



**School of Arts & Science  
PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT**

**PSYC 130-001  
Contemporary Issues  
2010 Winter Semester**

## COURSE OUTLINE

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 E. Reagan, Ed.D.                                                      |                    |  |
| (b) | Office Hours: | On Faculty Website and Office Door                                          |                    |  |
| (c) | Location:     | Ewing 240                                                                   |                    |  |
| (d) | Phone:        | 250.370.3197                                                                | Alternative Phone: |  |
| (e) | Email:        | <a href="mailto:reagan@camosun.bc.ca">reagan@camosun.bc.ca</a>              |                    |  |
| (f) | Website:      | <a href="http://reagan.disted/index.htm">http://reagan.disted/index.htm</a> |                    |  |

### 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.)*

#### **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.

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.

### 3. Required Materials

Texts: *Psychology and Life, Canadian Edition*, (2008/09) Gerrig, Zimbardo, Desmarais & Ivanco; Pearson Ed Publishers (ISBN-13: 978-0-205-49458-3 /ISBN-10: 0-205-49458-7)

### 4. Course Content and Schedule

#### PSYCH 130 - TIMETABLE

| Week | Topic (with Readings) |
|------|-----------------------|
|------|-----------------------|

**Note: Quiz dates are TENTATIVE. All quizzes will be announced one week in advance.**

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|             |                                                                                         |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Jan. 6   | Introduction to the course.                                                             |
| 2. Jan. 13  | Chapters 1 & 2: Intro to Psyc and Psyc Research                                         |
| 3. Jan. 20  | Chapter 17: Social Psychology <b>(Quiz #1 – Chapters 1 &amp; 2)</b>                     |
| 4. Jan. 27  | Chapter 17: Social Psychology (Continued)                                               |
| 5. Feb. 3   | <b>Exam #1: Chapters 1, 2, &amp; 17 (300 Points – 30% of your grade)</b>                |
| 6. Feb. 10  | Chapter 11: Human Development Across the Life Span                                      |
| 7. Feb. 17  | Chapter 12: Motivation                                                                  |
| 8. Feb. 24  | Chapter 13: Emotion, Stress, & Health <b>(Quiz #2 – Chapters 11 &amp; 12)</b>           |
| 9. Mar. 3   | <b>Midterm Exam (Chapters 11, 12, 13, &amp; 17) (400 Points – 40% of your grade)</b>    |
| 10. Mar. 10 | Chapter 14: Understanding Human Personality                                             |
| 11. Mar. 17 | Chapter 15: Psychological Disorders                                                     |
| 12. Mar. 24 | Chapter 15: Psychological Disorders (Continued) <b>(Quiz #3 – Chapters 14 &amp; 15)</b> |
| 13. Mar. 31 | Chapter 16: Therapies for Psychological Disorders                                       |
| 14. Apr. 7  | <b>Final Quiz (Chapters 14, 15, &amp; 16) (250 points – 25% of your grade)</b>          |

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

## 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

The final grade will be weighted as follows:

1. Exam One ..... 300 points
2. Midterm ..... 400 points
3. Final Quiz ..... 250 points
4. Seminar Presentation of a Social Issue w/factsheet ..... 50 points

(To successfully pass Psyc 130, you must complete all four of the above items:  
Exam One, Midterm, Final Quiz, and a Seminar Presentation).

## TESTS & ASSIGNMENTS

**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.

**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.**

## 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](http://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 <sup>rd</sup> 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](http://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.

**No work will be accepted after 4:00 pm on Friday of Week 14.**