



**School of Arts & Science
PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT**

**PSYC 130-0
Contemporary Issues
2008, Fall**

COURSE OUTLINE

The Approved Course Description is available on the web @ _____

Ω Please note: this outline will be electronically stored for five (5) years only.
It is strongly recommended students keep this outline for your records.

1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	David Reagan		
(b)	Office Hours:	M 9:30 – 11:20, W 10:30 – 11:20, Th 9:00 – 9:50		
(c)	Location:	Ewing 240		
(d)	Phone:	370-3197	Alternative Phone:	
(e)	Email:	Reagan@camosun.bc.ca		
(f)	Website:	http://reagan.disted/index.htm		

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

(No changes are to be made to this section, unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through EDCO for approval.)

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.

REQUIRED MATERIAL

1. Text: Gerrig, R. J., Zimbardo, P. G., Desmarais, S., & Ivanco, T. (2009). *Psychology and life* (1st Canadian ed.). Toronto: Pearson Education Canada.

COURSE ORGANIZATION

1. There are two hours of lecture each week
2. There is one, one-hour seminar every other week and one hour of OnLine Activities every other week. (Your student class schedule informs you of which seminar you are assigned. All will attend the first three weeks of seminars and then you will be assigned which weeks to work on line and which weeks to attend seminar).

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

SPECIAL NOTE: All assignments, quizzes, tests, and activities must include your FIRST AND LAST NAME AND YOUR SEMINAR SECTION. EXAMPLE: David Reagan, Psych 130, Seminar B-1. Papers without both first and last names and seminar section WILL NOT BE GRADED and will be placed in the paper return box which will be located in the seminar room during each seminar session.

TESTS:

1. There will be three quizzes that will be announced at least one class session in advance of the quiz date.
2. There will be an Exam One, a Midterm Exam and a Final Quiz 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.**

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 – Social Issues:

In teams of three or four students you will be asked to make a presentation to your seminar group on a social issue that relates to the content of Psyc 130. Seminar Presentation details will be discussed in seminar and guideline sheet provided at that time. Seminar teams will be formed during the first week of classes.

PSYCH 130 - TIMETABLE

Week	Topic (with Readings)
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Note: Quiz dates are TENTATIVE. All quizzes will be announced one week in advance.

1. **Sept. 3** Introduction to the course.

2. **Sept. 10** Chapters 1 & 2: Intro to Psyc and Psyc Research

3. **Sept. 17** Chapter 17 : Social Psychology (Quiz #1 – Chapters 1 & 2)

4. **Sept. 24** Chapter 17: Social Psychology (Continued)

5. **Oct. 1** **Exam #1: Chapters 1, 2, & 17 (250 Points – 25% of your grade)**

6. **Oct. 8** Chapter 11: Human Development Across the Life Span

7. **Oct. 15** Chapter 12: Motivation

8. **Oct. 22** Chapter 13: Emotion, Stress, & Health (**Quiz #2 – Chapters 11 & 12**)

9. **Oct. 29** **Midterm Exam (Chapts 11, 12, 13, & 17) (450 Points – 45% of your grade)**

10. **Nov. 5** Chapter 14: Understanding Human Personality

11. **Nov. 12** Chapter 15: Psychological Disorders

12. **Nov. 19** Chapter 15: Psychological Disorders (Continued) (**Quiz #3 – Chapters 14 & 15**)

13. **Nov. 26** Chapter 16: Therapies for Psychological Disorders

14. **Dec. 3** **Final Quiz (Chapters 14, 15, & 16) (200 points – 20% of your grade)**

No work will be accepted after 2:00 pm on Friday of Week 14

4. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

Exam One	250
points	
Midterm	450
points	
Final Quiz	200
points	
Seminar Presentation of a Social Issue w/handout	100
points	

Total Points: 1,000 points

6. Grading System

(No changes are to be made to this section, unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through EDCO for approval.)

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy E-1.5 at camosun.ca for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	<i>Incomplete:</i> A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	<i>In progress:</i> A temporary grade assigned for courses that, due to design may require a further enrollment in the same course. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. (For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3 rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)
CW	<i>Compulsory Withdrawal:</i> A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.

7. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

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, at Student Services or the College web site at camosun.ca.

STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, at Student Services and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

PSYCHOLOGY 130 COURSE OUTLINE

Dr. David Reagan, Ewing 240, 370-3197

Email: reagan@camosun.bc.ca

Faculty Web Page: <http://reagan.disted/index.htm>

Office Hours are posted on my office door, Ewing 240, also my Faculty Web Page.

COURSE CONTENT

PSYCHOLOGY APPLIED TO CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL PROBLEMS (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.

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 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.

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.

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

TEXTBOOK

1. *Psychology and Life, Canadian Edition*, (2008/09) Gerrig, Zimbardo, Desmarais & Ivanco; Pearson Ed Publishers

TESTS & ASSIGNMENTS

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LATE WORK WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED IN EXTREME CASES and ONLY UP TO ONE WEEK AFTER THE ORIGINAL DUE DATE WITH A 25% PENALTY FOR BEING SUBMITTED LATE. PLEASE SCHEDULE YOUR TIME TO MEET ALL DUE DATES.

GRADES

1. Grading System

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2. The final grade will be weighted as follows:

Exam One	250
points	
Midterm	450
points	
Final Quiz	200
points	
Seminar Presentation of a Social Issue w/handout	100
points	

Total Points: 1,000

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 cooperatively, 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..."*

5. Disruptive student behaviour, such as side-conversations, will not be tolerated and students who can not control there side conversations will be asked to the leave the class.

<p>All students are expected to follow the College's Student Conduct Policy as outlined in Camosun College Calendar</p>
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<p>PSYCH 130 - TIMETABLE</p>

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www.camosun.bc.ca/divisions/pres/policy/2-education/2-5.html