

Three Rivers Community College, Norwich, CT
Course title: Introductory General Psychology PSY 1 K111 30302 (3 credit hours)
The information contained in this syllabus may change
with or without notice as circumstances warrant.
Please keep this handout and refer to it throughout the semester.

Course Description

This introductory course provides an overview of the theories and research findings pertaining to scientific psychology with an emphasis on: the origins of psychology, theoretical models, research methodology, biological bases of thought and behavior, memory, learning theory, sensation and perception, stress, as well as emotion and motivation.

Instructor

3RCC Psych Instructor: Mr. Charles Cocores / 860-304-2668 cell
Educator in Residence /Certification Officer Connecticut College

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Office hours: by appointment before or after class or by arrangement at other times

Class times: **Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 9:00-9:50 AM** Location: room **D109**

Required Reading:

Myers, David Psychology Ninth Edition in Modules New York, NY: Worth Publishers, 2010.
Use the text's Study Guide. See department policy below and note that our tests (as well as others activities and assignments) will be on the psych portal

<http://courses.bfwpub.com/myers9einmodules.php>

Options for Purchasing Myers' Psychology Ninth Edition in Modules for PSY 111 and PSY 112

As a student taking General Psychology at Three Rivers Community College, you have options regarding the format of your required textbook and how to purchase class materials. The first choice offered to you is print versus electronic textbook. The second choice is from whom you will purchase the materials.

You are required to purchase 1) *Psychology Ninth Edition in Modules* (a print textbook) plus a PsychPortal access card **or** 2) a PsychPortal access card which includes an e-Book. An eBook is the electronic, online version of *Psychology Ninth Edition in Modules*. Purchasing the Study Guide is **not** required, but recommended.

The options below represent choices for purchasing the book and PsychPortal website access. If you receive Financial Aid "Book Bucks," purchase your books through the College's eFollett Bookstore.

Option 1: Printed text with PsychPortal access card

available in the College bookstore for \$153.25

This may be a good option for students who prefer to have access to the printed text in addition to e-book access through PsychPortal. If you think you may be taking more psychology courses in the future, it can be helpful to have a printed copy of an introductory book for reference.

Option 2: PsychPortal access code which includes eBook

available in the College bookstore for \$62.75

This may be a good option for students who have plenty of access to a computer with a dependable internet connection. Steady internet access is needed for using PsychPortal, including the e-book. This option is also good for students who'd like to save a little money. Option 2 costs less than Option 1 because the printed version of the text is not included. Access is granted for the semester plus a bit longer, which is sufficient to complete the coursework.

Option 3: Used printed text with PsychPortal access card

available in the College bookstore for \$115.00

This may be a good option for students who prefer a printed text, rather than an electronic book, in addition to the required PsychPortal access card. This option can save you a bit of money relative to option one.

Option 4: PsychPortal access code which includes eBook

**available for online purchase from Worth Publishers at
<http://courses.bfwpub.com/myers9einmodules.php> for \$56.25**

This may be a good option for students who are taking online courses and those who are not planning to visit the Three Rivers CC bookstore. Like Option 2, this is best for students who have plenty of access to a computer with a steady internet connection. This option is also good for students who'd like to save a little money. Option 4 costs less than Options 1 and 3 because the printed version of the text is not included. The length of this access is long enough to finish a semester and submit work for an Incomplete, if needed.

Not recommended - Buying a used textbook separate from the access card

The cost of **renting a used textbook and** purchasing an access card *separately* totals **\$138.30**. Therefore, this choice is not recommended because options 2, 3 and 4 are less expensive.

The cost of **purchasing a used textbook** and purchasing an access card separately might total more than **\$176.25**. Therefore, this choice is not recommended because options 2, 3 and 4 are less expensive.

The textbook's companion web site is listed in the book preface and below

Other articles and resources (usually online) as the class progresses.

Technology focus: Student Internet assignments, Psych Portal, research, power point presentations and word processing.

Computer Generated Assignments: All papers are to be double spaced in 12 pt text written in Times New Roman with 1 inch margins on the sides and top and 1.5 inch margins on the bottom. The proper APA format should be used for citations and references.

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/workshops/hypertext/apa/>

Course Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will be able to demonstrate and apply knowledge of the history of psychology, the perspectives of psychology, and the research methods used by psychologists.
2. Students will be able to be a critically assess information they encounter.
3. Students will understand the breadth of psychology and what makes psychology a science;
4. Students will be able to demonstrate and apply knowledge of the biology of memory, the cognitive models of memory, memory aids and the shortcomings of memory
5. Students will be able to demonstrate and apply knowledge of the biology of behavior and how neurological research is done.
6. Students will be able to demonstrate and apply knowledge of the senses and main theories of sensation and perception and the errors our minds make in perception.
7. Students will be able to demonstrate and apply knowledge of the major theories of emotion and motivation.
8. Students will be able to demonstrate and apply knowledge of classical conditioning, operant conditional, and observational learning
9. Students will make systematic observations of and inferences about thought and behavior;
10. Students will accurately use psychological concepts to describe and analyze observations;
11. At a beginning level students will identify diverse patterns in thought and behavior and explain how biological, cognitive, cultural, and social factors contribute to their emergence
12. Students will practice basic skills of psychological research including the approved APA documentation & form

