

Course Syllabus

Welcome to General Psychology, formerly known as Introduction to Psychology. I am pleased that you have decided to take this course. You will receive an overview of the major fields and issues in Psychology, which will also prepare you for more advanced courses in this most fascinating subject. Although you will find Psych 1 to be challenging, you may find the material to be of great value, not just as a student, but throughout your life because the information and techniques offered in this course can give you a new way to look at yourself. A good solid effort on your part is needed. Make a commitment!

Lots of info is in this syllabus. Think of it as a contract. Your enrollment in this class constitutes your acceptance and agreement of all college regulations and terms of this syllabus. Please take the time to thoroughly read it before next class.

This is a hybrid class which is a combination of a traditional (ground) class and an online component. All lectures will be during our meetings on seven Tuesdays, 5:45-9:50PM. Our eighth meeting will be your final exam. You will find our class schedule in the table below.

The online component will be for your eight chapter quizzes. Quizzes are based almost entirely on material in your textbook and will be taken online. Most questions will be covered in class lectures, but you are responsible for the material in the chapter. Quizzes are objective, multiple choice, and are based on material in your text. Opening and closing dates will of course be posted in the *Etudes* shell. *Etudes* is the website that supports the online venue of this class. You are also encouraged to use the chat room feature to help each other learn. There are no makeups! All quizzes must be taken online and submitted before the closing time.

You will have two short papers to do. They must be typewritten, double-spaced, minimum length of each is two pages, and maximum length is three pages. They are to be submitted in class as a stapled hard copy, no cover page. See the schedule below for due dates. Details of each paper's topic will be given in class. Late papers will not be accepted but you are welcome to turn them in early.

If you have previously taken an online class at West or at any of our sister colleges in the LACCD, that's great because you are already familiar with Etudes and should be able to access your account.

If this your first experience with Etudes, it is vital that you quickly acquaint yourself with it because the first online quiz will be due on the first Sunday following our first class meeting. You can get access and tech support through West's Distance Learning webpage. There is a link, online/hybrid classes, on the college home page: [www.wlac.edu](http://www.wlac.edu)

**Please remember that your professor does not provide tech support! You will find a link to the Help Desk on the Distance Learning Webpage which will enable you to get help on technical issues. There is also a link to an Online Tutorial on the same webpage. You may also contact West's Distance Learning Center.**

This is also an academic class and your consistent attendance is expected. Furthermore, this is a concentrated class. You will get the same material, papers, and exams/quizzes as you would in a 16 week class (well, one less quiz). Furthermore (2), each class is four hours and we only have eight of them with only seven of them in lecture mode. Therefore each class is a significant portion of the entire course. If you miss two, you will very likely be dropped. If you are having problems attending class, you should talk to me about it right away. It is your responsibility to keep ahead of reading assignments and to know dates of exams and due dates for papers even if you are absent. Quiz dates consisting of opening and posting dates are in the assignments, tests, and surveys section of your *Etudes* account. You should be able to contact at least one of your classmates in order to find out what you missed in case you are absent. The chat room can also help you with contacting your classmates. It is strongly recommended that you read the chapter in advance of the lecture.

The translation of the above paragraph is simple: getting behind is fatal!

Your textbook is Psychology: Modules for Active Learning, 12<sup>th</sup> Edition (custom or regula edition), by Coon & Mitterer (terrible title but a very good text). If you can, get it today. If you delay in getting your text, there are copies on reserve in the library. Please see next page for more text info.

This is how your grade is established (%'s are approximate).

Chapter Quizzes	160 pts	(55%)
E-I Paper	30 pts	(10%)
Stressay	30 pts	(10%)
Final Exam (cumulative)	70 pts	(25%)

Everything you do is converted to points. Your letter grade is based on a certain percentage of 290 possible points:

A=86% (250 pts) B=76% (221 pts) C=66% (192 pts) D=56% (163 pts) F=<56% (<163 pts)

A word on class conduct. Once class begins, talking to other students is not permitted. It is very disruptive to those students who are trying to listen and learn. It is more disruptive to your professor. If you do talk, the error of this behavior will be pointed out to you immediately. Should it occur again, there will be points deducted from your next quiz. Further violations of this policy may result in your being removed from class for the day. The last thing I want to see is for any student to have problems resulting from not being able to control his/her talking but each and every one of you has a responsibility to keep our learning environment free of disruption. Your cooperation is required and is greatly appreciated.

