

Fall, 2008

Introduction to Psychology

Course Number: 809-198

Prerequisites: None

Credits: 3

Textbook: Exploring Psychology, Meyers, David G., 7th ed., ©2008

Instructor: Lance Basting - Please call me "Lance"

Office: 1B

Office Hours: As posted & by appointment

Office phone: (715) 833-6385 Email (work): lbasting@cvtc.edu

Home phone: (715) 839-6575

Course Description

This introductory course in psychology is a survey of the multiple aspects of human behavior. It involves a study of the theoretical foundations of human functioning. The student should gain an understanding of the complexities of human relationships in the personal, social, and career settings.

Course Goals

1. Develop introductory level skills of communication in the terminology of the field of psychology.
2. Enhance critical thinking skills for making ethical decisions, solving problems, and dealing with individual issues
3. Appreciate the dynamics of cultural diversity
4. Gain an awareness of one's own behavior and the behavior of others, with an understanding of why we do what we do.
5. Become more effective in one's work life and personal life

Course Competencies

Unit 1

Summarize how biological and environmental factors influence behavior.

Apply psychological perspectives and research methods

Unit 2

Describe the influence of Nature and Nurture on the individual

Recognize and identify development over the life span

Unit 3

Evaluate the impact of states of consciousness on behavior

Analyze the interactions of sensation and perception

Unit 4

Identify and apply principles of learning

Demonstrate effective uses of cognitive processes

Unit 5

Identify coping strategies for stress

Unit 6

Relate personality theories to self and others.

Utilize principles of motivation

Unit 7

Summarize common psychological disorders and related treatment approaches

Core Abilities

1. Communicate effectively	2. Develop Self-Awareness
3. Think critically	4. Use Mathematics
5. Behave Ethically	6. Use Science and Technology
7. Cultivate Global Awareness	8. Demonstrate Social Interaction

Course Policies:

Late Work:

Late work will earn a maximum score of 50%. So, while there is value in doing the assignment even if it is late, you should strive to complete the assignments on time. **Work not submitted at the beginning of class will be considered late.** Late work will not be accepted during the last full week of classes, so past due work needs to be in prior to the last full week!

Email Policy: Please ALWAYS include your first and last name, course name and section # in all email communication (you should do this for all of your instructors). **Remember, you are in an academic environment, use full sentences (not abbreviations or text-style writing) when communicating with instructors.** Please do **NOT** use email addresses (mine or your classmates') as distribution lists to forward chain letters, advertisements, "spam", any kind of junk mail, or general updates about your personal life that go to mass addresses.

Extra Credit:

Toward the end of the semester students who don't apply themselves will sometimes ask if there is an extra credit project or opportunity they can complete in order to boost their grade in order to pass. Asking this is analogous to saying to your boss at work, "I haven't really been working hard here because I don't care about my job and I have no self respect or work ethic. I know I haven't done my normal work, but employee evaluations are right around the corner so can I do some extra work to demonstrate that I can function at the lowest possible level without getting fired?"

Don't embarrass yourself by asking for extra credit.

If you do an outstanding job on an assignment, you may get extra points on it. If you are a consistently superior performer, you'll end up with "money (or in this case points) in the bank" as the saying goes. Extra credit isn't handed out easily and you should not expect it. On the other hand when you get it, you should feel very good about the work that you produced. This is how it is in the work world – it's called a bonus).

Attendance:

Attendance is expected at ALL classes. Research indicates that there is a strong correlation between student attendance and grade earned. In short, if you want to be successful, you need to be here.

Grading:

Grades are based upon tests, homework, in class assignments, and participation. Please retain all of your work that is returned.

CVTC Blackboard:

This course is supplemented with the use of Blackboard. Students are expected to access the server on a regular basis for announcements, discussion, assignments, tests, resources, and course documents. If students do not have access to a computer at home, there are numerous computers available for use at CVTC.

Submitting Work:

All work should be word processed when applicable. If it is necessary to email a written piece of work to me, please use Microsoft Word. You can also paste the work directly into the body of an email.

Written tests: A unit test may follow the completion of each unit. These tests may be objective and/or essay in format. Test material may be drawn from the assigned textbook readings, class lecture, discussion, handouts, activities, labs, and audiovisual material. You must take tests on the scheduled day unless **prior** arrangements have been made with the instructor to take the test early. **Any test taken within 3 class periods after the date it was given to the class will be capped at an 80% possible score. Tests taken after the 3rd class period has elapsed will be capped at a 70% possible score. Students may only make up one test per semester.**

In-class/Out-of-class Assignments: Activities and assignments related to unit content will be included in this course. These are usually application assignments relating to unit concepts. Due to the nature of the activity, in-class assignments can not be made-up and therefore regular attendance is critical. Out-of-class assignments will also be available to students periodically for course points. Out-of-class activities are designed to enhance student learning and must be completed by the assigned day. **If, for any reason, a student needs to complete an alternative assignment in lieu of a project, he/she will only be able to earn a maximum of 80% of the original project grade.**

Participation:

Quizzes based on the reading or past classes will be given at the outset of most class sessions. These quizzes are meant as practice and review. The quizzes themselves are not graded, but students earn participation points for doing the quizzes. Students will receive 3 points per quiz.

Grade Scale:

Letter grades will be assigned according to the following percentages:

97-100%	A+	80-82%	B-	63-66%	D
93-96%	A	77-79%	C+	60-62%	D-
90-92%	A-	73-76%	C	Below 60%	F
87-89%	B+	70-72%	C-		
83-86%	B	67-69%	D+		

Faculty Recommendation Sheets:

The end of the semester is very busy for everyone – students and teachers alike. If you would like me to fill out a faculty recommendation sheet for you, I will need it prior to the first day of the last full week of classes.

