

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE

Course Syllabus Spring 2015

Humanities /Social science /Education/ Psychology

Psychology 102 Introduction to Psychology

**Instructor:** David G Codner

**Contact information:** [David.Codner@montgomerycollege.edu](mailto:David.Codner@montgomerycollege.edu)

**Office hour:** Thursdays 5:00 – 6:00pm In the Academic Success Center in the Commons Building

**General Course Information:** CRN 33351 3 Semester Hours Lecture

The course covers an introduction to the fields and research methods of psychology, including such topics as biological bases of behavior, human development, perception, learning, mental disorder, and social behavior.

**Course Outcomes:** Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:

Demonstrate and understanding and apply concepts of learning theory, such as classical and operant conditioning, social learning theory to human behavior.

- Demonstrate and understanding and apply the concepts of the biological theory relating to communication and human behavior within the body; such as the neuron and neuronal communication, the nervous system, and genetic inheritance.
- Read, analyze, demonstrate an understanding, and think critically about research design, which includes the scientific method, differences between research methods, developing independent and dependent variables, statistical significance, and application of results to the population.

**Required text:** Psychology In Action Tenth Edition By: Karen Huffman

**Course requirements:**

- “Students are expected to attend all class sessions” (Section 9.823A of the Academic Regulations – Class Attendance). Please be on time. A variety of activities will be the first task of each class. Late arrival, after the class has started, will be graded as absent.
- Student participation in classes is expected. Some topics in this class may challenge personal beliefs or values and may activate personal experiences. As a result it is essential that a respectful atmosphere be maintained at all times.
- **All assignments are to be typewritten, annotated and handed in on time [bonus points added for on time assignments]. Any assignment e-mailed will not receive the on time bonus.**
- **Any assignment that is completed at least 1 one week before the due date can be reviewed during office hours.** (This is an excellent opportunity to make sure that an assignment meets the required standard and that it has been done correctly.) This is the only way to get a “second chance” with an assignment.
- There will be one make-up assignment that can **replace** a missed or low grade assignment. **[If the make-up assignment is done the lowest grade will automatically be dropped]**
- Work that is late by 1 one week will receive a 10% penalty and if not submitted by the next class a grade of **zero** will be recorded.

- There will be a midterm and final exam. Both exams will be cumulative and the format will be varied. If an exam is missed due to illness, religious observance, or compelling circumstances beyond the student's control documentation is expected before a make-up exam is given.
- Academic Honesty is expected. Cheating or plagiarism will result in an "F" for the course.
- Students will be expected to work in small groups in the class. Every member is to participate with ideas and comments.

#### Grading Policy:

- |   |         |
|---|---------|
| ○ 2 Exams each worth 200 points         | Max 400 |
| ○ Attendance and participation in class | Max 100 |
| ○ Video reviews                         | Max 100 |
| ○ Assignments                           | Max 400 |

A= 900 to 1,000

B= 800 to 900

C= 700 to 800

D= 650 to 700

F= 650 below

#### College Policies and Procedures:

- The college has a website that covers Emergency Procedures. Please familiarize yourself with the information. As this is an evening class it is important to use caution at the end of class, campus security can be reached at 240 567 3888.  
<http://www.montgomery.edu/news/emergency/>
- Inclement weather is possible please check with local media sources or My MC website to confirm if the college will be open.
- Any student who may need accommodations due to a disability, please contact the Disabilities Support Services office on the Takoma Park campus as soon as possible (building ST233). If you have a letter from DSS, please contact me to discuss arrangements for your accommodations.  
**Any student who may need assistance in the event of an Emergency Evacuation must identify to the Disabilities Support Services Office; guidelines for emergency evacuation at :**  
<https://cms.montgomerycollege.edu/EDU/Plain2.aspx?id+4162>
- Please check your e-mail regularly and use only the college e-mail service when contacting the instructor.