### Class Schedule

Class Date	Class Activities/Assignments Due	Topics	Online Quiz Dates
2/11	Intro to class Lecture: Ch 1, Modules 1.1-1.4 omit pp. 22-24	Intro to psych, history, the "big picture", approaches	Quiz: Intro, opens 2/12 @ 11AM, closes 2/16 @ 11PM
2/18	Lecture: Ch 1, Modules 1.5-1.7 add pp. 22-24, Obedience pp. 643-644 E-I personality test	Research Methods, scientific method, ethics	Quiz: Research methods, opens 2/19 @ 11AM, closes 2/23 @ 11PM
2/25	Lecture: Ch 6 Lecture: Ch 2 <b>***E-I Paper due***</b>	Learning/Conditioning Biopsychology	Quiz: Learning, opens 2/26 @ 11AM, closes 3/2 @ 11PM
3/4	Lecture: Ch 2 Lecture: Ch 7	Biopsychology Memory	Quiz: Biopsych, opens 3/5 @ 11AM, closes 3/9 @ 11PM
3/11	Lecture: Ch 12, omit pp. 522-524 Lecture: Ch 3, omit pp. 127-135	Stress and Health Lifespan Psychology	Quiz: Memory, opens 3/12 @ 11AM, closes 3/16 @ 11PM
3/18	Lecture: Ch 11, add pp. 522-524 Lecture: Ch 9 <b>***Stressay due***</b>	Personality Motivation/Emotion	Quiz: Stress, opens 3/19 @ 11AM, closes 3/23 @ 11PM Quiz: Mot/Emo, opens 3/19 @ 11AM, closes 3/26 @ 11PM
3/25	Lecture: Ch 13	Psychological disorders, (Abnormal)	Quiz: Combined Freud / Erikson, opens 3/26 @ 11AM, closes 3/30 @ 11PM
4/1	Final Exam: <b>To be taken in class</b>	Cumulative	

**IF YOU NEED TO CORRESPOND WITH ME, PLEASE DO SO VIA EMAIL, NOT THROUGH ETUDES.**  
[leejeff@wlac.edu](mailto:leejeff@wlac.edu)

- I want you to succeed in this class. If you are having any problem of any kind that you think is affecting your work or your attendance, do **talk to me**. Communication is extremely important and I support your efforts.
- Take advantage of my office hours. You can come by to discuss psychology, your progress in class, or just about anything else that concerns you. Office hours are posted on my door (CE 236) and on the top front page. My office telephone number is 310 287-4229. Feel free to leave a message. I'll be happy to return your call if needed, but if a message will suffice, please leave one. My email address is [leejeff@wlac.edu](mailto:leejeff@wlac.edu). Be sure to include your class days and times with any message that you leave. Email is preferable but either way; include the days & times of your class.
- Please consider your classmates and your professor by not distracting us with conversations or cell phones. Please remember that talking to other students during a lecture or while another student is speaking is rude and is not acceptable behavior. This issue was already discussed but it is worth repeating.
- **Cell Phones have absolutely no place in the classroom. If yours rings in class, you will be asked to leave for the day.**
- Anyone can be late on occasion. However, habitual tardiness is not acceptable and can reduce your grade.
- **Do not come to class if you are sick with a cold or the flu especially if you are contagious.** Your professor may remove you from class if you appear to be contagious. Do contact me via email about your situation.
- In a block class (one meeting per week) leaving at the break will be considered an absence. To avoid that, if you do have to leave early, please let me know.
- All written work submitted must be typed. Multiple pages must be numbered and stapled.
- Printer or computer problems do not constitute a valid excuse for late papers.
- Final grades cannot be given out through my office telephone or by email.
- **If you should decide to stop attending class, it is your responsibility to drop yourself at Admissions.** If you just stop attending and do not file a drop card with admissions or drop yourself on-line, you may receive an F. The last day to drop will be announced.
- Sorry, no extra credit. Participation is not factored into your grade but it is definitely encouraged.

#### Additional Text Info

Beginning in Fall 07, I adopted custom version of your textbook. If you have acquired the regular version already, do not have a heart attack! The content is identical for both books and you may use either as long as it is the 12<sup>th</sup> edition. If you happen to have the 11<sup>th</sup> ed., I can provide the 11<sup>th</sup> ed. Schedule for you. Consider renting your text; it has advantages.

#### SLOs

Each student will learn to think critically about historical theories in psych and tie them to current research methodology and research outcomes.

Academic Dishonesty Policy

College study is the process of learning to be an independent scholar. All students are expected to do their own work. All forms of cheating and plagiarism are absolutely forbidden. This is the official policy of this class. Students found cheating will have their assignments marked 0 for failure and may receive a failing grade for this course.

Examples of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following:

- using unauthorized materials on exams
- copying other student exams
- submitting any assigned work that is not the student's own
- copying other written materials without proper credit to the original author
- downloading from computer networks without citation

All incidents of cheating will be reported to the Vice-president of Student Services.

*In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, students requesting accommodation must register with the Office of Disabled Students Programs & Services.*