

Course Syllabus

Psychology 1010-02

40234

General Psychology

Day and Time: Monday Wednesday and Friday 8:00 am-8:50 am

Fall Semester 2012 (3 Credits)

McDonald Building #206

Instructor: Deborah Decker

Email: ddecker@dixie.edu

Office: MCD 219

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday, 9:00-10:00 a.m. Alternate times by appointment.

Course Description: Intended for students in all disciplines who are interested in the fundamental scientific principles of human behavior. The student will study learning, motivation, emotion, personality, mental disorders, treatment alternatives and other related subjects as part of the course. Critical thinking will be explored in examining these aspects of behavior. Students will have frequent examinations, quizzes, and assignments as part of the course requirements. This course satisfies general education requirements in the social sciences area. 3 lecture hours per week.

Text for the course: Schacter, D. L., Gilbert, D. T., & Wegner, D. M. (2010). *Psychology* New York: Worth Publisher. ISBN-13: 978-1-4292-3719-2

Course Objectives:

At the conclusion of a Social Science course, successful students will be able to

- demonstrate an ability to examine human behaviors as a way of understanding the human condition;
- identify the ideas, people, and events that are generally thought to be important by social scientists;
- express points of view based on social scientific knowledge;
- exhibit elements of critical thinking and scientific methodology in examining human behavior.

More specifically, the successful **General Psychology** student will also be able to

- name the major pioneers in psychology, such as Freud, Pavlov, Piaget, Kohlberg, Maslow, and Skinner, and describe the contribution(s) each has made to the development of psychology;
- name and describe each of psychology's major perspectives: biological (including neuroscience and behavior genetics), evolutionary, psychodynamic, behavioral, humanistic, cognitive, and social-cultural;
- identify psychological research methods—descriptive, correlational, and experimental—and apply that understanding in evaluating the validity of popular psychological claims;
- apply psychological principles to their own lives by suggesting methods they might use to understand themselves and others more fully, to increase personal growth and development, to improve interpersonal relationships, and to maximize professional competence.

Attendance: You are expected to attend class. Roll will be taken in each class. **NOTE:** If you are participating in extra-curricular, social, athletic, or leadership activities (or even in off-campus field trips or activities required for other courses), you do so by your own choice, and you are responsible to make appropriate arrangements prior to the absence.

Rude and Disruptive behavior: PLEASE respect others. 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. Students who believe themselves wrongfully disciplined may appeal those disciplinary actions through the standard grievance procedure.

Disability Statement:

Students with medical, psychological, learning or other disabilities desiring reasonable academic adjustment, accommodations, or auxiliary aids to be successful in this class will need to contact the DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER Coordinator (Baako Wahabu) for eligibility determination. Proper documentation of impairment is required in order to receive services or accommodations. DRC is located next to the testing center in the North Plaza Building. Visit or call 652-7516 to schedule appointment to discuss the process. DRC Coordinator determines eligibility for and authorizes the provision of services.

Academic Honesty Policy: 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:

- Giving a failing grade on the specific assignment where dishonesty occurred,
- Failing the student in the entire course,
- Immediately dismissing and removing the student from the course, and/or
- Referring the student to Student Affairs, a committee which may reprimand, place on probation, suspend, and/or expel the student.

Student Support Services: Additional student services are offered through:

The Library: <http://library.dixie.edu/>

The Testing Center: <http://www.dixie.edu/testing/>.

The Tutoring Center <http://www.dixie.edu/tutoring/>

The Writing Center: http://www.dixie.edu/english/dsc_writing_center.php

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Grading: The majority of your grade will come from 5 tests throughout the semester as well as a cumulative final at the end of the semester. Each test will contain approximately 50 questions and be worth 100 points. The final exam will contain 100 questions and will be worth 150 points (roughly 80% of the questions on the final will be taken from previous exams). For the most part, tests will cover information from the text; however, they may also include questions on videos, handouts, or class discussions. All tests will require a Scan-Tron testing sheet, available at the bookstore, and a soft-lead (#2) pencil and the final exam will require the blue larger scan-tron.

Small assignments: Small assignments will be assigned throughout the course and most of them will be completed in class individually or in groups. Some of these will be written in class and others will be posted on line in CANVAS.

Large assignments: There will be 4 larger assignments over the course of the semester these will be worth 25 points or more. Each assignment will be introduced during class and they will include a research written assignment, a book review, a book discussion, and a poster assignment.

Quizzes: Starting in the 2nd week of the semester quizzes will be given during the beginning of some of the class periods. These quizzes will cover the material from that class periods reading assignment and from the previous class reading assignment. These quizzes will be simple and straight forward if you do the reading. Two of the lowest quizzes will be dropped. Quizzes cannot be made up.

