

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: PSYC-130: Contemporary Issues
CLASS SECTION: RHO9 – Lambrick Park Secondary School
TERM: WINTER 2024
COURSE CREDITS: 3
DELIVERY METHOD(S): Face-to-Face

Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the Lək̓ʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here.
Learn more about Camosun's [Territorial Acknowledgement](#).

For COVID-19 information please visit <https://camosun.ca/about/covid-19-updates>

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first-class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable explanation in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student.

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Duncan McCurrach, M.Sc.
EMAIL: McCurrachD@camosun.bc.ca
OFFICE: Fisher 308B
OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays, 3:00pm – 4:30pm
Fridays, 3:00pm – 4:30pm

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 behavior, 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
- C in Camosun Alternative

CO-REQUISITE(S):

See Pre-requisites

EXCLUSION(S):

Not Applicable

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES/OBJECTIVES

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

1. Describe major contemporary issues in psychology and explain their historical antecedents.

2. Apply psychological theories and understanding of current psychological issues to personal experience.
3. Conduct impartial studies of psychological topics and arrive at logical inferences and conclusions from collected data.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

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

Purchase **Camosun College—Contemporary Issues (Volume 2)** if you are only taking PSYC 130.

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.

| Class Dates: Mondays 1:55pm – 3:15pm Tuesdays 12:30pm – 1:50pm Thursdays 12:30pm – 1:50pm | Lecture Topics | Readings |
|---|--|----------------------------------|
| Feb. 05 and Feb. 06 | Course Introduction/The Story of Psychology | Lecture Review #1/ Prologue |
| Feb. 08, Feb. 12, and Feb. 13 | Thinking Critically with Psychological Science | Lecture Review #2/Chapter 1 |
| Feb. 15 | Exam 1 Review | |
| Feb. 20 | Exam #1 | |
| Feb. 22 and Feb. 26 | Lifespan Development | Lecture Review #3/Chapter 5 |
| Feb. 27 and Feb. 29 | Intelligence | Lecture Review #4/Chapter 10 |
| Mar. 04 | Exam 2 Review | |
| Mar. 05 | Exam #2 | |
| Mar. 07 and Mar. 11 | Emotion and Stress | Lecture Review #5/Chapter 12 |
| Mar. 12 and Mar. 14 | Social Psychology | Lecture Review #6/Chapter 13 |
| | Spring Break | |
| Apr. 04 | Exam 3 Review | |
| Apr. 08 | Exam #3 | |
| Apr. 09 and Apr. 11 | Motivation | Lecture Review #7/Chapter 11 |
| Apr. 16 and Apr. 18 | Personality | Lecture Review #8/Chapter 14 |
| Apr. 23 | Exam 4 Review | |
| Apr. 25 | Exam #4 | |
| Apr. 30 and May 02 | Psychological Disorders | Lecture Review #9/Chapter 15 |
| May 07 and May 09 | Therapy | Lecture Review #10/Chapter 15 |

| | | |
|--------|--------------------------------------|--|
| May 14 | Mock Patient Interview/Exam 5 Review | |
| May 16 | Exam #5 | |

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 notice is required. Deadlines can be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html). <http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html>

EVALUATION OF LEARNING

| Student Evaluation | Percentage of Final Grade | Date |
|------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Exam 1 | 12% | Feb. 20 |
| Exam 2 | 12% | Mar. 05 |
| Exam 3 | 12% | Apr. 08 |
| Exam 4 | 12% | Apr. 25 |
| Exam 5 | 12% | May 16 |
| Assignments | 30% | See Course Schedule for Dates |
| Mock Patient Interview | 10% | See Course Schedule for Dates |

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](http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf) policy for more information. <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf>

COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

LECTURE FORMAT:

This course will consist of lectures presented to you during the scheduled class times. PowerPoint slides and lecture reviews will be posted to D2L before class; however, additional content may be discussed in class. Therefore, it is important that you attend class and take further notes.

EXAMS:

The exams may consist of multiple choice and true or false questions. You must write the exams during the scheduled class time in person. You must inform me before an exam if you cannot write it at the scheduled time. A make-up exam will only be scheduled if you can provide documentation for your absence. The exams will not be cumulative.

ASSIGNMENTS:

There will be five assignments that must be completed outside of class time and submitted through D2L. Assignments will be due the night before each exam. Each assignment will count towards six percent of your final grade (5 x 6% = 30%).

MOCK PATIENT INTERVIEW:

During the semester you will be introduced to a mock patient during class. Your task will be to ask this 'patient' questions to determine the disorder(s) you think they are presenting with and to take notes. At the end of the interview, you will then submit your 'diagnosis' along with a brief write up of the symptoms presented by the mock patient that led you to that diagnosis. The mock patient interview will count towards 10 percent of your final grade.

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 <http://camosun.ca/students/>.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Academic Advising | http://camosun.ca/advising |
| Accessible Learning | http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning |
| Counselling | http://camosun.ca/counselling |
| Career Services | http://camosun.ca/coop |
| Financial Aid and Awards | http://camosun.ca/financialaid |
| Help Centres (Math/English/Science) | http://camosun.ca/help-centres |
| Indigenous Student Support | http://camosun.ca/indigenous |
| International Student Support | http://camosun.ca/international/ |
| Learning Skills | http://camosun.ca/learningskills |
| Library | http://camosun.ca/services/library/ |
| Office of Student Support | http://camosun.ca/oss |
| Ombudsperson | http://camosun.ca/ombuds |
| Registration | http://camosun.ca/registration |
| Technology Support | http://camosun.ca/its |
| Writing Centre | http://camosun.ca/writing-centre |

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 Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The College is committed to providing appropriate and reasonable academic accommodations to students with disabilities (i.e. physical, depression, learning, etc). If you have a disability, the [Centre for Accessible Learning](#) (CAL) can help you document your needs, and where disability-related barriers to access in your

courses exist, create an accommodation plan. By making a plan through CAL, you can ensure you have the appropriate academic accommodations you need without disclosing your diagnosis or condition to course instructors. Please visit the CAL website for contacts and to learn how to get started:

<http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/>

Academic Integrity

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.13.pdf> for policy regarding academic expectations and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Progress

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/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 <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <http://camosun.ca/learn/fees/#deadlines>.

Grading Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

Mandatory Attendance for First Class Meeting of Each Course

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable reason in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student. For more information, please see the "Attendance" section under "Registration Policies and Procedures" (<http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/procedures.html>) and the Grading Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf>.

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. Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.8.pdf> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

Sexual Violence and Misconduct

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 or misconduct 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 and Misconduct Policy: <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.9.pdf> and camosun.ca/sexual-violence. To contact the Office of Student Support: oss@camosun.ca or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-3703841

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 <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

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.