Learning Needs

If you have difficulty with the course material, please see me during office hours or call me for an appointment. I am happy to clarify any questions you may have. *Utilize office hours!*

If you have special needs (such as a learning disability, physical condition, etc.) and require accommodations to enhance your participation in the class, please contact the Learning Specialist or Student Development Office. In order to provide accommodations, I must receive documentation pertaining to your needs. Effort will be made to support everyone's learning.

Examinations and Quizzes

Information concerning the paper will follow under separate cover. Examinations and quizzes will cover material from the assigned readings (whether discussed in class or not) and data we have discovered in class through videos, Internet exploration, lecture or discussion. ***Do not wait*** until the exam date to evaluate your knowledge of psychological concepts, use the practice quizzes located at <http://courses.bfwpub.com/myers9einmodules.php>

Tests must be taken online *only* on the day(s) and times they are administered; if you miss a test you will receive a grade of zero. There are very few legitimate reasons for missing an exam. Make-up exams will be given only to students who have an acceptable reason for missing the exam, during office hours, **and** only to students who have contacted the instructor in advance of the exam. It is your responsibility to contact the Instructor to make arrangements for the make-up exam. If a student misses an exam for an unacceptable reason, a **0** will be averaged into the student's grade for the missed exam.

Withdrawal If you choose to withdraw from the course, please notify the instructor via e-mail or telephone. Make sure you contact the Registration Office to complete the official procedures.

Attendance **Students are expected to attend all classes.** If a class is missed, students are responsible for all work missed. Absences adversely affect your grade. If you miss more than 6 hours of class, regardless of the reason, you risk failure or withdrawal from the course. If you miss a class, **you** are responsible for contacting a fellow student to obtain the information discussed in that class (notes, changes in exam dates, etc.) By next week or so, consider introducing yourself to two classmates and note their e-mail or telephone number on this syllabus. Please let me know if you have any problems which cause an extended absence.

Punctuality Important information often is disseminated at the beginning of class. Arriving on time and staying to the end of class shows respect for your fellow learners. If you repeatedly come to class late, you will be marked absent.

Participation

As an active learner participation is imperative to a great experience and a good grade. The class will value everyone's contributions and a steady rate of contributing based on reading and personal life experience will strengthen your grade.

Electronic Devices Policy

If students have in their possession a walkman, iPod, pager, or cell phone they must turned off and kept in one's backpack or purse. Such electronic devices are not to be seen or heard during class. (Those who need to have a cell or pager on for extreme medical or family emergencies must first obtain permission from the professor and must leave the room to take the call.) If a student chooses to engage in text messaging during class, he/she will be asked to leave the classroom and an absence will be recorded. The use of laptops is also not allowed unless a student has a written request signed by his/her tutor, learning specialist or the director of the Resource Center. If students are using a laptop, they will be expected to submit their "notes" to the professor at the end of class.

Evaluation

Detailed information concerning the research paper requirements will follow under separate cover. Examinations will encompass material from the assigned readings (whether discussed in class or not) and concepts we have explored in class through video, the Internet or group work. If a student misses an exam for an unacceptable reason, a 0 will be averaged into the student's grade for the missed exam.

Three Rivers Community College ADA Statement: In compliance with and in the spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and applicable disability law, Three Rivers Community College is committed to addressing the educational needs of all students. If any student has a disability that is documented with the learning Resource Center, please contact the instructor as soon as possible. The instructor will assist you to make appropriate arrangements. If you have a disability, but it is not documented with Three Rivers Community College please contact the Learning Specialist or Student Development Office ASAP. They will discuss the documentation required and the support e services that may be available to you at Three Rivers Community College.

Academic Honesty: Any questions of academic honesty will be resolved via the Three Rivers Community College Academic and Policies and Procedures.

