

CEDAR CREST COLLEGE
General Psychology
Psychology - 100 Fall 2009
Faculty: Dr. Diane M. Moyer
dmmoyer@cedarcrest.edu
Office: Curtis 123

Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to provide students with an introduction to the field of psychology. Topics covered will include an overview of the field of psychology, methods of psychological research, biological foundations of human behavior, sensation and perception, basic principles of learning, language, memory, intelligence, developmental psychology, personality theories, abnormal behavior, psychotherapy, and social behavior.

Text and Software:

Required Text: Kalat, J.W. (2008). *Introduction to Psychology, Eighth Edition*, Thomson Wadsworth Inc.

Recommended Text: Brouillard, P. (2008). *Study Guide for Kalat's Introduction to Psychology*. Thomson Wadsworth Inc.

A study guide is available to students who wish to organize their study methods and to improve scores on the exams. This study guide includes learning objectives and chapter summaries. It will help reinforce key points, strengthen your study habits, and will most likely improve your performance on the exams.

Publisher website for textbook: http://www.wadsworth.com/cgi-wadsworth/course_products_wp.pl?fid=M20bI&flag=instructor&product_isbn_issn=9780495102892&disciplinenumber

(Be sure to check out that website). This site includes bulletin boards, Internet links, hot topics, and interactive activities for students, online student tutorial quizzes, and more.

Course Objectives:

1. At the completion of the course, students will be familiar with the various facets of the field of psychology.
2. Students will gain an appreciation of the application of psychology to everyday life.
3. Students will become knowledgeable consumers of scientific research in the field of psychology.

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Course Outcomes:

1. Students will demonstrate their breadth and depth of knowledge of the field of psychology.
2. Students will show their identification, reasoning, and understanding of psychological concepts and terms.
3. Students will utilize critical thinking to apply various principles to solve problems and reach conclusions.
4. Students will recognize the interactions between the field of psychology and other disciplines.

Teaching Format: The course will consist of lecture, discussion, and in-class activities. Students should read the assigned material before coming to class, so that they can be active participants during the class period.

Student Evaluation: Grades will be assigned on the basis of the following criteria: Four non-cumulative exams that will include multiple-choice questions designed to measure students' knowledge, understanding, and application of textbook, lecture, and handout material. Each test is worth 100 points. Make-up exams will be given ONLY with documentation of an excused absence (i.e., sickness, college-sponsored event, legal situation)—there will be NO EXCEPTIONS. Advanced notice should be given whenever feasible. Documentation must be presented and the make-up exam scheduled as soon as possible. All work must be completed by the end of the course or the student will receive an "F" for the course.

Grades:

A	93.0-100%	A-	90.0-92.9%		
B+	86.7-89.9%	B	83.4-86.6%	B-	80.0-83.3%
C+	76.7-79.9%	C	73.0-76.6%	C-	70.0-72.9%
D+	67.0-69.9%	D	66.9-60%	F	below 60%

- Final grades are final. If you are a percent or two short of the next letter grade, you are a percent or two short. I will not give away free marks at the end of the term unless I give the same amount to everyone.

Administrative Details: Students with documented disabilities who may need academic accommodations should discuss these needs with me during the first two weeks of class. Students with disabilities who need accommodations should contact the Advising Center.

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Psychology Department Attendance Policy: The Psychology Department is committed to the principle that regular and punctual class attendance is essential to the students' optimum learning and successful academic achievement. Regular class attendance is a student obligation, and students are responsible for all work, tests and written assignments. Therefore, students are expected to be present for all class sessions. The Psychology Department's attendance policy recognizes that there will be times when attendance at class is not possible. You may think of the policy as being similar to the type used in the corporate world where each employee is given a certain number of "personal/sick days." Based on the number of regularly scheduled class meetings, you will be allowed a certain number of absences (see below) with no consequences, no questions asked. In other words, there is no distinction between excused and unexcused absences. You are of course responsible for anything covered during those missed classes, and for submitting assignments on time, regardless of whether or not you attend. Beyond the allowable number of absences, there are consequences that will adversely impact your grade, much as missing too many days of work can adversely impact your employment status. Above all else, you should carefully consider each decision to not attend class, as once your allotted absences have been used, they are gone. *It is important that students arrive for class on time. Late arrivals are very distracting, not only to the instructor, but also to fellow students. Repeated late arrivals are not acceptable and will be addressed on an individual basis.* It is each student's responsibility to understand this policy and to keep track of absences throughout the semester.

