly encouraged to contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) located at the North Plaza Building. The disability will be evaluated and eligible students will receive assistance in obtaining reasonable accommodations. Phone # 435-652-7516 M.

IT Student Help Desk - [dixie.edu/helpdesk](http://dixie.edu/helpdesk)

Library - [library.dixie.edu](http://library.dixie.edu)

Testing Center - [dixie.edu/testing](http://dixie.edu/testing)

Tutoring Center - [dixie.edu/tutoring](http://dixie.edu/tutoring)

Writing Center - [dixie.edu/english/dsc\\_writing\\_center.php](http://dixie.edu/english/dsc_writing_center.php)

### **D-mail:**

You are required to frequently check your Dmail account. Important class and university information will be sent to your Dmail account, including DSU bills, financial aid/scholarship notices, notices of cancelled classes, reminders of important dates and deadlines, and other information critical to your success at DSU and in your courses. To access your Dmail account, visit [go.dixie.edu/dmail](http://go.dixie.edu/dmail). If you do not know your Dmail username or you have forgotten your PIN, visit [go.dixie.edu/mydixie](http://go.dixie.edu/mydixie) and follow the respective instructions.

### **Assessments:**

There will be 3 assessments throughout the class in place of quizzes. They are designed to test your knowledge of psychology in an essay format and to help you with your written communication skills.

Answer the questions with a 300 - 350 word response. You may go over the word limit but you may not go under. Make sure you use the things you have learned from your reading as well as the class discussions to answer your questions. Use key terms in your answers. The object of these questions is to help you think more about what psychology means to you. It is also to help me make sure you understand what is being taught. Submit your answers to me in Canvas by 11:59 p.m. on the day they are due.

### ***Man's Search for Meaning by Viktor Frankl.***

The topic of this paper will be based on the book by Viktor Frankl. Please read the book and contemplate what the author experienced as well as how he chose to make this experience more positive. Then, write a summary of Frankl's experiences and recall an experience from your life that may have been similarly (emotionally) challenging. I realize that Viktor Frankl had the experience of being in a prison camp and that your experiences are probably not as severe. That being said, each of us faces challenges during our life experience. Recall one of your biggest challenges. In your paper, write about that challenge and compare it with the account of Viktor Frankl. Address the issue of "logo therapy" and how this may have been helpful for you,

or could have been helpful. The goal of this assignment is for you to understand how Frankl gave meaning to his life, and how you may be able to give meaning to your experiences. Guidelines for Review for Frankl's *Man's Search for Meaning*

Be sure to review the following suggestions while completing this assignment.

1. Read the book *Man's Search for Meaning*.
2. Provide the second part of the assignment which addresses a personal challenge you may have experienced and how you could have handled that challenge by implementing principles discussed in the Frankl book and how you may have applied logo therapy.
4. Please define "logo therapy" and offer a possible explanation as to why/how Frankl asserts this theory?
6. Compare nature/nurture and the percentage each would have played into Frankl's experience.
7. This is the personal part of your paper (Part 2) Compare a situation you have encountered and relate how your situation either was considered negative, or could have been perceived to be negative. What could have, or did, change that into a meaningful positive experience for you.
8. How does this topic relate to psychology?
9. The paper is to be written in APA format and should be about 1000 words in length. If you include any additional references from other material I expect it to be properly referenced in your reference page.

**This paper will be read and graded only by me. Any information you report will be kept confidential.**

### **Response Paper: Psychology and You!**

In this paper, you will discuss what psychology is and the principles you have learned in this class. Think of how psychology shapes your self-awareness and self-concept! Using ideas from the book and other sources, explore the impact of psychology on your own life experiences. Finally tell me how you will use this information in the future. I want it typed, double-spaced; at least 4 - 5 pages (1000 - 1500 words). The paper needs to be in APA format but can be written in first person. **Three or more references are required for this paper.**

#### ***What is a response paper?***

A response paper communicates your intellectual reactions to one or more books, ideas, or events. Much like a book review, the response paper usually provides an overall view of the book(s), idea(s), or event(s), and then responds in detail to more specific parts. For example, a response paper on the book, *Actual Innocence*, might give an overview of the book and its context, but then choose to focus on the writer's concern about the problems inherent in minimizing wrongful convictions.

## **Multi Media Chapter Presentation**

1. Research a Chapter of your choosing. Find out what it is, what the current research is about and how the class can be proficient at it. Where to research? Your text book, communication journals, books, magazines, interviews, library, etc.
2. You need to at least have a power point presentation or a Prezi for the group or individual. Remember to include a reference slide as well as in slide references. This means that you use APAformat throughout the presentation. At least one source for each group member (5 members = 5 citations) or if you are doing this on your own use 3 – 4 references. This should reflect the work, effort and preparation of your group.
3. You may do this presentation as a group or as an individual. Keep in mind that with a global world ahead of you, you will need to learn how to communicate using technology and to put projects together over long distances. It is a good idea to learn how to work with people online while putting together projects and presentations. I know you will be glad you did. You may use the chat room in class to get into groups for this presentation.
4. You may also film and edited for your presentation and then submit it to me in a format I can view. These can include (video clips, posters, overheads, Prezi, power-point, etc.
5. Be creative and enjoy this presentation. You have full liberty on how you do this presentation. I have had students video survey other students on campus, create a video drama that demonstrates there topic, or give their presentation in a classroom and then film themselves. Again be creative and have lots of fun.
6. Everyone needs to turn in the presentation on Canvas to receive a grade and every members name should be listed on the assignment.
7. **Good luck and have fun!**