**Introduction to Psychology**  
**Course outline spring 2015**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic for class</b>	<b>Readings for the following week</b>
1-29-15	Introduction to Psychology	Ch 1 & 2
2-5-15	Introduction to psychology and Research Methods Neuroscience and Biological Foundations	
2-12-15	Great Theorists Presentations	Ch 3
2-19-15	Stress and Health Psychology	Ch 4 Ch 5
2-26-15	Sensation and Perception and States of Consciousness	Ch 6 & 7
3-5-15	Learning and Memory Review for midterm exam, cumulative	
3-12-15	<b>Mid Term Exam</b> <b>Cumulative</b>	
	<b>Spring Break</b>	Ch 8
3-26-15	Thinking Language and Intelligence	Ch 9 & 10
4-2-15	Life Span Development 1 & 2	Ch 11
4-9-15	Gender and Human Sexuality	Ch12
4-16-15	Motivation, Emotion	Ch 13
4-23-15	Personality	Ch 14 & 15
4-30-15	Psychological Disorders and Therapy	Ch 16
5-7-15	Social Psychology Review for final exam, cumulative	
5-14-15	<b>Final Exam</b> <b>Cumulative</b>	

This schedule may be subject to change to improve the Education Outcome of the class 1-29-15

Psychology 102 Introduction to Psychology  
Spring 2015  
EXPECTATIONS

**Attendance, participation and questions [100 points]**

Attendance, participation and developing questions will be an essential part of creating a successful class. As a result this assignment is mandatory.

**Creating good questions**

Each student will be in a group that will take turns reading the chapters closely enough to make **5 five** questions with answers based on the chapter(s) assigned. This will happen twice during the semester. These questions and answers will be used as a warm up for the class that covers the assigned chapter(s). LATE QUESTIONS ARE NOT AN OPTION as they can't be used in the class therefore no points will be given if not handed in on time. If you are unable to attend please e-mail [David.Codner@montgomerycollege.edu](mailto:David.Codner@montgomerycollege.edu) the question and answers before 5pm on the day of the class so that they can be used. Please be aware that good questions may be used in either the midterm or final exam.

*The **1000 points** for this assignment will be awarded for the following: ONLY questions handed in on time or e-mailed – regular attendance – regular participation in class discussions.*

ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS

**Great Theorist Presentations [100 points] Because of the essential nature of the information on theorists and the creation of a One Page Handout for your fellow students this assignment is mandatory.**

This assignment is a research presentation project focusing on the “Great Theorists” These theorists will be recurring characters as we explore psychology today. A clear working knowledge of their theories will be essential as we progress through the semester.

- **Each person** will pick at random a “Great Theorists” to research focusing on their biographical history, their theories and the current day evaluation of their contributions.
- **Each person** will be expected to make a presentation that should last at least 5 minutes. The presentations are **not limited** to lecture style so this is a good chance to be creative. (“A picture is worth a thousand words” having fun is even better!)
- **Each person** will need to prepare a **ONE 1 PAGE HANDOUT** due at the same time as the presentation, detailing the important biographical information about the person, a description of their theories, present day evaluation of their contributions to the field and a bibliography. **See appendix 1**

*The **100 points** for this assignment will be awarded for the following: Handed in on time - Presentation clarity / creativity, and detail, - Handout: biographical information, description of theory, current day evaluation of theory and bibliography*

**Observation One [40points]**

This assignment is designed to you practice the skill of Observational Research with human subjects.

- Find a location that is likely to have a wide **variety** of people of different ages present. Library, Coffee Shop, Grocery Store, Food Court etc
- Make **discrete observations** focusing on the following

1. Interactions among the group of people being observed
2. Interactions between those being observed and the general public
3. Approximate ages giving observable clues for the estimates
4. Groupings, families, friends etc
5. Accommodations made for age, size, gender, physical conditions (Strollers, canes, scooters etc)
6. Dress, particularly if it conveys some meaning
7. An estimation of their emotional state, relaxed, happy excited, nervous etc

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- **STOP the observation immediately and try again later if you or the subject(s) become uncomfortable in any way.**
- After the observation is finished find a discrete place to record the information.
- Develop a way of displaying the gathered information in a summary form so that it can be handed in and reviewed for grading.

*The 40 points for this assignment will be awarded for the following: Handed in on time – The 7 discrete observations – A summary of the Observation*

### **Observation Two [60 points]**

This assignment is designed to connect theorists to your observation.

- Using the same location from observation one or a new one, make **discrete observations** focusing on the following
  1. Interactions among the group of people being observed
  2. Interactions between those being observed and the general public
  3. Approximate ages giving observable clues for the estimates
  4. Groupings, families, friends etc
  5. Accommodations made for age, size, gender, physical conditions (Strollers, canes, scooters etc)
  6. Dress, particularly if it conveys some meaning
  7. An estimation of their emotional state, relaxed, happy excited, nervous etc
- **STOP the observation immediately and try again later if you or the subject(s) become uncomfortable in any way.**
- After the observation is finished find a discrete place to record the information.
- Develop a way of displaying the gathered information in a summary form so that it can be handed in and reviewed for grading
- On a separate page discuss the observed behaviors as they relate to at least three of the Great Theorists work.

