



**School of Arts & Science  
Psychology**

**Psyc 130: Psychology Applied to Contemporary  
Social Issues  
Winter, 2007**

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**COURSE OUTLINE**

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**Instructor Information**

**Instructor:** Katrina Gantly

**Email:** gantly@camosun.bc.ca

**Office hours:** W 9:30 AM – 1:30 PM

**Website:** <http://webct.camosun.bc.ca/>

**Office:** Fisher 106E

**Office Phone:** (250) 370-3374

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**Web CT**

The course materials (web-notes, focus topics, course outline and grades) are available on my website, and were developed using webct. The first time you go to the site, follow these steps:

- Type <http://webct.camosun.bc.ca> into your address bar
- A screen with a little graduate will appear in the left hand corner. Click on "Log in to my Web CT"
- A screen will appear that says "Web CT ID" . In the box, enter your Camosun College student ID number (e.g. C0123456)
- Beside "password" enter changeme
- Click log-in. It will prompt you to immediately change your password. Complete that, then log-in.
- A small information bar will appear along the top of the screen. It will say "Psyc 130: Instructor: Katrina Gantly". Click on the Psyc 130. This will take you to my homepage.

After this, it is much simpler. You'll login using your camosun ID and new password, it will immediately take you to the web-page. The webct page can be accessed either by typing the URL listed above, or through the Psychology Department Faculty page, when you click on my name.

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**Course Description and Intended Learning Outcomes**

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.

Upon completion of this course the 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.
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## Required Materials

**Texts:** Wade, C., Tavis, C., Saucier, D., Elias, L. (2006). Psychology. Toronto: Pearson

**Optional Materials:** Web-notes from my website (listed above). They will be available prior to each lecture for students who are interested in printing out overhead material prior to class. In the event that I am unable to post the notes on the web at least 24 hours prior to lecture, I will bring hard-copies of the notes to class. It is important to note that the web-notes represent only about 1/2 of what is covered in lecture. Therefore, if you should happen to miss class due to illness, etc. you should try to get the lecture notes from a friend. Diagrams and figures will not be posted on the website.

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## Course Content and Schedule

**Course Meeting Times:** Wednesday, 6:30 PM – 9:20 PM  
**Course Room:** Fisher 306

## Evaluation Methods:

**Tests:** There will be four tests in total, each covering approximately 2-3 chapters. The tests will count for 15% each for a total of 60% from tests. Format will include 1/3 points from multiple choice, true/false, matching, etc.; 1/3 points from short answer (1-3 sentence answers) and 1/3 points from paragraph answers (5-8 sentences each). Focus topics will outline, in advance, the exact format for each test. The tests are not cumulative and will be given during class. Please make sure that you arrive on time, so that you have the full time allotted to write each test. If you miss a test due to illness and have a doctor's note, you may write a make-up exam

**Assignments:** There are three, 1-2 page take-home assignments that will reflect a contemporary application of the chapter content for that week. These are worth 7% each, for a total of 21% from assignments. One percent per day will be deducted from assignments submitted late, so please try to hand your assignment in on the given due date. In the event that there are extenuating circumstances, and you have met with me concerning your situation, no points will be deducted...

**Research Paper:** The paper will be approximately five pages in length. It will research current studies and contemporary applications for a topic of your choice in the field of Psychology. A detailed description of this paper, the due date and expectations will be handed out during the second class. It is worth 19% of your final grade and will be written in APA format (taught in class).

**Summary:**

<b>Tests:</b>	<b>4 X 15% = 60 %</b>
<b>Assignments:</b>	<b>3 X 7% = 21 %</b>
<b>Paper:</b>	<b>1 X 19 = 19%</b>

## Grading System

The following percentage conversion to letter grade will be used:

A+ = 95 - 100%	B = 75 - 79%	D = 50 - 59%
A = 90 - 94%	B- = 70 - 74%	F = 0.0 - 49%
A- = 85 - 89%	C+ = 65 - 69%	
B+ = 80 - 84%	C = 60 - 64%	

## Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

\*\*\*Please feel free to email me or come to office hours if you need any extra help.

## LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College Calendar, Registrar's Office or the College web site at <http://www.camosun.bc.ca>

## ACADEMIC CONDUCT POLICY

There is an Academic Conduct Policy. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, Registration, and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

[www.camosun.bc.ca/divisions/pres/policy/2-education/2-5.html](http://www.camosun.bc.ca/divisions/pres/policy/2-education/2-5.html)

## Tentative Schedule of Lectures, Assignments and Tests

<b>Week One</b> <b>Jan 10</b>	Chapter 1 What is psychology? Chapter 2 How psychologists do research <b>ASSIGNMENT 1 ASSIGNED: DUE MAR 21</b>	<b>Week Eight</b> <b>Feb 28</b>	Chapter 14: Lifespan Development <b>ASSIGNMENT 3 ASSIGNED: DUE MARCH 28<sup>TH</sup></b>
<b>Week Two</b> <b>Jan 17</b>	Chapter 8: Social Psychology	<b>Week Nine</b> <b>Mar 7</b>	Lifespan Development cont'd (Ch. 14)
<b>Week Three</b> <b>Jan 24</b>	Chapter 8: Social Psychology Cont'd Review <b>ASSIGNMENT 2 ASSIGNED: DUE FEBRUARY 7TH</b>	<b>Week Ten</b> <b>Mar 14</b>	<b>Test Three covering Chapter 14 lecture, web-notes and readings</b>  Stress and Illness (coping techniques)
<b>Week Four</b> <b>Jan 31</b>	<b>Test One: covering Chapters 1, 2 and 8 lectures, web-notes and text</b> Chapter 11: Emotions	<b>Week Eleven</b> <b>Mar 21</b>	Chapter 15: Stress and Coping <b>ASSIGNMENT 1 DUE</b>
<b>Week Five</b> <b>Feb 7</b>	Chapter 11: Emotions Chapter 12: Motivation <b>ASSIGNMENT 2 DUE</b>	<b>Week Twelve</b> <b>Mar 28</b>	Chapter 16: Psychological Disorders Chapter 17: Psychological Treatments <b>ASSIGNMENT 3 DUE</b>
<b>Week Six</b> <b>Feb 14</b>	Chapter 13: Personality	<b>Week Thirteen</b> <b>Apr 4</b>	Chapter 16: Psychological Disorders cont'd Chapter 17: Psychological Treatments cont'd <b>RESEARCH PROJECT DUE</b>
<b>Week Seven</b>		<b>Week</b>	

Feb 21	<b>Test Two: covering Chapters 11, 12 and 13 lectures, web-notes and text</b> Video for Lifespan Development	Fourteen Apr 11	<b>Test Four: covering Chapters 15, 16 and 17 lectures, web-notes and text</b>
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**Welcome to Psychology 130...I'm looking forward to a great term with you!**