

**Psychology 130: Psychology Applied to Contemporary Social Issues
Course Outline/ Spring 2004**

Instructor:	Katrina Gantly	Email:	gantly@camosun.bc.ca
Office Number:	Fisher 106E	Office Hours:	MW 4-5:30 PM
Office Phone Number:	370-3374		or by appointment

Course Description: Calendar

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.

Textbook for Psychology 130

Psychology, Canadian Edition, (2003/2004) Wade, Tavris, Saucier, & Elias; Pearson Ed Publishers

Format of the Course

- Tests:** There will be five tests, each comprised of 15 multiple choice questions worth 1 point each, short answers adding up to 15 points and 2 longer answers adding up to 20 points for a total of 50 points per test. They are not cumulative, and are each worth 13% of your final grade.
- Assignments:** There are three, 1-2 page take-home assignments that will reflect a contemporary application of the chapter content for that week. They will be graded according to a set of criteria that will be handed out with the first assignment. Each will be worth 5% of your final grade.
- Presentation:** Groups will be set up on the second day of classes and the project/presentation will be handed out and explained at that time. It will be worth 20% of your final grade. A schedule for the presentations will also be set up at that time.
- Summary:**
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|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Tests: | 5 X 13% = 65 % |
| Assignments: | 3 X 5% = 15 % |
| Presentation: | 1 X 20% = 20% |

Website and other resources

The knowledge base for this course can be seen as coming from three different sources:

- **textbook:** important resource for core concepts and descriptions of major studies
- **lecture:** purpose is to clarify concepts introduced in text and to expand student knowledge in the area with additional examples and application to contemporary issues
- **web-notes:** in order to help you organize your notes, and to reduce the amount of writing in class, all overhead material will be available to you prior to lecture on my website. The URL is <http://www.members.shaw.ca/kgantly130/> Every attempt is made to get the information to you in advance of lecture; however, from time to time the server has difficulties. If this should happen and the web-notes are not available at least 12 hours prior to class, I will bring copies for you to class. *****It is important to note that the web-notes do not cover all relevant material. Class attendance is necessary to ensure that you have a complete set of notes for studying.**
- **focus topics:** in order to help you organize your studying time, I will post, three days prior to a test, a set of focus topics. These will help you make more efficient use of your study time by letting you know which concepts, in particular, you should pay special attention to. The focus topics will be available on the website (address listed above).
- **grades:** in accordance with Camosun standards (below), I will post the grades on my website (above) as well as outside my office door (listed above)

Grading (Camosun Standards)

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

*(If the missing work is not completed within 6 weeks from the semester end, the grade will become **F**).

Plagiarism

Presenting original written work, along with summaries of research articles, integration of information from a variety of sources and individual opinion papers, is a substantial part of the course experience. Plagiarism, or the unacknowledged use of another person's ideas or words represents academic dishonesty and is grounds for expulsion from the college. Camosun policy states "If an instructor remains convinced that there has been a violation [plagiarism or cheating], he or she may assign a grade of F for the work involved or in the course...". None of us want that to happen, so please remember to give credit where credit is due.

Tentative Schedule of Topics, Tests and Assignments

***Please note that while every attempt will be made to cover the topics according to the schedule, that sometimes, due to student interest in a particular topic, unexpected events, etc. that sometimes this schedule can be disrupted. While this will unlikely affect the date of the tests, assignments or lecture topics could be affected.

<p><u>Monday, May 3rd</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction to the course 2. Course outline, intro to text, etc. 3. Lecture re: Critical Thinking (from Ch.1) 4. Group Activity re: Critical Thinking <p><i>Third Assignment introduced (due last day of class)</i></p>	<p><u>Wednesday, May 5th</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pioneers of Psychology (Ch.1) 2. Lecture re: Research and Methodology (Ch.2) 3. Group Activities re: Research and Methodology <i>4. Discussion of Group Presentations and Schedule</i>
<p><u>Monday, May 10th</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lecture on topics related to Social Psychology (Chapter 8) 2. Norms, social rules, conformity 3. Studies by Sherif, Asch, Milgram and Zimbardo 4. Activity relating to norms and conformity <p><i>First assignment introduced (due Monday, May 17th) - criteria for marking handed out</i></p>	<p><u>Wednesday, May 12th</u></p> <p><i>1. Test One: covering Chapters 1 and 2 lectures, web-notes and readings</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Lecture on topics related to Social Psychology cont'd. (Chapter 8) 3. Attributions, stereotypes, group cohesiveness, attitude change, persuasion 4. Prejudice, jigsaw classrooms, interdependence
<p><u>Monday, May 17th</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Finish off any leftover material from Ch. 8 2. Introduce Emotions (Chapter 11) 3. Primary, secondary emotions, physical, cognitive, behavioural basis of emotions 4. Evolutionary and social advantage, emotions across cultures, ages 5. Group Activity re: Emotions 	<p><u>Wednesday, May 19th</u></p> <p><i>1. Test Two: covering Chapter 8 lectures, web-notes and readings</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Introduce Motivation (Chapter 12) 3. Motivation to Eat, for Procreation, for Love, for Achievement 4. Role of individual, peers, family, society and culture in expression of motivation

<p><u>Monday, May 24th</u></p> <p>No Class Today: Victoria Day Holiday</p>	<p><u>Wednesday, May 26th</u></p> <p><u>1. Test Three covering Chapters 11 and 12 lectures, web-notes and readings</u></p> <p>2. Introduce Personality (Chapter 13) 3. Major theories, types of personalities, personality over the lifespan, tests for personalities 4. Class Activity re: personality</p>
<p><u>Monday, May 31st</u></p> <p>1. Introduce Lifespan Development (Ch. 14) 2. Conception, prenatal development and birth 3. Childhood - fine motor development, language development, moral development 4. Class Activity re: childhood</p> <p><u>Presentations: Groups ?</u></p> <p><u>Second Assignment introduced - started in class and due Wednesday, June 9th</u></p>	<p><u>Wednesday, June 2nd</u></p> <p>1. Lifespan Development cont'd (Ch. 14) 2. Teenage Years 3. Adulthood 4. Aging</p> <p><u>Presentations: Groups ?</u></p>
<p><u>Monday, June 7th</u></p> <p><u>1. Test Four covering Chapters 13 and 14 lectures, web-notes and readings</u></p> <p>1. Introduction to Stress and Coping (Ch. 15) 2. Physical, Emotional, Behavioural components of stress and coping 3. Relaxation Methods 4. Class Activities</p>	<p><u>Wednesday, June 9th</u></p> <p>1. Introduce Psychological Disorders (Ch. 16) 2. Anxiety Disorders 3. Depression 4. Bipolar Disorders 5. Schizophrenia</p> <p><u>Presentations: Groups ?</u></p>
<p><u>Monday, June 14th</u></p> <p>1. Psychological Disorders cont'd with personality disorders, dissociative disorders 2. Introduce Psychological Treatments (drug classes and uses, psychotherapies, etc.</p> <p><u>Presentations: Groups ?</u></p>	<p><u>Wednesday, June 16th</u></p> <p><u>1. Test Five covering Chapters 16 and 17 lectures, web-notes and readings</u></p>

Miscellaneous

- Missed tests must be made up within 3 working days of the missed test.
- Missed assignments must be handed in within 3 working days of the due date
- Missed presentations will result in an automatic subtraction of 10% (approximately 2 full letter grades) unless accompanied by a doctor's note. Your group has worked really hard and needs you there to help!!!
- Thank you for taking Psychology 130...I look forward to a great term with all of you.