Course Description & Objectives

This course is designed to provide students with an overview of theory and research in the major areas of psychology: biological, experimental, developmental, social, cognitive, personality, and clinical. This factual and conceptual foundation in psychology will help students understand behavior and apply psychological principles in a variety of settings and to their own lives. The objectives include working with the student to develop analytical skills relative to the subject of Psychology and to be able to apply the materials to everyday life.
Textbook

Each student is required to own or have access to the course textbook. You can purchase the textbook through the campus bookstore. Also, some textbooks may be purchased online and/or may be rented. Please check with the campus bookstore to find out about rented textbooks.

You can reach the bookstore by visiting their website. The website list location, hours of operation, and phone numbers.

http://www.valenciacc.edu/bookstore/

The Science of Psychology
Laura A. King
McGraw Hill
2nd Edition

Assessment/Grades

Each student will demonstrate learned knowledge by completing 2 online exams, 1 short paper, 1 project and 1 final exam. Class attendance will also count towards the final grade:

Exams 1&2: 50 points (25 points each)
Short Paper: 20 points
Course Project: 20 points
Final Exam: 10 points
Total: 100 points

A=90-100, B=80-89; C=70-79; D=60-69; F= 59 & Below

A good reason for you to know what you will be graded on ahead of time!
Course Requirements, Attendance & Make UP Work

**Basic Requirements**

Each student will be required to complete readings outside of class. The student will also be required to check email, assignments, and announcements, and web links posted to the course WebCT site on a regular basis. WebCT/Blackboard will be the instructor’s primary mode of communication with the students as a group outside of the classroom.

**Attendance**

Attendance is important, because part of the materials for the course will be provided through the lecture. Missing class can therefore have an impact on your overall gained knowledge. Consequently, attendance counts. You get one free pass for being absent and one free tardy. Beyond this, if you miss class you will lose 1 point and if you are tardy more than 10 minutes, you will lose ½ point from your final grade. Also, for those that are receiving scholarship, loan, and/or grant funding – please be aware that your particular funding source may require attendance. Please be aware of the specific requirements for your funding.

**Make Up Work**

All class work is due on the date shown in the schedule. If you miss an exam you will take an essay make up exam. There is a 10% deduction
(Continued)

for each day a project is late unless there are extenuating circumstances as discussed in the exceptions listed below. The final exam in this course is worth 10 points. Any student not completing the exam will receive a zero for the exam and this will impact the final average in the course.

Exceptions

There are always exceptions to the rules. If a student must miss class and/or must be tardy it is important to communicate with the instructor as soon as possible. Consideration will be given to students that must miss class and/or are late on exams or projects due to cases of illness, death in the family, or complications with work. You must have legitimate documentation to support your case such as a note from the doctor or a letter from your employer. Cases will be handled on an individual basis.

Projects

Each student will complete two projects: A short paper and a course project. For the short paper, the student will choose a current event and write a two-page summary. The topic must be pre-approved by the instructor. The written report will be typed using APA format (this will be discussed in class). The student must supply the original information substantiating the project when submitting the written paper.

The student will also be assigned a topic in Psychology. The student will then be required to prepare a brief lecture on the subject and teach it to the class. The specifics will be reviewed in class.

Short Paper

The student will choose a current event related to a topic in Developmental Psychology. The student will write a one-page paper discussing the topic. All papers must be typed using APA manuscript format.

Course Project

Each student will prepare a brief lecture and teach the information to the class.
Academic Honesty and Student Conduct

The college policies pertaining to academic honesty and student conduct can be found in the Student Handbook:

http://valenciacc.edu/pdf/studenthandbook.pdf

Please take it upon yourself to read the handbook and the policies pertaining to academic honesty and student conduct. These are important policies, because they may have a significant impact on your success. The policies are applicable to this course.

Withdrawal Policy

Students may withdraw at any time until the Withdrawal Deadline (November 4) and receive a W. A student is not permitted to withdraw after the withdrawal deadline. A professor may withdraw you up to the beginning of the final exam period for violation of the class attendance policy in which case you will receive a grade of “W”. If the professor does not withdraw you, your grade will be what you had earned (See Current Catalog).

Services on Campus for the Students

Valencia provides a number of services designed to assist students. Please see the list below and know that you can access these services if you need to do so.

- The Office for Students with Disabilities

  Valencia Community College is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternative formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need accommodations in this course must contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until the student has met with the instructor to request accommodations. Students who need accommodations must be registered with the Office for Students with Disabilities, Building 5, Room 216, before requesting accommodations from the instructor. For more information, please visit the Office for Students with Disabilities or visit their website:

  The Office for Students with Disabilities: Building 5, room 216

  http://www.valenciacc.edu/osd/

- Academic Success Center Tutoring – Building 4

  If you are in need of tutoring, please know that tutoring is available for students. Please visit the Academic Success Center website for more information:

  http://www.valenciacc.edu/east/academicsuccess/tutoring/
• The Testing Center: Building 4
  http://www.valenciacc.edu/east/academicsuccess/testing/default.cfm

• Advising and Counseling
  http://valenciacc.edu/advising/

• Library Services
  http://valenciacc.edu/library/

• Withdrawal Dates
  http://valenciacollege.edu/calendar/importantdates_withdraw.cfm

Disclaimer

Please note: The instructor may make changes to the course syllabus including the schedule. These changes may be announced during class and/or via email – and/or through the WebCt system. It is the student’s responsibility to get notes if they miss class; check their email and the WebCt system on a regular basis.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>LECTURE</th>
<th>CHAPTER(S)</th>
<th>NOTES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30-Aug</td>
<td>Introduction to Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>6-Sep</td>
<td>What is Psychology</td>
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<td>13-Sep</td>
<td>Psychology's Scientific Method</td>
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<td>20-Sep</td>
<td>Biological Foundations of Behavior</td>
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<td>27-Sep</td>
<td>Learning</td>
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<td>Exam I will be posted this week</td>
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<td>4-Oct</td>
<td>Memory</td>
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<td>Exam I DUE</td>
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<tr>
<td>11-Oct</td>
<td>Thinking, Intelligence, and Language</td>
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<tr>
<td>18-Oct</td>
<td>Human Development &amp; Motivation &amp; Emotion</td>
<td>9,10</td>
<td>Paper Due</td>
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<td>25-Oct</td>
<td>Gender, Sex, and Sexuality</td>
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<td>1-Nov</td>
<td>Personality</td>
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<tr>
<td>8-Nov</td>
<td>Selected Topics</td>
<td>13,14</td>
<td>Exam II will be posted this week.</td>
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<tr>
<td>15-Nov</td>
<td>Psychological Disorders</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Exam II DUE</td>
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<tr>
<td>22-Nov</td>
<td>Psychological Disorders &amp; Therapy</td>
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<td>29-Nov</td>
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<td>6-Dec</td>
<td>Brief Lecture - Project 2</td>
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<td>13-Dec</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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