



**School of Arts & Science
Psychology**

**Psyc 130: Psychology Applied to Contemporary
Social Issues
Winter, 2011**

COURSE OUTLINE

Instructor Information

Instructor: Katrina Gantly
Email: gantly@camosun.bc.ca
Office hours: T/Th 9:30 - 11:30
Online Office Hours: Th 7:30 PM – 9:30 PM
Office: Paul 233
Office Phone: (250) 370-3202
Website: <http://online.camosun.ca/>

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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D2L (Desire 2 Learn)

The course materials (web-notes, focus topics, course outline and grades) are available on my website, and were developed using D2L. The first time you go to the site, please follow these steps:

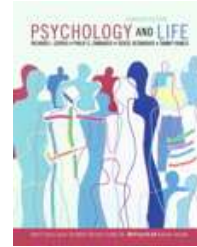
- Type <http://online.camosun.ca/> into your address bar
- In the upper left corner you will see a little box titled "Login"
- **Your Username:** Your username to log on to Desire2Learn is your first name, followed by a dot (.) followed by your last name and the day of the month your birthday falls on. For example, if your name is Mick Jagger and your birth date is July 5, your username is **mick.jagger05**
- **Your Password:** The first time you log on, your password will be your date of birth in *mmdyy* format. You will be prompted to change your password the first time you log on.
- **Any courses in which you are enrolled that are using D2L will appear on the page. Click Psyc 130:002 to access the web-page for this course.**

Please Note: During the first week of classes, students are often adding or dropping classes. In order to access D2L, you must be added to the course list by our distributed education team.

Because this sometimes takes a few days, for the first week I will bring copies of any notes or assignments to class for you. If you experience any difficulties logging into D2L, please let me know and I'll help you in any way I can.

Recommended Materials

Texts: Gerrig and Zimbardo. *Psychology and Life*.



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 or powerpoint 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 due to copyright ethics.

Course Content and Schedule

Course Meeting Times: M/W 1:00 – 2:20 PM
Course Room: Young 300/310

Evaluation Methods:

Tests: There will be three tests in total, each covering approximately 2-3 chapters. The tests will count for 20% 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 two, 2-3 page take-home assignments that will reflect a contemporary application of the chapter content for that week. These are worth 10% each, for a total of 20% from assignments.

Research Paper: There will be a final paper integrating what you've learned in class with an application to a contemporary issue. A research paper outline will be provided in the second week of class. This paper is worth 20% of your grade.

Summary:

Tests:	3 X 20% = 60 %
Assignments:	2 X 10% = 20 %
Paper:	1 X 20% = 20 %

Tentative Schedule of Topics, Assignments, Paper and Tests

Week	Wednesday
1	Course Outline Introduction: Expectations, Setting up Course Critical Thinking: Looking at the Broad Scope Assignment 1 Assigned
2	Social Psychology
3	Social Psychology
4	Motivation
5	Test One: Please see focus topics for details
6	Human Development Assignment 2 assigned
7	Human Development
8	Personality Assignment 2 DUE
9	Emotion, Stress and Health
10	Test Two: Please see focus topics for details
11	Psychological Disorders and Therapies Assignment 1 DUE
12	Psychological Disorders and Therapies
13	Psychological Disorders And Therapies
14	Test Three: Please see focus topics for details
	Research Paper Due Friday, following last week of classes

Grading

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 the College web site in the Policy Section.