

PSYCHOLOGY 130 COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR

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Office Hours are posted on my office door, Ewing 344B

COURSE CONTENT

PSYCHOLOGY APPLIED TO CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL PROBLEMS (Calendar Description)

This course applies knowledge in psychology to current social problems. Topics such as education, the nature of madness, health, terrorism, drug abuse, AIDS, violence and the urban scene may be considered. Students will be asked to work on several social problems with methods that will prepare them to be actively involved in society. Topics vary with instructor and changing social problems.

Prerequisites: English 12 or assessment.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the end of the course, the student shall:

1. demonstrate the acquisition and command of terms and concepts used in psychology.
2. demonstrate an understanding of some social problems.
3. demonstrate acceptable verbal and writing skills required to:
 - a) arrive at logical inferences and conclusions from collected data.
 - b) make impartial studies of psychological topics.
4. demonstrate the skills required to actively contribute to class discussion, work in groups, and make effective class presentations
5. demonstrate an understanding of course content through written examinations.
6. apply psychological theories to personal experience.
7. analyze psychological topics from a variety of perspectives.
8. learn how social problems apply to his/her personal life.

COURSE ORGANIZATION

1. There are two hours of lecture each week
2. There is one, one-hour seminar per week. (Your student class schedule informs you of which seminar you are assigned.)

You must attend the seminar assigned to you on your class schedule registration form.

TEXTBOOK

1. *Psychology, Sixth Edition*, David G. Myers, Worth Publishers

TESTS & ASSIGNMENTS

SPECIAL NOTE: All assignments, quizzes, tests, and activities must include your FIRST AND LAST NAME AND YOUR LAB SECTION. EXAMPLE: David Reagan, Psych 110, Lab B. Papers without both first and last names and lab section WILL NOT BE GRADED and will be placed in the paper return box which will be located in the lab during each lab session.

TESTS:

1. There will be five quizzes that will be announced at least one class session in advance of the quiz date.
2. There will be a midterm and a final exam. Details will be discussed in class.
3. Multiple choice quizzes and exams expect you to apply the terms & concepts of the course, not just recognize definitions. **There will be no make-up opportunities for tests missed without a doctor's note.**

ACTIVITY POINTS

There will be random, brief, in-class activities worth 20 points each. You must be in attendance to participate in the activity. **There will be no make-up opportunities for class activities missed without a doctor's note.**

PARTICIPATION

1. I believe participation and attendance is very important.
2. If you must miss class, you must call me at 370-3197. If I am not available please leave a message on my voice mail.

Seminar Presentation and Write-Up:

In teams of two or three students, you will be asked to summarize the chapter for the week and then write-up a two to three page (500 - 750 word) summary of current literature that relates to the topic of the week. The paper may be individual or a group project. The write-up must be in **APA style** and cite at least three current academic journals. The journals used for the paper need to be appropriately referenced at the end of your paper, **APA style**. **Both the presentation and the summary paper should address a social issue that relates to the content of the chapter and the course website.**

The seminar presentation will include the following:

- a. Summary of Key Concepts in the textbook reading for the week.
- b. Summary of Key Concepts from the Website for the course.

Seminar Format: (50 minutes Seminar)

Minutes: (Recommended Format)

0-5: Instructor's Introductory Comments

10 - 20: Chapter Review & Highlights

20 - 35: Website Review & Highlights

35 - 40: Summary of Chapter and Website

40 - 50: Student and Instructor led discussion and summary

**LATE WORK WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED IN EXTREME CASES.
PLEASE SCHEDULE YOUR TIME TO MEET ALL DUE DATES.**

GRADES

FINAL GRADES

1. For the final grades, I use the Camosun College standards:

A + = 95% - 100% **A = 90% - 94%** **A - = 85% - 89%**
B + = 80% - 84% **B = 75% - 79%** **B - = 70% - 74%**
C + = 65% - 69% **C = 60% - 64%**
D = 50% - 59% **F = 0% - 49%**

I = Incomplete. (If the missing work is not completed within 6 weeks of the end of semester, the mark will automatically revert to **F**.)

2. The final grade will be weighted as follows:

Quizzes 5 quizzes, 20 points for participating: 100 points possible
Midterm 400 points
Final Quiz 150 points
Presentation of Chapter and Website 100 points
Presentation Summary (Write Up).....150 points
Class Activities 4 activities, 25 pts each: 100 points possible
Total Points: 1,000 points

Final Exam: In lieu of the quiz scores (the five quizzes and the final quiz) you can take a **Final Exam worth 250 points.**

HOW I GRADE

1. Grades combine the college definition and my own experience.

A: Superior levels of achievement. I expect quality which shows a full understanding of the work, and which also includes exceptional achievement (i.e. new insight, obvious quality research, clear presentation above and beyond the minimum required, better work than the majority of the class).

B: High levels of achievement. For a B, I use work that is good and shows full understanding. It does not have the same degree of exceptional achievement that makes an A, but is distinctly beyond the minimum required.

C+: Satisfactory level of achievement.

C: Sufficient level of achievement to proceed with next level of study. Average work, showing an understanding of the material and the minimum requirements have been met. It does not indicate the student is having any real difficulties.

D: Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a D grade cannot be used as a prerequisite. I give this grade for work that is handed in, lacking all required details, but has some approximation of adequate work.

F: Minimum level is not achieved.

REGRADING AND RESUBMISSION

1. If you are not satisfied with a grade I have given, you have the right to ask me to regrade the work. After my reviewing the work you may receive a higher grade, a lower grade, or the same grade.
2. I reserve the right to ask you to resubmit work, or to show me extra material related to it. In either case, the maximum mark I will give will be C+.

STUDENT RIGHTS and RESPONSIBILITIES

1. If a student requires special accommodation to be successful in this course, please discuss your special needs with me during the first week of classes.
2. Students have the right not to participate in any class exercise.
3. In class, you always have the right **NOT** to self-disclose any information.
4. I expect my students to follow certain standards of conduct:
 - a) Work must be used for this course only. I will not accept work used in another course without the written approval of the other instructor.
 - b) Assignments that are copied (identical or plagiarized) between students will be given 0% for ALL students with identical work. If you want to work co-operatively, inform me ahead of time.
 - c) Fabrication of research data is not acceptable.
 - d) It is college policy that *"If an instructor remains convinced that there has been a violation [such as plagiarism or cheating], he or she may assign a grade of F for the work involved, or for the course..."*

All students are expected to follow the College's Student Conduct Policy as outlined in Camosun College Calendar

