

Los Angeles Mission College
Social Sciences
Introduction to Psychology
Psychology 1
Fall 2014

Instructor: Marina Sangkavichai M.S.

Meeting time: 8:55am-10:20am TTH Room: INST 1002

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Office hours: 8:00am-8:35am Instructional Building #28

Course Description: This introductory psychology course covers biological foundations of behavior, various theoretical perspectives including learning, personality and intelligence theories as well as experimental and research methodology.

Course Prerequisite: None Advisory: English 28 or ESL 8

Required text: The World of Psychology by: S. Wood, E. Wood, D. Boyd (Seventh Edition)

Objective: Master the process of critical thinking while learning about, relating to, and understanding psychological principles and theories.

Important Dates

September 2, 2014-Day and Evening Classes Begin

September 12, 2014-Last day to ADD classes for Fall 2014, process an audit, and do a section transfer

September 14, 2014-Last day to drop without a "W" for Fall 2014 online. Last day to get a refund online.

November 11, 2014 (Veterans Day-College Closed)

November 23, 2014-Last day to drop with a "W" online for Fall 2014

November 27-November 30-Thanksgiving Week

December 13, 2014-Last Day of classes for Fall 2014

December 15, 2014-December 20, 2014 Final Exam Week

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Explain and describe one of the four goals of psychology
2. Demonstrate basic knowledge of the parts of the brain and nervous system through an essay quiz
3. Analyze psychological disorders and their causes and treatment options
4. Compare and contrast two theories of psychological development

Assignments and Grading Criteria

Three examinations on course lectures and assigned readings (40 points each) for a total of 120 points.

Psychology Question of the Day (60 points)(20 points each!)

Final Research Paper (50 points)

Five Factor Model Personality (You can take the assessment here at this link: <https://personality-testing.info/tests/BIG5.php>) (15 points)

Extra Credit: Dream Interpretation Journal (25 points)

Total=235 points

Tentative Grading Scale

245-215 A

214-184 B

183-164 C

163-143 D

142-below F

MISSING ANY ASSIGNMENT WILL SIGNIFICANTLY LOWER YOUR GRADE!

Additional Information

Welcome to Psychology 1! If you've ever pondered over the question of why humans do what they do, you are in for a very enlightening experience. Questions such as the following will be discussed:

Why do we need to sleep?

How and why does attraction occur between two individuals?

What do our dreams mean?

How does advertising get you to buy their products?

We will discuss issues like these throughout the semester!

This course will be conducted in a lecture/seminar format. That is, students are responsible for leading class discussions using weekly assigned readings, personal experiences, observations, etc. Attendance and punctuality are very important to succeeding in this class. I usually give out vital information at the beginning of each class session so it is important to arrive on time. The quality of our seminar will depend on you and what you bring to it. To participate fully (1) complete all assigned readings before class (2) complete psychology questions on a consistent basis (3) contribute to class discussions in a respectful manner (4) turn assignments in on time (5) ask questions (6) do the final project

Please do NOT miss class! Participation is important and detailed note taking will help you succeed in this course!

Three unexcused absences will result in your being dropped from the course. Leaving early without notifying the instructor or having side conversations in class is unacceptable. Also, please turn off your cell phones and no text messaging allowed!

If you're having any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to come and see me. I am here to help you succeed in this course.

Together we will have a successful semester!

Assignments in Detail

Exams

Three exams on the assigned readings, and lecture notes will be given. Each exam is worth 40 points which will give you a total of 120 possible points for the semester. A study guide will be given to help you perform successfully.

NO MAKE UP TESTS WILL BE GIVEN. PLEASE DO THE EXTRA CREDIT

Psychology Question of the Day

You are expected to write a one page response to a psychology review question posed in class. You will receive a question every week. The question will cover material discussed in

class that week. You can use your notes and textbook to help you write a one page, detailed and thoughtful response. Please type and DOUBLE SPACE this assignment. If you miss any of these weekly questions, this will result in FIVE POINTS being subtracted from the total points possible (which is 50 points). Your response should be dated and please copy the question along with your response. This is a very important assignment! It will foster critical thinking skills and will further reinforce what you're learning in class. This assignment is worth 50 points. Please staple all of your response papers and turn them into me on the dates indicated on the syllabus.

Final Research Project

Your final research project consists of writing a research paper on any topic within the field of psychology, using APA format. APA format is the format used by the American Psychological Association. APA style consists of the title page, the abstract, the main body of the paper and the reference section where you cite your sources. The internet is full of resources to help you learn how to format in this style so feel free to look them up.

Your paper should be at least 5-10 pages long, double space, in APA format using 12 inch font. Please write about a topic in Psychology that you are interested in exploring or learning more about. Your idea can come in the form of a question and your goal is go out and answer that question with thorough research. A research paper consists of discovering what others have said about the topic and then adding your own research or thoughts to it. This class is about critical thinking so I will allow you to state freely what your ideas are! Please keep the paper academic and formal in its writing style. If you are not sure of your paper, feel free to email it to me three weeks before its due, and I can offer suggestions. Possible topics to write about are the following:

Are people getting addicted to Facebook and social media? How do these social websites influence how people interact and behave?

