

THREE RIVERS COMMUNITY COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE INFORMATION SHEET

COURSE NUMBER: PSY K111 **COURSE NAME:** General Psychology I
SEMESTER: Spring 2015 1/22/15 – 5/18/15 **Online**

INSTRUCTOR: **Bev Knox, Ph.D.**
bknox@trcc.commnet.edu Virtual Office Hours Via Skype: by appointment
203-996-9819 (*Mon-Sun 9am-9pm*) *preferred form of communication is via TEXT.*

MAJOR TEXT: Psychology, David G. Myers, 10th edition in Modules, c 2013 Worth Publishers. ISBN-13: 978-1-4641-0261-5 ISBN-10: 1-4641-0261-9

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: This course is an introduction to various areas of psychology, including scientific investigation and leading theories. Topics include, but are not limited to: Introduction to Science of Psychology; The Biology of Mind; Sensation and Perception; Learning, Thinking, Language, and Intelligence; & Emotions, Stress, and Health.

DESIRED STUDENT COMPETENCIES: Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Describe the historical foundations of psychology.
2. Interrelate the biopsychosocial model to human life.
3. Identify the bases of behavior, motivation, and emotion.
4. Explain the principles, theories, and biology of cognitive/behavioral functioning.
5. Describe the theories of perception as it relates to the human experience.
6. Describe the developing person in transition from the prenatal world to death.
7. Relate thinking, language, and intelligence to the bases of human behavior.
8. Interrelate theories of personality and psychological disorders.
9. Explain theories and models of stress, coping and health.
10. Explain how to demonstrate respect for humanity and diversity to social psychology.
11. Explain the process of scientific investigation.
12. Explain the basic structure and functioning of the brain and nervous system.

OUTLINE OF TOPICS TO BE COVERED

- A. The Science of Psychology
 1. Contemporary perspectives used by psychologists to understand behavior and mental process.
 2. Research strategies
 3. History of psychology as an empirical science
- B. Biology and Behavior
 1. The structure and functioning of the brain and nervous system.
 2. How heredity interacts with the environment to influence behavior.
 3. Sensation and perception
- C. The Cognitive Domain
 1. Dreams and sleep
 2. Introduction to learning theory
 3. Principles of classical and operant conditioning
 4. Thinking, language and intelligence
 5. Memory
 6. Motivation and emotion
 7. Roles of biology and culture in determining learning

ATTENDANCE & CLASS POLICY:

Regular on-line attendance and participation is expected. All assignments and due dates will be posted and is due no later than 6pm on the day indicated (*Usually Sundays*). It has been my experience that two (2) assignments missed will jeopardize success in this course. Missing 4 classes / on-line assignments is cause for dismissal.

EVALUATION PRODEDURES

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Quizzes (2) 12.5% each	25%
Final	15%
On-line Discussion Board Assignments (10) 6% each	60%

Description of Assignments

Quizzes: quizzes will be given weighting 12.5% each. Quizzes will contain information from reading assignments and information given by the instructor. **On quizzes, give detailed explanations (with citations) on essay questions. Take your time on quizzes. You can start, stop and resume taking the quiz at a later time** (before due date).

Final: The final will be cumulative and will necessitate an understanding of the chapters completed. The final will contain information from reading assignments and information given by the instructor.

Discussion Board Assignments (DBA)

1. Complete all assignments on time. DBA Assignments are due Sundays by 6pm. No late DBA assignments will be accepted (Why? Because you have a week to complete each at your convenience). You need to log in at least 2 times per week (ex. Sun, Wed, etc) and respond to at least 2 of your classmates postings (class participation). Do NOT wait until the due date to log in for the first time and complete all postings in 10 minutes, for you will not get full points.

2. All DBA postings should be at least 3-5 paragraphs in length (NOT 1 sentence per paragraph please, but rather 4-5). You MUST ALWAYS use citations, and cite your sources within the body of your posting, for ex. (Keith, 2006). You MUST use your text as a source in every posting as well as an additional internet source.

DBA Checklist:

--log on 2x per week (before due date) to post DBA and respond to at least 2 classmates.

--Don't forget to cite (at least 2 sources needed per assignment posting, not classmate responses).

That's it...

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Policies on Missed and Late Exams and Assignments: Any missed or late assignments MUST be made up or emailed to me within 48 hours of the missed class. A full letter grade will be deducted automatically with NO exceptions. If assignments are not made up or handed in by the time given, the grade for that assignment will be 0 (zero).

The Learning Portfolio: All students are required to maintain an online learning portfolio using a TRCC designed template. Through this electronic tool, students can see their own growth in college-wide learning. The student can keep and continue to use the Digication account after graduation. A Three Rivers General Education Assessment Team will select random works to improve the college experience for all. No names will be attached to the assessment work; it will remain private and anonymous for college improvement purposes. In class outlines, students will find recommended assignments which support various college-wide learning abilities. The student will have a tool which can integrate their learning from the classroom, school, and life and allow for another opportunity of learning at TRCC! Students will be able to make multiple portfolios.

http://www.trcc.commnet.edu/Div_IT/EducationalTechnology/Digication.shtml

Class conduct is expected to be ethical at all times. A serious situation may be referred to the College Judicial System. (See STUDENT HANDBOOK). Please be respectful to your fellow classmates.

STUDENT SUPPORT:

**If you have a documented learning disability or physical disability that may require special arrangements for support in this class, please advise the instructor immediately so appropriate accommodations can be made. Accommodations may be arranged through the Disabilities Support Specialist Coordinator. Accommodations and assistive technology are available to students at no additional cost and should be arranged at the start of each semester. The instructor need not and will not make any accommodations if your situation was not evaluated by the Disabilities Support Specialist.

Course Outline

Note: Subject to Change

Date	Description of content - Module
1/25	Introductions / Review of Syllabus Why Different Theories Handout
2/1	Module 1 <i>Discussion Board Assignment #1 Due (DBA #1)</i>
2/8	Modules 2 & 3 <i>Discussion Board Assignment #2 Due (DBA #2)</i>
2/15	Modules 4, 5 & 6 <i>Discussion Board Assignment #3 Due (DBA #3)</i>
2/22	Quiz #1
3/1	Modules 17-19 <i>Discussion Board Assignment #4 Due (DBA #4)</i>
3/8	Module 22 <i>Discussion Board Assignment #5 Due (DBA #5)</i>
3/15	Modules 20 & 21 <i>Discussion Board Assignment #6 Due (DBA #6)</i>
3/15-3/20	Spring Break - No DBA Due
3/29	Modules 23 - 26 <i>Discussion Board Assignment #7 Due (DBA #7)</i>
4/6	No DBA Due
4/12	Quiz #2
4/19	<i>Modules 27-28</i> <i>Discussion Board Assignment #8 Due (DBA #8)</i>
4/26	Modules 29-31 <i>Discussion Board Assignment #9 Due (DBA #9)</i>
5/3	Modules 35-37 <i>Discussion Board Assignment #10 Due (DBA #10)</i>
5/10	Modules 38-39 <i>Discussion Board Assignment #11 Due (Extra Credit) **Optional**</i>
5/17	Final Exam