

General Psychology (PSYC 101) – 3 credits
South Dakota State University
(Taught at Lake Area Technical Institute)

Instructor Information

Jeanie True, NCC, LPC, M.Ed. Library/Educational Services Center Office (882-5284, ext. 216)
E-mail address: truej@lakeareatech.edu

Course Description – Introduction to Psychology – PSYC 101

This course is an introduction survey of the field of psychology with consideration of the biological bases of behavior, sensory and perceptual processes, learning and memory, human growth and development, social behavior and normal and abnormal behavior.

Description of Instructional Methods

Lecture, discussion, assignments, exams, research paper and quizzes.

Course Requirements

Textbook: Wade, C., & Travis, C. (2005). *Invitation to Psychology*. Third Edition. Pearson Education, Inc. or *Invitation to Psychology, Study Edition* or *Invitation to Psychology*, Fourth Edition.

Supplementary Materials: You will be expected to **bring your textbook**, syllabus, notebook paper and a pen/pencil to every class.

Attendance: You are expected to attend every class. You may miss up to 6 hours of class without penalty. The courtesy of an e-mail or phone call informing me of the absence is appreciated. Should you miss over six hours of class you are in jeopardy of being withdrawn from the class. Should you be dropped, you have the right to appeal. See Lee Quale, Dean of Enrollment.

Make-up Policy: Late assignments will be deducted points and **exams will not be rescheduled unless the instructor is notified prior to the absence**. All make up work must be completed within seven days of the due date. **Quizzes and any in-class assignments will not be made up if missed**. No incompletes will be given unless arrangements have been made with the instructor.

Sleeping: Be alert in class. *Sleeping will not be allowed* in class due to concerns for student health and welfare. If you have a medical condition which may impact your class performance, please tell me.

Professional Behavior: You will be expected to conduct yourself in a courteous and respectful manner. The basic request of silence while the instructor is speaking or quiet while a student is speaking to the group is essential to maintain a productive learning environment.

Cell phones: Use of cell phones for any reason is not allowed during class. If you must take calls, the phone may be on vibrate and you must leave the classroom to speak on the cell phone. Again, cell phone usage must be mediated by courtesy to others.

Food and/or drink: If you wish to have something to eat or drink you may do so. Should anything be spilled, please clean it up prior to leaving the classroom.

Cheating and Plagiarism Policy: LATI Student Handbook and Academic Planner outlines the consequences of cheating and plagiarism. Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. You cannot present the work of others as your own, whether it is on an exam or in a written assignment. Academic dishonesty will be punished by withdrawal from and failure of the entire course.

- See student handbook for further information.

ADA Statement: Students are entitled to 'reasonable accommodations' under provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Those in need of such accommodations should notify the instructor and make appropriate arrangements with the Office of Disability Services.

Course Goals

PSYC 101 fulfills the *SD Board of Regents Systems General Education Goal #3, Social Sciences*.

Students will understand the organization, potential, and diversity of the human community through study of the social sciences.

Student Learning Outcomes for General Education Goal #3

1. Identify and explain basic concepts, terminology, and theories of the selected social science disciplines from different spatial, temporal, cultural, and/or institutional contexts.
Students will learn basic psychology theories, research, and terminology in a wide variety of psychological disciplines.
Students will be evaluated on this outcome through exams and homework assignments.
2. Apply selected social science concepts and theories to contemporary issues.
Students will learn about various theories through lecture and will discuss their relevance to contemporary problems and issues in class discussions.
Students will be evaluated on this outcome through exams, homework assignments and in class discussion assignments.
3. Identify and explain the social or aesthetic values of different cultures.
Students will learn about the results of psychology research that has been examined in multiple cultures through lecture and class discussions.
Students will be evaluated on this outcome through exams, homework assignments and in class discussion assignments.
4. The origin and evolution of human institutions.
Students will learn about the origin and evolution of the field of psychology and the wide ranging effects the field has had on human lives and behavior.
Students will be evaluated on this outcome through exams, homework assignments and in class discussion assignments.

Specific Learning Objectives

Specific chapter learning objectives and chapter outlines will be provided at the beginning of each chapter.

Evaluation Methods

Exams: Each exam will contain approximately 60-100 multiple choice, short answer and true/false questions; each exam will test over information from one to three chapters in the textbook and information given during lecture.

Homework assignments: Homework (in addition to studying the textbook) may be assigned. Due dates for these assignments will be announced in class. Brief research-based papers will be assigned.

In-class assignments: Daily in-class writing assignments or quizzes may be given on the material to be presented in that day's lecture. At the end of class you will be asked to turn in your assignment for credit. The assignments will be worth 5 – 10 points each.

Research Paper: Student will write a research paper on a selected topic which will highlight recent research in psychology.

Students will choose a topic from one of the following chapters early in the semester and in a small group, write a brief (5 - 6 page) paper on the recent research on the topic. Students must use at least four recent (within the last seven years) peer-reviewed sources.

Approaches to Treatment and Therapy (Chapter 12)

Various methodologies proposed to treat psychological disorders and the success of these treatments are discussed.

or

Emotion, Stress and Health (Chapter 13)

The influences of emotions and stress on health are revealed.

Grading

A = 90 – 100% B = 80 - 89% C = 70 – 79 % D = 60 – 69 % F = < 60%

Extra Credit: Extra credit opportunities will not be available.

Revised: 7/09