Do an in-depth study on a famous psychologist like George I. Sanchez, Kenneth Clark, Sigmund Freud, Karen Horney, etc.? Describe their contributions to the field of Psychology? How have their ideas impacted society?

What are some of the risk factors for depression? Explore the potential risks as well as any preventive strategies that can be used.

Compare two different psychological disorders. What are the symptoms of each disorder? How are these disorders diagnosed and treated?

Also go to the following link for more ideas! <http://www.buzzle.com/articles/list-of-psychology-research-paper-topics.html>

Your research paper is due DECEMBER 11, 2014. It is worth 50 points.

Five Factor Model

Go to <https://personality-testing.info/tests/BIG5.php> and take the five factor personality test online or take any other Five Factor Model assessment available to you online. Make sure the assessment covers the five dimensions of personality. Print out your results and write a one-two page interpretation. Look at all five dimensions of personality and write whether you agree or disagree with the results and why. You will find this personality assessment to be very interesting. Due November 25, 2014.

Extra Credit (not required but STRONGLY RECOMMENDED)

For extra credit, I would like you to interpret FIVE separate dreams. Describe your dreams in DETAIL and interpret their meanings. How do your dreams reflect conscious or unconscious wishes and feelings? In your view, what are the symbolic meanings behind your dreams? How do your dreams reflect issues in your daily life, past, present, or future? This assignment will be interesting and insightful. Please dedicate ONE to TWO pages for EACH DREAM. For example, you can use the Title Dream #1, Dream #2, etc. Be as thoughtful and detailed as you can. Feel free to google resources online that can help you with your interpretation. No one can understand your dreams better than you can! This assignment is due December 18, 2014 and is worth 25 points.

DEPARTMENT POLICIES

Cheating-unauthorized material used during an examination (including electronic devices) changing answers after work has been graded, taking an exam for another student, forging or altering attendance sheets or other documents in the course, looking at another student's paper/scantron/essay/computer or exam with or without their approval is considered cheating. Any student caught cheating will receive a zero for the assignment/exam and referred to the Department chair and/or Student Services for further disciplinary action.

Plagiarism-Plagiarism is defined as the act of using ideas, words or work of another person or persons as if they were one's own, without giving proper credit to the original sources. This includes definitions found online on Wikipedia, materials from blogs, twitter, or other similar electronic resources. The following examples are intended to be representative, but not all inclusive: (1) failing to give credit by proper citations for others ideas and concepts, data and information, statements and phrases, and/or interpretations and conclusions. (2) failing to use quotation marks when quoting directly from, whether it be a paragraph, a sentence, or a part thereof. (3) Paraphrasing the expressions or thought by others without appropriate quotation marks or attribution (4) Representing another's artistic/scholarly works such as essays, computer programs, photographs, paintings, drawings, sculptures or similar works as one's own. FIRST OFFENSE, you will receive a zero for the assignment in question. Any further offenses may result in expulsion from the class, as determined by the disciplinary action from the Office of Student Services.

Recording Devices in the classroom-Section 78907 of the California Education Code prohibits the use of any electronic audio or video recording devices, without prior consent of the instructor. (Including cell phones, laptops, MP3 players, and more).

Reasonable Accommodations If you are a student with a disability and require accommodations please send me a private email. The sooner I am aware of your eligibility for accommodations, the quicker I will be able to assist the DSP&S office in providing them. For students requiring accommodations, the DSP&S office at Mission College provides special assistance in areas like: registering for courses, specialized tutoring, note-taking, mobility assistance, special instruction, testing assistance, special equipment, special materials, instructor liaisons, community referrals and job placement. If you have not done so already, you may also wish to contact the DSP&S office in instructional building 1018 (phone number 818-364-7732 TTD and 818-364-7861) and bring a letter stating the accommodations that are needed.

TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE

Sep 2-4	Welcome/Syllabus/Icebreakers
	Chapter 1-Introduction to Psychology
Sep 9-11	Chapter 2-Biology and Behavior
Sep 16-18	Chapter 3-Sensation and Perception
Sep. 23-25	Chapter 4-States of Consciousness
Sep.30-Oct.2	Chapter 5-Learning
Oct.7-9	Chapter 6-Memory
	Exam 1- Chapters 1-5 October 7/ Psychology Questions 1-5 Due!
Oct.14-16	Chapter 9 Adolescence and Adulthood
Oct.21-23	Chapter 10 Motivation and Emotion
Oct. 28-30	Chapter 11 Human Sexuality and Gender
Nov 4-6	Chapter 12 Health and Stress
Nov 11	Holiday-NO CLASS
Nov.13	Chapter 13- Personality Theory and Assessment
Nov. 18-20	Chapter 14-Psychological Disorders
	Exam 2-Chapters 6, 9, 10, 11, 12 November 20 /Psychology

Questions Due November 20!

Nov 25-Dec 2 Chapter 15-Therapies Five Factor Model Assignment
due November 25!

Dec. 4-9 Chapter 16-Social Psychology

Dec 11 Final Exam Review/Final paper is due on Dec.11

Dec 16 Final Exam is on Dec. 16 STARTING AT 10am! -Chapters
13, 14, 15,16/ Psych Questions Due Dec. 16 (Also Dream Interpretation Journal
due on December 16, Extra credit!)