

Anoka-Ramsey Community College

PSYC 1110: General Psychology

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 4

Lecture Hours/Week: 4

Lab Hours/Week: *.*

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci, Goal 07 - Human Diversity

(MnTC Goals 5 and 7)

This course is a comprehensive introduction to psychology, which is the science concerned with behavior and mental processes. Psychology studies the environmental, biological, social, and individual forces that help to describe, explain, predict, and control behavior. Students will examine the scientific and historical foundations of psychology, the major domains of knowledge in psychology (biological, cognitive, developmental, social and personality, and mental and physical health), and cross-cutting themes relevant to all knowledge domains (cultural and social diversity, ethics, variation in human functioning, and applications of psychology). This course is designed to meet the goals of the American Psychological Association (APA, 2014) for introductory psychology.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 06/01/1998 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Historical and scientific foundation of psychology
2. Research methods: Basic skills and concepts for interpreting behavior, studying research, and applying research to draw evidence-based conclusions about behavior
3. Biological domain: Emphasize cross-cutting themes of cultural/social diversity, ethics, variations in human functioning, and applications while covering at least two topics from
 - a. Neuroscience
 - b. Sensation
 - c. Consciousness
4. Cognitive domain: Emphasize cross-cutting themes of cultural/social diversity, ethics, variations in human functioning, and applications while covering at least two topics from
 - a. Cognition
 - b. Memory
 - c. Perception
 - d. Intelligence
5. Development domain: Emphasize cross-cutting themes of cultural/social diversity, ethics, variations in human functioning, and applications while covering at least two topics from
 - a. Learning
 - b. Lifespan development
 - c. Language
6. Social and Personality domain: Emphasize cross-cutting themes of cultural/social diversity, ethics, variations in human functioning, and applications while covering at least two topics from
 - a. Social
 - b. Personality
 - c. Emotion
 - d. Motivation
 - e. Multicultural
 - f. Gender
7. Mental and Physical Health domain: Emphasize cross-cutting themes of cultural/social diversity, ethics, variations in human functioning, and applications while covering at least two topics from
 - a. Abnormal
 - b. Health
 - c. Therapies

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Understand the historical foundation of psychology as a scientific discipline
2. Compare and contrast the various theoretical perspectives and research paradigms used to study behavior throughout psychology's history
3. Understand the differences between science and pseudoscience and be able to critically evaluate examples of each
4. Understand the steps of the scientific method and apply basic research skills to develop and test hypotheses about behavior
5. Understand the essential characteristics of common research methods and evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of each (observation, correlation, experimentation, meta-analysis)
6. Understand important biological bases of behavior (e.g., the neuron, neurotransmitters, the brain and nervous system, sensation, states of consciousness, sleep, dreaming, drug effects)
7. Understand important cognitive bases of behavior (e.g., thinking, problem-solving, memory, perception, intelligence)
8. Understand important developmental bases of behavior (e.g., learning, lifespan development, language development)
9. Understand important social and personality bases of behavior (e.g., social, personality, emotion, motivation, cultural, gender)
10. Understand important mental and physical health related bases of behavior (e.g., abnormal behavior, health psychology, biological and psychological treatments)
11. Examine the role of social and cultural diversity (e.g., age, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity, culture, national origin, religion, disability status, language, socioeconomic status) in each of the core knowledge domains (biological, cognitive, developmental, social/personality, mental/physical health), including an analysis of diversity issues at a personal level
12. Evaluate important ethical considerations in conducting and applying research within each of the core knowledge domains (biological, cognitive, developmental, social/personality, mental/physical health)
13. Understand the range of human functioning within each of the core knowledge domains (biological, cognitive, developmental, social/personality, mental/physical health)
14. Apply content within each of the core knowledge domains (biological, cognitive, developmental, social/personality, mental/physical health) to everyday life with the goal of improving personal functioning and addressing important social problems
15. Integrate understanding of basic research methods and core knowledge domains (biological, cognitive, developmental, social/personality, mental/physical health) to evaluate existing research, generate original research ideas, and apply scientific evidence to everyday life

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

1. Employ the methods and data that historians and social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.
2. Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.
3. Use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.
4. Develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.

Goal 07 - Human Diversity

1. Understand the development of and the changing meanings of group identities in the United States' history and culture.
2. Demonstrate an awareness of the individual and institutional dynamics of unequal power relations between groups in contemporary society.
3. Analyze their own attitudes, behaviors, concepts and beliefs regarding diversity, racism, and bigotry.
4. Describe and discuss the experience and contributions (political, social, economic, etc.) of the many groups that shape American society and culture, in particular those groups that have suffered discrimination and exclusion.
5. Demonstrate communication skills necessary for living and working effectively in a society with great population diversity.

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted