



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

**PSYC-130-D03**  
**Contemporary Issues**  
**Fall 2018**

## **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	Randal Tonks	
(b) Office hours	M/W 2:30-3:20	
(c) Location	Ewing 240	
(d) Phone	250 370 3197	Alternative: _____
(e) E-mail	tonks@camosun.bc.ca	
(f) Website	rgtonks.ca/Courses	

### **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) There is a free online ebook - **Introduction to Psychology: 1st Canadian edition by C. Stangor & J. Waling** - available inside [d2l](#) and through [BC Campus Open learning](#).

While we will be following along with the chapters of the textbook, as indicated on the attached [syllabus](#), the lecture topics may stray from the material covered in the weekly readings.

### **4. Course Content and Schedule**

Week 1 **Sept 6 - Introduction to [D2L](#) & Course Chapter 1**

Week 2 **Sept 13 - The story of Psychology - Chapter 2 (browse through Chapter 3)**

Week 3 **Sept 20 - Intelligence - Chapter 10**

Week 4 **Sept 27 - Development** - How do we become the people we are? - Chapt 7

Week 5 **Oct 4 - Personality** - What makes us who we are? - Chapt 12

Week 6 **Oct 11 - Social Psychology** - Our psychosocial being and processes - Chapt 15

Week 7 **Oct 18 - Review Week and Catch-up**

Week 8 **Oct 25 - Midterm Exam (by Nov 1)**

Week 9 **Nov 1 - Motivation** - What makes us do what we do? - Chapt 11 (pp. 446-459)

Week 10 **Nov 8 - Emotions** - Why do we feel like we do? - Chapt 11 (pp. 411-425)

Week 11 **Nov 15 - Health** - How can our minds & relations make us healthy or ill? - Chapt 16 (&Chapt 11 426-438)

Week 12 **Nov 22 - Disorders** - What is a psychological disorder? - Chapt 13

Week 13 **Nov 29 - Therapies** - How to help people with psychological problems? - Chapt 14

Week 14 **Dec 6 Review**

**Exam Period Dec 10-14 Final Exam**

## 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

There will be **two exams**: a **Midterm**, and a **Final Exam**; both of which will be based upon the material covered in the textbook and the online lectures, assigned readings, and activities. These tests will involve various multiple-choice and short answer questions and will be completed through d2l. *There will be a limited amount of time for these exams*, so be sure to do the practice quizzes to prepare yourself for these larger ones.

The Midterm exam will be on or about the date indicated on the course syllabus and the Final exam will be during the first week of regular exam final exam period.

There will also be several regular online practice quizzes and weekly activities as well as ongoing discussion board activity, as part of their course work.

**Online Practice Quizzes:** There will be a collection of practice quizzes found through d2l - ocatable through each section of conents or through quizzes. To get marks for the quizzes you simply need to complete one per chapter, where you need to get 50% or better on each. You may take these quizzes as many times as you like, your highest score will count. If you get 50% or better on all quizzes you get the full 20% if you get 50% or better on half of the quizzes you get 10%, and so on. Passing each quiz gets you approximately 2%.

### **Weekly Activities:**

Various at-home activities will be assigned throughout the semester. Here students will

be expected to complete the activities by the posted deadline, making sure that they have been submitted to the drop box for that given activity.

The activities will follow the course lecture material and will involve students making observations, conducting interviews, providing critical thoughts, reflections, and comments on their own specific topics as well as discuss with others in the class. Most activities will involve making a posting to the discussion board as *well* as commenting on the postings of other students. The goal here is the both generate experience and understanding as well as to enhance the on-line learning community.

As such the discussion board activity will involve commenting on the the activity postings of others as well as general discussion of the course materials. It is important that you *make a reply to someone else's posting for each activity in order to garner these activity points.* This is for an additional 10% towards your grade

## 6. Grading System

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Competency Based Grading System

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

## 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.