



**CAMOSUN COLLEGE**  
**School of Arts & Science**  
**Department of Psychology**

**PSYC-130-004**  
**Contemporary Issues**  
**Fall 2018 | Belmont Secondary**

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

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The course description is available on the web @ <http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/web/psyc.html>

Ω Please note: This outline will not be kept indefinitely. It is recommended students keep this outline for their records, especially to assist in transfer credit to post-secondary institutions.

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### **1. Instructor Information**

(a) Instructor	Arloene Burak, M.Sc.	
(b) Office hours	T.B.A.	
(c) Location	T.B.A.	
(d) Phone		Alternative: _____
(e) E-mail	buraka@camosun.bc.ca	
(f) Website	<a href="http://online.camosun.ca/">http://online.camosun.ca/</a> (D2L)	

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### **2. Intended Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of this course a 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**

(a) Texts

Myers, David, G. & DeWall, C.N. (2015). *Psychology* (11<sup>th</sup> Edition). Worth Publishers: New York.

\*This text can be purchased as a book, loose-leaf pages for a binder, or e-book.

(b) Other

#### 4. Course Content and Schedule

September 5 <sup>th</sup>	Introduction to Course Prologue: The Story of Psychology
September 12 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter 1: Thinking Critically with Psychological Science (pg. 19-41) Chapter 5: Developing Through the Life Span
September 19 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter 5: Developing Through the Life Span
September 26 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter 10: Intelligence Chapter 10: Intelligence <b>Assignment #1 Due</b>
October 3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Test #1: Prologue, Chapter 1 (1/2 of chapter), 5, &amp; 10</b> Chapter 11: What Drives Us
October 10 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter 11: What Drives Us
October 17 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter 12: Emotions, Stress, and Health
October 24 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter 12: Emotions, Stress, and Health Chapter 13: Social Psychology
October 31 <sup>st</sup>	Chapter 13: Social Psychology <b>Assignment #2 Due</b>
November 7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Test #2: Chapter 11, 12, &amp; 13</b> Chapter 14: Personality
November 14 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter 14: Personality
November 21 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter 15: Psychological Disorders
November 28 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter 16: Therapy
December 5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Test #3: Chapter 14, 15 &amp; 16</b>

**\*\*Note: This schedule is tentative and any changes will be discussed in class.**

#### 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

Test #1	25%
Test #2	25%
Test #3	25%
Short Assignments (2 in total)	10%
Group Presentation	10%
Participation	5%
	100%

##### Tests (75% course grade):

There will be three tests in this course. The first test is worth 25% of the course grade and will cover the Prologue, Chapters 1 (first ½), 5, & 10. The second test is worth 25% and will cover Chapters 11, 12, & 13. The last test is also worth 25% and will cover Chapters 14, 15 and 16. All tests are based on information from the lectures and textbook. These tests will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions.

**MAKE-UP TESTS WILL ONLY BE ALLOWED WITH PROPER DOCUMENTATION. YOU MUST CONTACT THE INSTRUCTOR, AND PROVIDE DOCUMENTATION, WITHIN 7 DAYS OF THE MISSED TEST DATE TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE MAKE-UP TEST.**

##### Short Assignments (10% of course grade):

There will be 2 short papers assigned throughout the semester. Each of these assignments is worth 5% of the final grade. These assignments will require students to conduct various kinds of research including interviews, content analysis, and self-assessment, and then summarize the results in a short report.

##### Group Presentation (15% of course grade):

In teams of 3 to 4 students, groups will make a PowerPoint presentation on a current issue in Psychology. Presentation details will be discussed in class and guidelines will be provided. Groups will be formed mid semester and time in class will be devoted to group work.

### **Participation (5%):**

Throughout the semester, you will be asked to answer open-ended questions, discuss with peers, or reflect on some of the material presented in lecture. These short written activities will be completed in class and graded as satisfactory or unsatisfactory. There will be at least one or two of these assignments each week and in order to receive the full 5% you need to participate in at least 80% of these assignments. There will be no opportunities to make up these points as you as you can occasionally miss a class and still receive the full 5%.

**LATE WORK WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED IN EXTREME CASES. PLEASE SCHEDULE YOUR TIME TO MEET ALL DUE DATES.**

## **6. Grading System**

- Standard Grading System (GPA)
- Competency Based Grading System

## **7. Recommended Materials to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course**

### STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student Conduct Policy which includes plagiarism. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the contents of this policy. The policy is available on the College web site in the Policy Section.

## **8. College Supports, Services and Policies**



### **Immediate, Urgent, or Emergency Support**

If you or someone you know requires immediate, urgent, or emergency support (e.g. illness, injury, thoughts of suicide, sexual assault, etc.), **SEEK HELP**. Resource contacts @ <http://camosun.ca/about/mental-health/emergency.html> or <http://camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence/get-support.html#urgent>

### **College Services**

Camosun offers a variety of health and academic support services, including counselling, dental, disability resource centre, help centre, learning skills, sexual violence support & education, library, and writing centre. For more information on each of these services, visit the **STUDENT SERVICES** link on the College website at <http://camosun.ca/>

### **College Policies**

Camosun strives to provide clear, transparent, and easily accessible policies that exemplify the college's commitment to life-changing learning. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of College policies. Policies are available on the College website at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/>. Education and academic policies include, but are not limited to, Academic Progress, Admission, Course Withdrawals, Standards for Awarding Credentials, Involuntary Health and Safety Leave of Absence, Prior Learning Assessment, Medical/Compassionate Withdrawal, Sexual Violence and Misconduct, Student Ancillary Fees, Student Appeals, Student Conduct, and Student Penalties and Fines.

A. GRADING SYSTEMS <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/index.html>

The following two grading systems are used at Camosun College:

1. 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		1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

2. Competency Based Grading System (Non GPA)

This grading system is based on satisfactory acquisition of defined skills or successful completion of the course learning outcomes

Grade	Description
COM	The student has met the goals, criteria, or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.
DST	The student has met and exceeded, above and beyond expectation, the goals, criteria, or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.
NC	The student has not met the goals, criteria or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.

B. 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 at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/index.html> 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 are designed to have an anticipated enrollment that extends beyond one term. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course.
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.