

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: PSYC-130-Contemporary Issues

CLASS SECTION: 001 (A, B, C)

TERM: 2025W

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): On Campus (Lansdowne)

Camosun College respectfully acknowledges that our campuses are situated on the territories of the Ləkʷəŋən (Songhees and Kosapsum) and WSÁNEĆ peoples. We honour their knowledge and welcome to all students who seek education here.

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Arloene Burak, M.Sc., R.C.C.

EMAIL: Buraka@Camosun.ca

OFFICE: Fisher 308-B

HOURS: Wednesday 12:30 – 1:20 or by appointment

As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course acquaints students with major contemporary issues in psychology and considers their historical antecedents. Topics include the application of psychological knowledge on life span development, personality, abnormal behaviour, social cognition, social influence, and social relations to a variety of contemporary social issues. Topics vary with instructor and changing problems.

PREREQUISITE(S): One of: C in English 12 or C in Camosun Alternative

CO-REQUISITE(S): See Pre-requisites

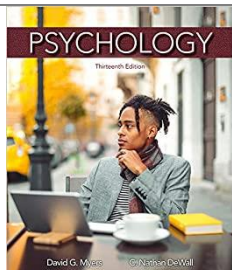
EQUIVALENCIES: Not Applicable

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course a student will be able to:

- Describe major contemporary issues in psychology and explain their historical antecedents.
- Apply psychological theories and understanding of current psychological issues to personal experience.
- Conduct impartial studies of psychological topics and arrive at logical inferences and conclusions from collected data.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION



Myers, David, G. & DeWall, C.N. (2021). *Psychology* (13th Edition). Worth Publishers: New York.

- The text can be purchased as loose-leaf pages for a binder or e-book.
- Achieve is optional and is **NOT REQUIRED** for this course.
 - Course URL: <https://achieve.macmillanlearning.com/courses/egqmtt>
 - Achieve Course ID: egqmtt

COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

Wk.	Lecture Date	Lecture Topics <i>Quiz Due: Tuesday 2 p.m.</i>	Readings	Lab Topics & Activities <i>Activity Due: Next Wed 2 p.m.</i>
1	Jan. 7 th	Introduction to Course Prologue: The Story of Psychology <i>Quiz 1-Prologue: Due Jan. 14th (3 Attempts)</i>	Prologue	Introduction to Lab
2	Jan. 14 th	Developing Through the Life Span <i>Quiz 2-Ch. 5: Due Jan. 21st</i>	Chapter 5	Psychosocial Assignment
3	Jan. 21 st	Intelligence <i>Quiz 3-Ch. 10: Due Jan. 28th</i>	Chapter 10	Library Resource Exercise Lansdowne Library Room#136
4	Jan. 28 th	What Drives Us <i>Quiz 4-Ch. 11: Due Feb. 4th</i>	Chapter 11	Motivation Assignment
5	Feb. 4 th	Test #1: Chapters: 5, 10, & 11		Project Organization
6	Feb. 11 th	Emotions, Stress, and Health <i>Quiz 5-Ch. 12: Due Feb. 25th</i>	Chapter 12	Happiness Assignment <i>Due: Feb. 26th</i>
7	Feb. 18 th	No Class: Family Day		No Lab: Reading Break
8	Feb. 25 th	Personality <i>Quiz 6-Ch. 14: Due March 4th</i>	Chapter 14	Project Show Case
9	Mar. 4 th	Social Psychology <i>Quiz 7-Ch. 13: Due March 18th</i>	Chapter 13	Project Show Case
10	Mar. 11 th	Social Psychology		Project Show Case
11	Mar. 18 th	Test #2: Chapters: 12, 13, & 14		Drug Therapy Assignment
12	Mar 25 th	Psychological Disorders <i>Quiz 8-Ch. 15: Due April 1st</i>	Chapter 15	Project Show Case
13	April 1 st	Therapy <i>Quiz 9-Ch. 16: Due April 8th</i>	Chapter 16	Project Show Case
14	April 8 th	Therapy		Test #3: Chapters 15 & 16

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced noticed is required. Deadlines can be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](#).