Application to this Class: Formal attendance will be taken during all class sessions. This class meets twice per week (28 class meetings). You may miss 3 classes without penalty. If you miss 4 classes, your final grade (cumulative percentage of points) will be lowered by 5%. That means that if you have earned 84% of the available points in the class, which is a B grade, you would be lowered to 79%, which is a C+. Likewise, if you have earned 77% of the points available, the penalty would take you down to 72%, which is a C-. As a reminder, a C grade (73%) is required in all Psychology courses. If you miss 5 classes, you will be docked an additional 5% points off of your final grade (for a total of 10%). If you miss 6 classes, you will receive a failing grade for the course. If you miss six classes, you have missed approximately 25% of the class meetings.

Classroom Protocol: All Cedar Crest College students are expected to be familiar with and fully supportive of the college's policy regarding the honor code and academic integrity. See the Student Guide for more information regarding the enforcement of these policies. Appropriate classroom behavior is defined and guided by complete protection for the rights of all students and faculty to a courteous, respectful classroom environment. That environment is free from distractions such as late arrivals, early departures, inappropriate conversations and any other behaviors that might disrupt instruction and/or compromise students' access to their Cedar Crest College education.

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Honor Code: Students are expected to abide by the Cedar Crest College Honor Code. The Honor Code policy can be found in the Customs Book. Any violation will be dealt with according to college procedures.

Plagiarism: If plagiarism is suspected, I am bound to follow academic regulations. Plagiarism is the act of presenting the ideas, words or other intellectual property of another as one's own. The use of other people's work must be properly acknowledged and referenced in all written material. The use of material without acknowledgement is an offense.

Cheating: Bear in mind, allowing another to copy one's work is an academic offense just as is copying from someone. Furthermore, submitting the same paper for two courses without arrangement is also an academic offense.

Office Hours: My office is located in Curtis, Room 123. If you would like to meet with me, I will be happy to make an appointment. My phone number is 610-606-4666, ext. 3425. I am looking forward to meeting and talking with you this semester. My email address is: dmmoyer@cedarcrest.edu.

Email Policy: I will not discuss official business (e.g., coursework, course grades, academic advising, etc.) via email unless you use your Cedar Crest email address. This is for your protection and privacy.

Course Schedule:

Date	Topic	Reading
8/25	Course Introduction; What is Psychology?	Chapter 1
8/27	Scientific Methods	Chapter 2
9/01	Scientific Methods	Chapter 2
9/03	Biological Psychology	Chapter 3
9/08	Biological Psychology	Chapter 3
9/10	Sensation & Perception	Chapter 4
9/15	Sensation & Perception	Chapter 4
9/17	EXAM #1	Chapters 1-4
9/22	Human Development	Chapter 5
9/24	Human Development	Chapter 5
9/29	Learning	Chapter 6
10/01	Learning	Chapter 6
10/06	Memory	Chapter 7
10/08	EXAM #2	Chapters 5-7
10/13	FALL BREAK – NO CLASS	
10/15	Cognition & Language	Chapter 8
10/20	Intelligence	Chapter 9
10/22	Intelligence	Chapter 9
10/27	States of Consciousness	Chapter 10
10/29	States of Consciousness	Chapter 10
11/03	EXAM #3	Chapters 8-10
11/05	Personality	Chapter 14
11/10	Personality	Chapter 14
11/12	Abnormality, Therapy, Social Issues	Chapter 15
11/17	Abnormality, Therapy, Social Issues	Chapter 15
11/19	Specific Disorders & Treatments	Chapter 16
11/24	Specific Disorders & Treatments	Chapter 16
11/26	THANKSGIVING BREAK – NO CLASS	
12/01	EXAM #4	Chapters 14, 15 & 16
12/03	Review Exam	