Sections of Study (with 4 Separate Assessments/Exams divided by the lines)

Section 1 History, Research & Nature /Nurture	Modules 1, 2, & 3
Section 2 Memory	Modules 26, 27, 28, 29, & 30
Section 3 Neuroscience & the Biology of Behavior	Modules 4, 5, & 6
Section 4 Sensation & Perception	Modules 11, 12, 13, & 14
Section 5 Learning	Modules 23, 24, & 25
Section 6 Motivation	Modules 36, 37, 38, & 39
Section 7 Emotion & Stress	Modules 40, 41, 42, 43, & 44

Grading System: Your grade will be computed according to a point system. This means that there are clearly stated standards for achievement that are stated beforehand. Additionally, this means that your grade depends only on your own performance, not on the performance of your class as a whole. Therefore, there will be no "curving" of grades. The distribution of possible points is as follows:

Point Distribution

Section Assessments: 4 @ 200 points each = 800 points
Assessment 1/ Section 1 & 2 Research, Perspectives and Memory
Assessment 2/ Section 3 & 4 Sensation, Perception and Neuroscience
Assessment 3 / Section 5 & 6 Learning & Motivation
Assessment 4 /Section 7 Emotion & Stress

Section essays 7 @ 50 points each = 350 points
 Section Internet research assignments
 7 @ 50 points each = 350 points

Research Subject Writing Assignment (to be assigned) 300 points
 Assignments from the text publisher's Psych Portal 500 points
 Class Participation, Attendance, and Punctuality 200 points

2500 total

Grades will be assigned as follows:

(93.5% - 100.0%) of 2500 **A**
 (89.5% - 93.4%) **A-**
 (86.5% - 89.4%) **B+**
 (83.5% - 86.4%) **B**
 (79.5% - 83.4%) **B-**
 (76.5% - 79.4%) **C+**
 (73.5% - 76.4%) **C**
 (69.5% - 73.4%) **C-**
 (59.5% - 69.4%) **D**
F

Topic Schedule and Assigned Readings –Fall 2011

Activities and additional assignments will be assigned as the course unfolds.

Date	Topic	Assigned	Due
F 8/26	Introduction to Class & Introduction to Psychology		
M 8/29	Contemporary Perspectives	Module 1	read & notes
W 8/31	Psychology Research	Module 2	read & notes
F 9/2	Psychology Research	Module 3	Read & notes Internet Research
M 9/5	<i>Labor Day No Class</i>	Module 26	read & notes
W 9/7	Introduction to Memory	Module 27	read & notes
F 9/9	Memory Encoding	Module 28	read & notes
M 9/12	Memory Storage	Module 29	read & notes
W 9/14	Memory Retrieval	Module 30	read & notes Internet Memory

F 9/16 Date	Memory Forgetting & Improvement Topic	Assessment 1 online Assigned	Essays 1 & 2 Due
M 9/19	Research Writing Assignment Explained	Module 4	read & notes
W 9/21	Intro to Biology & Behavior: Neural Systems	Module 5	read & notes
F 9/23	Biology & Behavior:	Module 6	read & notes
M 9/26	Biology & Behavior:	Writing Assignment	
W 9/28	Biology & Behavior:	Review BB	Internet BB
F 9/30	Introduction <i>S & P</i>	Module 17	read & notes
M 10/3	Sensation & Perception / Vision	Module 18	read & notes
W 10/5	The Other Senses: Touch, Pain, Hearing etc	Module 19	read & notes
F 10/7	Perceptual Organization	Module 20	read & notes
M 10/10	Perceptual Organization & Interpretation	Module 21	read & notes S&P internet assignment
W 10/12	Perceptual Organization & Interpretation	Module 22	read & notes
F 10/14	Review Sections 3 & 4 in class Assessment 2 Sections 3 & 4	Review	Essays 3 & 4
M 10/17	Classical Conditioning	Modules 23	read & notes
W 10/19	Operant Conditioning	Module 24	read & notes
F 10/21	<u>No Class Class Cancelled</u>	Writing Assignment	
M 10/24	Operant Conditioning	Internet Conditioning	Internet Conditioning
W 10/26	Observational Learning	Module 25	read & notes
F 10/28	Motivation Introduction	Module 36	read & notes
M 10/31	Motivation Hunger/Food/Weight	Module 37	read & notes
W 11/2	Motivation Sex	Module 38	read & notes
F 11/4	Motivation Sex	Writing Assignment	
M 11/7	Motivation and Belonging		Internet Motivation
W 11/9	Motivation at Work & School	Module 39	read & notes

F 11/11	No Class Veterans' Day		
M 11/14	Review Learning & Motivation	Prep for Assessment	Essay 5 & 6
W 11/16	Assessment 3 Section 4 & 5 Discuss writing project & APA Format	Online	Assessment
F 11/18	Introduction o to Emotion	Module 40	read & notes
F 11/21	Expressed Emotion	Module 41	read & notes
W 11/23	No Class Thanksgiving Break		
F 11/25	No Class Thanksgiving Break		
M 11/28	Experienced Emotion	Module 42	read & notes
W 11/30	Stress & Health	Module 43	read & notes
F 12/2	Promoting Health	Module 44	read & notes
M 12/5	Happiness	Read article	Stress Essay 7
W 12/7	Happiness Continued	Prep for Assessment	Emotion Internet
F 12/9	Assessment 4 Section 7	Online	Assessment
M12/12	Last Class	Submit Paper	Submit Paper
W 12/14	Make up Class if needed		
F 12/16	Make up Class if needed		

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