<https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning/academic-accommodations-exams>

EVALUATION OF LEARNING

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
<p>Quizzes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The course includes a total of 9 multiple-choice quizzes to encourage completion of the required readings and advance preparation for tests. Only your top 7 quiz scores will count towards your grade. These quizzes are open-book. The first quiz, covering the <i>Prologue: The Story of Psychology Quiz</i>, allows up to 3 attempts, while all subsequent quizzes allow only one attempt each. Because you can miss 2 quizzes without penalty, no make-up quizzes will be offered. - Quizzes are accessible on D2L (<i>see information below</i>). D2L will automatically close quizzes at the designated due dates and times listed in the course schedule (Tuesdays at 2:00 pm). Be sure to complete each quiz before the deadline, as extensions will not be granted. To avoid last-minute issues, it is strongly recommended that you attempt the quiz at least one day prior to the due date. - If you encounter any difficulties while completing a quiz, please contact Information Technology Services for assistance at https://camosun.ca/services/its/student-tech-support. 	10%
<p>Chapter Tests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There will be 3 Chapter Tests covering material from the textbook, lecture PPT notes, and videos. You are responsible for attending the tests as scheduled. The first two tests will take place on Tuesdays in class starting at 3:30 pm, with no lecture following your test. The final test will be held on Wednesday during your designated lab time. These tests are non-cumulative, meaning that they only cover material presented since the previous test. The format of the tests will include multiple choice, short answer, and true/false questions. <p>Test Schedule:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Test #1: Chapters 5, 10, & 11 (February 4th) - Test #2: Chapters 12, 13, & 14 (March 18th) - Test #3: Chapters 15 & 16 (April 9th) 	65%
<p>Lab Exercises</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Weekly labs (see class schedule for due dates) will involve activities such as reading scientific papers, conducting interviews, and completing self-assessments. Lab activities will often be completed during the lab session; however, the due date is the following week. To deepen understanding of course concepts, self-reflection questions will be assigned and graded on a satisfactory or unsatisfactory basis. Weekly activities will vary in value from 1% to 3%, while the final project, addressing a current issue in psychology, will be worth 5%. Students are encouraged to work in 	25%

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
groups for the final project but may also choose to work individually. Detailed guidelines for weekly exercise and the final project will be provided during the lab sessions. Late submissions will receive a penalty of 10% per day.	
If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the Grade Review and Appeals policy for more information.	TOTAL 100%

<https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.14.pdf>

COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

Step-by-Step Guide for Student Access to Quizzes on D2L:

1. Login to course D2L Website.
2. Select **Content** from the navigation bar.
3. Select **Quizzes** from the content drop-down menu.
4. Scroll down to **Current Quizzes**.
5. Click the link for the quiz you need to complete.
6. Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click **Start Quiz**.
7. Select the correct response for each question in the quiz (Your responses will automatically be saved).
8. Once you've answered all the questions, scroll to the bottom of the page and click **Submit Quiz**.
9. D2L will prompt you to return to questions that you may have missed or have not yet answered. You may have to click the **Submit Quiz** button again.

Late Work Policy: Late work will only be accepted in extreme cases and will incur a penalty of 10% per day past the deadline. It is your responsibility to schedule your time effectively to meet all due dates. If you anticipated being unable to meet a deadline, you must contact me in advance to discuss the situation.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit camosun.ca/services.

Support Service	Website
Academic Advising	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/academic-advising
Accessible Learning	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning
Counselling	camosun.ca/services/health-and-wellness/counselling-centre
Career Services	camosun.ca/services/co-operative-education-and-career-services
Financial Aid and Awards	camosun.ca/registration-records/financial-aid-awards
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres
Indigenous Student Support	camosun.ca/programs-courses/iecc/indigenous-student-services
International Student Support	camosun.ca/international
Learning Skills	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills
Library	camosun.ca/services/library
Office of Student Support	camosun.ca/services/office-student-support
Ombudsperson	camosun.ca/services/ombudsperson
Registration	camosun.ca/registration-records/registration
Technology Support	camosun.ca/services/its
Writing Centre	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills

If you have a mental health concern, please contact Counselling to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, please contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to comply with all College policy regarding academic integrity; which is about honest and ethical behaviour in your education journey. The following guide is designed to help you understand your responsibilities: <https://camosun.libguides.com/academicintegrity/welcome>
Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.13.pdf> for Camosun's Academic Integrity policy and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Camosun College is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging appropriate academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you are a student with a documented disability and think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) and register as early as possible. Please visit the CAL website for more information about the process of registering with CAL, including important deadlines: <https://camosun.ca/cal>

Academic Progress

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2023-02/e-1.1.pdf> for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <https://camosun.ca/registration-records/tuition-fees#deadlines>.

Grading Policy

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal (see [Medical/Compassionate Withdrawals policy](#)). Please visit <https://camosun.ca/services/forms#medical> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

Sexual Violence

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun's Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student's right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun's Sexualized Violence Policy: <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.9.pdf> and camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence-support-and-education.

To contact the Office of Student Support: oss@camosun.ca or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-370-3841

Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College's Student Misconduct Policy at <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

Looking for other policies?

The full suite of College policies and directives can be found here: <https://camosun.ca/about/camosun-college-policies-and-directives>

Changes to this Syllabus: Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.