Cheating:

While this goes without saying, cheating is not allowed. Students caught cheating will receive a zero on the assignment or test and may be referred to the Academic Dean for further action.

Plagiarism Policy:

One of the goals of this course is to enhance students' ability to gather, synthesize and analyze material resulting in an academically appropriate presentation of their findings. Presentations may be in the form of oral or written projects. The fact that analysis is involved leads to the conclusion that we must **think** about the material we are synthesizing. Simply copying another author's work and presenting it will not result in meeting the goal as stated above. To this end, **plagiarism will not be tolerated in this class.** Anyone found to have plagiarized will receive a zero on the entire assignment and may be referred to the college administration for further action.

The following websites should be used when doing any research based written or oral assignments for this course. Using either APA or MLA format is acceptable. If you are ever in doubt as to whether or not to cite a source, err on the side of too much citation. As always, I will help you if you have questions on citing sources or creating a reference page for your work.

MLA http://www.wisc.edu/writing/Handbook/DocMLACitation_Info.html

APA (Includes Reference List information)

http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r_apa.html

Chippewa Valley Technical College

Student Rights Information

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Reasonable accommodations and auxiliary aids will be available for students with documented disabilities, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act standards.

Accommodations for Religious Beliefs

In compliance with Wisconsin law, students with sincerely held religious beliefs can request a reasonable accommodation with regard to scheduling an examination and other academic requirements. The student request must be in writing and submitted to the instructor five working days prior to the date or dates of the anticipated absence. The student request will be kept confidential. Instructors will provide a means by which a student can perform the make-up examination or other academic requirement in a timely manner without any prejudicial effect.

Discrimination/Harassment

Discrimination/harassment is prohibited when it is based on race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, creed, sex, disability, age, arrest or conviction record, marital status, parental status, veteran's status, pregnancy, or sexual orientation. Discrimination means any action, policy or practice detrimental to a member of one of the above protected groups or that limits or denies opportunities to a person or group. Sexual harassment is also prohibited and is defined as severe, pervasive behavior that substantially interferes with one's work or academic performance, or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive academic environment.

CVTC is committed to quality education and values YOUR success.

In fulfilling this commitment, the college is responsive to student concerns. In most cases student concerns are best resolved through discussion with instructors. However, there may be times when you need to talk with someone else. The following contacts are provided for your information:

Concern	<i>Contact</i>
General student concerns; formal grade appeals, college service complaints, or concerns regarding other students	Margo Keys, Dean of Students (call Admin Asst for appt) Clairemont Campus, Room ECB116 Contact at 715-833-6341 or Email: rhutchinson@cvtc.edu
Complaints concerning the quality of instruction	Educational Council Member, (call Turi Miller for appt) Clairemont Campus, Room ECB100 Contact at 715-833-6309 or Email: tmiller@cvtc.edu
Incidents of discrimination or harassment	Ka Vang, Diversity/Equal Opportunity Specialist Clairemont Campus, Room ECB113A Contact at 715-833-6343 or Email: kvang@cvtc.edu
Accommodations for disabilities	Aaron Czappa, Learning Support Specialist Clairemont Campus, Room ECB133A Contact at 715-852-1386 or Email: aczappa@cvtc.edu

Or call 1-800-547-2882 and ask to be transferred to the appropriate contact.

Essential Student Resources

IT Survival Guide for Students

For an overview of all CVTC technologies, visit <http://www.cvtc.edu/pages/806.asp>.

CVTC Student Email

Instructors may send messages about upcoming assignments or exams, changes in class schedules, or general course information. Your MY CVTC student email address is the only email supported by CVTC. Please use it for all CVTC related email. To access your CVTC email:

1. Log into My CVTC at <http://MyCVTC.cvtc.edu>.
2. On the My CVTC tab, the email channel should be displayed.
3. The most recent five emails are displayed; you may click on the subject line of any of the emails to open your entire inbox.
4. You may also click on the Email button in the upper right hand corner of the screen.

Citrix

Citrix technology allows access to Microsoft Office, course specific software, and your personal CVTC storage space (N Drive). You may access Citrix anytime from any location with internet access. Citrix access at a CVTC computer is automatic. Otherwise, follow these steps:

1. Login to MY CVTC at <http://MyCVTC.cvtc.edu>.
2. Click the My Course Software tab.
3. Login with your username and password.
4. The first time you access Citrix, you will be prompted to install software.
5. Once the software is installed, launch your application.

Citrix & Microsoft Office Help: For step-by-step guides, visit <http://www.cvtc.edu/pages/400.asp>.

Blackboard

Blackboard or Bb is a user friendly secure web site where you access course materials, view tutorials, participate in discussions, and complete tests and assignments. Blackboard is the platform for online and hybrid courses, as well as some web-enhanced courses. Most, but not all instructors use Blackboard. Login to Blackboard daily to get new announcements posted by your instructors.

1. Log into MY CVTC. Go to the My Tools channel and click **Blackboard** on the lower right side of the screen.
2. Blackboard will open in a new window and you will see a list of your courses.
3. Take time to explore your Blackboard courses.

Blackboard Help: For step-by-step guides and tutorials, visit <http://www.cvtc.edu/pages/400.asp>.

E-Learning Assistant

If you would like individual help with Citrix or Blackboard, contact the E-Learning Assistant for an appointment. Email your areas of concern and preferred meeting time to:

e-learning-support@cvtc.edu.

24/7 Help Desk (for technical assistance, contact the Help Desk at any time)

From a College Telephone: 5555

Off Campus: 830-5555 (Local Call Eau Claire) or 1-877-241-1823 (Toll Free)