



School of Arts & Science
PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT
PSYC 130-001
Contemporary Issues in Psychology
2014 Fall 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:	Cate Pelling, MA, R.C.C		
(b)	Office Hours:			
(c)	Location:	F308B		
(d)	Phone:	370-3308		
(e)	Email:	pellingc@camosun.bc.ca		
(f)	Website:			

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

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 lifespan development, personality, abnormal behavior, social cognition, social influence, and social relations to a variety contemporary social issues.

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

Text: *Psychology*, Tenth Edition, (2014). Myers, D., Worth Publishers, New York

Optional Materials

D2L online course content
Launchpad
Study Guide

4. Course Content and Schedule

Week	Topic
1. Sept 2	Introduction to the course.
2. Sept 9	Prologue and Chapter 1
3. Sept 16	Chapter 14: Social Psychology
4. Sept 23	Chapter 14: Social Psychology
5. Sept 30	Chapter 5: Developing Through the Lifespan
6. Oct 7	Chapter 12: Emotions, Stress, and Health
7. Oct 14	Chapter 12: Emotions, Stress, and Health
8. Oct 21	MIDTERM (Prologue and Chapters 1, 5, 12 and 14)
9. Oct 28	Chapter 13: Personality
10. Nov 4	Chapter 15: Psychological Disorders
11. Nov 18	Chapter 15: Psychological Disorders
12. Nov 25	Chapter 16: Therapy
13. Dec 2	Chapter 11: Motivation and Work

FINAL EXAM
(Chapters 11, 13, 15, and 16)
****Written during the final exam period****

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------|
| 1. Seminar Questions | 20% (10 x 2%) |
| 2. Seminar Project | 15% |
| 3. Midterm | 30% |
| 4. Final Exam | 35% |

Seminar Questions

Seminar time will be devoted to applying theory covered during lecture. Seminar questions are based on the reading for the week and each question is worth 2% of the final grade. See schedule below.

Seminar Group Project

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. Students will choose their topic for the presentation.

Seminar teams will be formed during the second week of classes. Seminar Presentation details will be discussed in seminar and a guideline sheet will be provided at that time.

Seminar Schedule

Week:	Topic/Activity:
Sept 2 or 4	Introduction to Seminar
Sept 9 or 11	Formation of Seminar Groups
Sept 16 or 18	Seminar Question #1 Group Time
Sept 23 or 25	Seminar Question #2
Sept 30 or Oct 2	Seminar Question #3
Oct 7 or 9	Seminar Question #4
Oct 14 or 16	Seminar Question #5 Group Presentation #1
Oct 21 or 23	Review Midterm

Oct 28 or 30 Seminar Question #6
Group Presentation #2

Nov 4 or 6 Seminar Question #7
Group Presentation #3

Nov 11 or 13 TBA

Nov 18 or 20 Seminar Question #8
Group Presentation #4

Nov 25 or 27 Seminar Question #9
Group Presentation #5

Dec 2 or 4 Seminar Question #10
Group Presentation #6

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. <i>(For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)</i>
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.