

SSE '00

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From: "Dylan Gaffney" <dylan.gaffney@worldnet.att.net>
To: "Betty Sam" <bsam@chaminade.edu>
Subject: ~~Psychology 101-00~~ syllabus
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This syllabus can also be seen at www.psychteach.com

GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY 101- On-line

Ms. Dylan Gaffney, MSCP
Contact Phone: 800# given when you register.
e-mail link found on tool bar

ATTENTION: IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING ANY DIFFICULTY, FIRST INVESTIGATE YOUR SYSTEM, THEN CALL ME. Required Text: Psychology by David Myers, 5th edition, Worth Publishers.

IMPORTANT!!! If you expect to do well in this class, read this syllabus carefully. I suggest you print it and keep it handy.

Course Description:

This course explores the basic concepts in the field of psychology. It is an introductory course in which we will be examining: critical thinking, genetics and brain functions (relating to behavior,) perception, sensation, intelligence, motivation, emotion, personality, and personality disorders, life span development, therapy, and social psychology.

Behavior will be examined from several theoretical frameworks, and critical questions will be asked in the mind/body connection. This course will prepare students for upper-division specific psychology courses.

Expectations:

You are expected to do all the assigned reading, and participate in the class discussions on the "Web Board." Weekly quizzes, found at the support Myers support site will be taken by you and sent to me before

Friday. There will be a term project, which will be a creative way to show me what each week has meant to you. There will be a final exam on the main campus at the end of the term, so plan that in your schedule now.

Do not fall behind in your reading and assignments, or you will be overwhelmed quickly. A good way to manage your time is to realize the 2:1 ratio. The 4 hours you would have spend in class you will be spending at your computer, but then you need to realize for every hour of class time there are 2 hours of study time. So, 12 hours study time a week is minimal. Internet course are not easier, and in some ways are harder! What you gain in flexibility you lose in the ability to "social loaf" (page 561 in your text book). With that out of the way, let's start studying the fascinating world of psychology! Remember, "Once expanded to the dimensions of a larger idea, (the mind) never returns to its original size"-Oliver Wendell Holmes pg 4 of your text book

Finally, you are expected to get in touch with me if you are experiencing difficulty.

What you can reasonably expect from the instructor:

You can expect reasonable and concerned support and availability. The preferred contact is e-mail. (I check my e-mail every other day at the latest, for I do occasionally take a day off) If you feel the need to talk to me in person you may use the toll free number, that will be given to you when you register. However, I am in NY, EASTERN STANDARD TIME!!!! That means I am a full 6 hours ahead of Hawaii. If you fail to grasp that and call me at 2 am I will hate you and flunk you. I love my sleep and calls at 2 am scare me.

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course you will have a fundamental knowledge of psychology. This will be demonstrated in your quizzes, final project and final exam. You will be well prepared for any upper division psychology course.

GRADING:

WEEKLY QUIZZES: 100 POINTS

FINAL PROJECT: 100 POINTS
FINAL EXAM: 100 POINTS
PARTICIPATION and WEB BOARD DISCUSSIONS: 100 POINTS
400-360 = A
360-320 = B
320-280 = C
280- 240 = D
BELOW = F

MORE ABOUT GRADING:

An "A" student meets the criteria of the assigned material, displays outstanding scholarship and an unusual degree of intellectual initiative. A "B" student does superior work in a consistent and intellectual manner. A "C" student does average work and indicates a competent grasp of the material.

Serious students manage their time well, and in an accelerated on-line course this becomes very important. If you don't do the reading and work on the assignments it will show up.

THE ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Weekly Quizzes

The Myers text we are using is a wonderful text. Consider it your friend, and even though it is heavy you might consider taking it around with you for those odd moments of "dead time." You paid a lot for this text, and now you will be getting your monies worth!!

The weekly quizzes, found on the Worth Publisher support site, (link on tool bar at the left). These quizzes are a wonderful way to check in and make sure you have grasped the gist of the reading.

As you take these quizzes, you submit them to me. It is very self-explanatory once you get to the site. The publisher scores and sends the tests to me. Please USE THE SAME NAME EACH TIME.

These must be completed before Friday of each week, as I receive the results on Friday. If you miss the deadline, you have missed your opportunity. The good news is that you will be taking 12 quizzes, and

I drop the 2 lowest. These will be scored by moving the decimal one place to the left, to get a total possible points of 100.

You can sit there with an open book, looking for the answers. There is no problem with that. I am only concerned with having you focus on your reading with this way of review.

2. Term Project:

I spent a considerable amount of time working on the lectures for you, which you will find under each week's heading. Within the lectures you will find things to think about, exercises, frames of reference, and support sites. It is the classroom experience, without you being in the classroom. I want you to explore this information! Take charge of your education. Don't become one of those people who "punch the ticket" to a degree! You have arrived at this place, and this time, so take advantage of it.

At the end of each lecture you will find two exercises to help you get closer to the material. I would like you to do both of them, but for your final project you are to pick one of them and write at least one page. Naturally, I will not know if you have done both the exercises, as one one needs to be used for the term project. But you will get more out of the course if you do both, and it will help you for the final.

You can get as creative as you want with these exercises, as long as there is some written support material. The minimum acceptable material would be one well written page for each week. If your project becomes something that can't be e-mailed to me, I will give you an address to send it to. But realize that it takes 4 days for it to get to me.

What I am looking for is **WHAT YOU PERSONALLY GOT OUT OF EACH WEEK'S WORK, AND HOW THAT RELATES TO WHAT WE HAVE BE STUDYING THAT WEEK.**

I would **STRONGLY** suggest you do this every week as part of the regular work load. If you wait until the night before, and I receive weak, badly written papers with no real content, you will not be happy with the grade. If you want to see if you are on the right track you can send me a week or two as a sample for me to proof.

2. Spell Check:

I mean it. There is a way to have your e-mail checked for spelling before it goes out. If you don't know how to do this, find someone who does and ask. This goes for correspondence, web postings, and your final project. It is a good habit to take the time to present yourself in a way that reflects the work you have put in.

So, now that the rules are covered, lets get down to some work! You will be surprised at how interesting all this will be and how much it will relate to your own life!

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3. Class Discussion:

We get together as a group to talk about a subject I post. PLEASE READ THE INSTRUCTIONS FOR HOW TO POST ON THE SITE. I want you to reply to my question, not post a new one (or you will be leaving the "class room." It is all explained on the site.) I expect full, intelligent participation. If I get a response that amounts to "like she said," I may well contact you, and you may well not get a grade for that week.

These are not "real time" chats, but I want you to check into the web board twice a week, on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Additionally, I want you to respond to at least one person's remarks. That is the way we get conversation going in this format.

This is our classroom, so please treat it with the same respect. It is also worth a total of 100 points!

4. Final Exam:

There will be a final exam on main campus with an I.D. check. Mark the date on your calendars NOW so you can plan ahead. (Exactly 10 weeks from the start of the term, on a Saturday) I will be giving you review material on what to study for as the time draws nearer.

If you are taking this course on the main-land it will be up to you to find a proctor for the exam. Education Centers on military bases have helped in the past. You can also look to company commanders, or the clergy. It is wise to line up a proctor early in the term.

PET PEEVES:

1. Decorum:

The pace of the world is very fast and often one can lose a sense of courtesy. I ask each of you to address your e-mail correspondence with salutations and closings. It only takes a moment, and it helps frame the right attitude. This is also a practical consideration. If I don't have you sign your e-mails I have to look for your "handle." The e-mail addresses often don't tell you who it is! I often find myself going through the files to find out who "hotlics" is and it makes me grumpy!!