*The 60 points for this assignment will be awarded for the following: Handed in on time – The 7 discrete observations – A summary of the Observation – The use of the Great Theorists to further understand or interpret behaviors observed.*

### **Video Reviews [100 points]**

Please watch all 5 episodes of the Public Broadcasting Service Show “The Secret Life of the Brain” and for each video write out a one paragraph reflection, reaction to the content of the video. The videos will be in the Academic Success Center in the Commons Building and can also be found on the internet.

**The Babies Brain    The Childs Brain    The Teenage Brain    The Adult Brain    The Aging Brain**

**Essay responses: [100 points]**

This assignment is to help develop critical, or individual thinking about information read and theories encountered as well as to encourage the art of writing, a skill that will be essential in further collegiate studies. There will be no correct or incorrect answers to this assignment so in this situation a bibliography is not required.

**5 Five** times during the semester from the assigned textbook Psychology in Action select a chapter and pick a personally interesting, surprising piece of information or theory to react to. Create a **1 one** page reflection on that topic. Be sure to include the chapter number and if relevant, the page number on your paper.

*The **100 points** for this assignment will be awarded for the following: Handed in on time – A clear personal response to material from the textbook – An effort to write a careful well reasoned paper*

**Make up research assignment: [100 points]**

From the list below select **10 ten** terms, define the condition including any potential for harm to the person with them and briefly describe options for treatment if needed or possible.

Alzheimer's disease	Anorexia
Bulimia	Circadian rhythms
Depression	Dysomnia
Insomnia	Narcolepsy
Obsessive Compulsive disorder	Post Traumatic Stress disorder
Procrastination	Savant syndrome
Schizophrenia	Sleep Apnea

*The **100 points** for this assignment will be awarded for the following: Handed in on time – correct definition – description of potential harm to person – treatment options, if there are any or if any are needed.*

## Introduction to Psychology 102

### Due Dates for Chapter Questions and Answers

Date	
1-29-15	
2-5-15	Group A provides question and answers from chapters 1 & 2 Groups B,C D answer questions as a warm up
2-12-15	
2-19-15	Group B provides question and answers from chapter 3 Groups A,C D answer questions as a warm up
2-26-15	Group C provides question and answers from chapters 4 & 5 Groups A,B, D answer questions as a warm up
3-5-15	Group D provides question and answers from chapters 6 & 7 Groups A,B,C answer questions as a warm up
3-12-15	<b>Midterm Exam</b> <b>Cumulative</b>
	<b>Spring Break</b>
3-26-15	
4-2-15	Group A provides question and answers from chapter 8 Groups B,C D answer questions as a warm up
4-9-15	Group B provides question and answers from chapters 9 & 10 Groups A,C D answer questions as a warm up
4-16-15	Group C provides question and answers from chapter 11 Groups A,B, D answer questions as a warm up
4-23-15	Group D provides question and answers from chapters 12 & 13 Groups A,B,C answer questions as a warm up
4-30-15	
5-7-15	
5-14-15	<b>Final Exam</b> <b>Cumulative</b>

## Introduction to Psychology 102

### Due Dates

Date	
1-29-15	
2-5-15	Observation 1
2-12-15	Great Theorists Presentations
2-19-15	Observation 2
2-26-15	
3-5-15	
3-12-15	<b>Midterm Exam</b>
	<b>Cumulative</b>
	<b>Spring Break</b>
3-26-15	
4-2-15	
4-9-15	Video Reviews
4-16-15	Essay Responses
4-23-15	Make up research assignment
4-30-15	
5-7-15	
5-14-15	<b>Final Exam</b>
	<b>Cumulative</b>



Please use the following format for the **ONE PAGE HANDOUT**. If it is not one page it will be returned.

Name of selected theorist

Biographical Information:

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Description of major theory:

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Current Evaluation of the theory:

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Bibliography:

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**Please hand in the assignment with a COVER SHEET  
with your name on it. [This will be returned with your score]**

**Leave NO name on the Hand Out as it will be copied  
and given to your classmates.**