Late/Missed Quizzes and Exams: Exams must be taken on the days they are assigned. These exams will take place in the testing center and there will be flexibility as to when you can choose

to take them. If you are involved in other school related programs that make it so this is not possible I will follow school policy for making up these exams. Please be responsible and make arrangements early. Your lowest test score will be dropped when tabulating final grades (you may not drop the final); however, I do not recommend that you plan on skipping any exams since the material for the final will come from previous exams.

Final Exam: The final exam will be cumulative and may not be dropped. **Do not freak out!** You will be very well prepared to take this final. We have a review day for the exam and new instruction will stop one week before finals, giving you a chance study and prepare.

Extra Credit: There will be opportunities for extra credit given through out the course. The maximum amount of points you can accrue is 25 points.

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GRADE SCALE: Grades will be computed based on the following:

Large assignments	150
Assignments, Quizzes, group work	200
Six Chapter tests 5 highest used...	500
Final...	150
TOTAL	1000

GRADE EQUIVALENTS

94%-100% = A	73 - 76 = C
90 - 93 = A-	70 - 72 = C-
87 - 89 = B+	67 - 69 = D+
83 - 86 = B	63 - 66 = D
80 - 82 = B-	60 - 62 = D-

77 - 79 = C+

59 and below = F

COURSE CALENDAR***

***This is tentative and may be adjusted throughout the semester.

Date	Class Work	Notes
20-Aug	Syllabus, Chapter 1 part 1	
22-Aug	Chapter 1 part 2	
24-Aug	Chapter 2 part 1	
27-Aug	Chapter 2 part 2	
29-Aug	Exam 1 review, Research intro	Exam 1 opens
31-Aug	Exam day	no physical class
3-Sep		Holiday no class
5-Sep	Chapter 3 part 1	
7-Sep	Exam 1 returned, chapter 3 part 2	
10-Sep	Chapter 4 part 1	
12-Sep	Chapter 4 part 2	
14-Sep	Exam 2 review, research paper peer editing	Exam 2 opens
17-Sep	Chapter 5	
19-Sep	Chapter 5	
21-Sep	Chapter 6	
24-Sep	Chapter 6	
26-Sep	Chapter 7	
28-Sep	Chapter 7	Exam 3 opens
1-Oct	Chapter 8 part 1	
3-Oct	Chapter 8 part 2	
5-Oct	Chapter 9 part 1	
8-Oct	Online discussion day	no physical class
10-Oct	Research Presentations,	
12-Oct		Break no class
15-Oct	Chapter 9 part 2	
17-Oct	Chapter 10 part 1	
19-Oct	Chapter 10 part 2	Exam 4 opens
22-Oct	Chapter 11	
24-Oct	Chapter 11	
26-Oct	chapter 12	
29-Oct	Chapter 12	
31-Oct	Chapter 13	
2-Nov	Chapter 13	Exam 5 opens
5-Nov	Chapter 14	
7-Nov	Chapter 14	
9-Nov	Chapter 15	
12-Nov	Chapter 15	
14-Nov	Chapter 16	
16-Nov	Chapter 16	Exam 6 opens

19-Nov	Poster assignments	
21&23- Nov		Break no class
3-Dec	Book review group A	
5-Dec	Final exam review	
7-Dec	Book review group B	
12-Dec	Final Exam	7:30 am-9:30 am

Important Dates

Classwork Starts-Aug 20th

Aug 23	Last Day to Waitlist
Aug 24	Last Day to Add Without Signature
Aug 27	Drop/Audit Fee Begins (\$10 per class)
Sep 3	Labor Day
Sep 4	\$50 Late Registration/Payment Fee
Sep 10	Pell Grant Census
Sep 10	Last Day for Refund
Sep 10	Last Day to drop without receiving a "W" grade
Sep 11	Courses dropped for non-payment
Sep 14	Last Day to Add/Audit
Oct 1	Graduation Application Deadline for Fall 2012
Oct 10	Mid-Term Grades Due
Oct 11-12	Semester Break
Oct 15	Last Day to Drop Individual Class
Oct 22	Spring and Summer 2013 class schedules available online
Nov 1	Graduation Application Deadline for Spring 2013 baccalaureate degrees
Nov 9	Last Day for Complete Withdrawal

Nov 12	Spring Registration open to Seniors (90+ credits)
Nov 13	Career Day (no classes before 4:00 p.m.)
Nov 13	Spring Registration open to Juniors (60+ credits)
Nov 14	Spring Registration open to Sophomores (30+ credits)
Nov 15	Spring Registration Open to All Students
Nov 21-23	Thanksgiving Break
Dec 7	Classwork Ends
Dec 10-14	Final Exams