Introductory Psychology
Psychology 120: 5397, 5405
Fall 2019

Instructor: Sky Chafin, Ph.D.   sky.chafin@gcccd.edu
Office: 70-209
(619) 644-7719

Office Hours: Monday   1:00-2:00 PM and 4:00-5:00 PM
Tuesday   12:30-2:00 PM
Thursday   12:30-2:00 PM

Text: Presenting Psychology, Licht, Hull, Ballantyne
The current edition is the 2nd edition, ISBN-13: 978-1-319-19046-0. You **WILL** be using **LearningCurve**. The *Read & Practice* option ($57.99) gets you the eBook and LearningCurve. Or, you can purchase the *LaunchPad* option ($72.99) and get additional activities and resources.

Course Objectives: To give you insight into your own behavior and that of others around you. To introduce you to the *science of psychology* and to provide a foundation for continuing on to higher-level courses in psychology.

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course, students will have the skills to:

- o Differentiate, explain, and evaluate the basic methodologies used in psychological research.
- o Use a critical analysis of the scientific method as a basis for evaluating psychological information.
- o Describe and explain the processes and principles of the major theoretical perspectives in psychology.
- o Apply major concepts, theoretical ideas, and principles of psychology to personal and social issues.

Class Format: This class will be ALL online, using CANVAS. There will be NO assignments or meetings on campus.

Online Support: If you are not familiar with how an online class works or what to expect, please use the resources for online learning at grossmont.edu/canvas/students. If you have technical questions or issues, please call the Instructional Computing Services help desk at (619) 644-7742. As Canvas is known to have compatibility issues with Internet Explorer, another browser, such as **Google Chrome** is recommended.

Attendance: Attendance is based upon your regular completion of assignments. Students who fail to log in and actively participate in the class for one week or more may be dropped from the class.

It is YOUR responsibility to add, drop, or withdraw on or before the deadlines stated in the class schedule.

On Becoming a Professional: In college, not only do you learn about your chosen profession, but you learn how to be a professional. Being a professional includes:

Effective Communication: Your questions and comments are welcomed and encouraged. As communication among students is a very powerful teaching and learning tool, *please post all of your questions related to the course on the discussion board.* Many times, answers to your own questions can be figured out from your classmates' experience(s). Save private emails only for personal reasons. Excluding some weekends, I check my email daily and you can expect to hear back from me within 24 hours.

*Academic Integrity***: Don't be a cheater.** The same level of academic integrity and honesty is expected of you as if you were in a classroom on campus. In short, academic integrity means that your work is YOUR WORK and that you give credit to anything that is not your work. The penalty for cheating is 0 points for the assignment. The penalty for repeat offenses will be a referral to the Associate Dean of Student Affairs.

*Classroom Courtesy***:** A professional is also a person who can get along with others and is tolerant of opinions that may differ from their own. Because I believe that an environment of respect fosters learning, I promise to be respectful of you, your time, your learning, and your questions. I ask that you be respectful of your classmates and of me in return. Students are expected to abide by the Grossmont College student code of conduct and may not interfere with other students' opportunities to learn.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: Students with disabilities who may need accommodation in this class are encouraged to notify the instructor and contact the Accessibility Resource Center (ARC) early in the semester so that reasonable accommodations may be implemented as soon as possible. Students may contact ARC in person in Room 110 or by phone at (619) 644-7112 (voice) or (619) 644-7119 (TTY for deaf).

Supervised Tutoring Referral: Students are referred to enroll in the following supervised tutoring courses if the service indicated will assist them in achieving or reinforcing the learning objectives of this course:

> IDS 198, Supervised Tutoring to receive tutoring in general computer applications in the LTRC; English 198W, Supervised Tutoring for assistance in the English Writing Center (70-119); and/or IDS 198T, Supervised Tutoring to receive one-on-one tutoring in academic subjects in the Tutoring Center (70-229, 644-7387).

Grading: There are **1000 total points** possible. Plus/minus grades will not be assigned.

GRADE	PERCENTAGE	POINTS
A	90-100	900 – 1000
B	80-89	800 – 899
C	70-79	700 – 799
D	60-69	600 – 699
F	0-59	0 – 599

Please do not request special favors regarding your grade. I realize that being only a few points away from a letter grade change seems arbitrary, and perhaps unnecessarily harsh. However, I don't make special, private deals with individual students. If I give even one point to one student to improve his or her grade, I must (logically and morally) give the same one point to all students. If I added a point, then the next student who is "one point away" would have a similar complaint.

DUE DATE	MODULE	CHAPTER
27 August	Orientation: Getting Started	
3 September	Introduction to the Science of Psychology	Chapter 1
10 September	The Brain and Nervous System	Chapter 2
17 September	Sensation and Perception	Chapter 3
24 September	Learning	Chapter 5
1 October	Memory	Chapter 6
8 October	Thinking, Language, and Intelligence	Chapter 7
15 October	Lifespan Development	Chapter 8
22 October	Motivation and Emotion	Chapter 9
29 October	Personality	Chapter 10
5 November	Social Psychology	Chapter 11
12 November	Consciousness	Chapter 4
19 November	Stress and Health Psychology	Chapter 12
26 November	Psychological Disorders	Chapter 13
3 December	Therapy	Chapter 14
10 December	FINAL	

Due dates are on Tuesdays. Each module will open one week before it is due. Assignments *must* be completed by 5:00 PM PST on the due date. Because you have one week to complete each module's assignments, I accept late work only in the case of verifiable emergencies. Please **plan ahead**, as many students find that online classes require more time and commitment than on campus classes.

Take the time. On campus classes are designed such that each unit requires a minimum of 2 to 3 hours per week in addition to class meetings. Online classes are the same, except that you need to do more work on your own. For a semester length class, plan to spend **9 to 12** hours per week on a 3-unit course.

Don't procrastinate. Do NOT try to cram all of the information into one or two days. Rather, plan to spend **1 to 2** hours per day on the material. Studies demonstrate that distributed practice (studying a little bit each day) leads to better comprehension and retention of the material, and also better test scores, than massed practice (cramming it all into one day).

The course begins with an orientation module, worth 10 points. **You must complete the Getting Started orientation to get access to the first content module.**

There are 14 content modules in the course that correspond to the 14 chapters in the textbook. *Please note that the order of the modules does not correspond to the order of the chapters in the textbook.* Within each module, you will have the following assignments:

LEARN: LearningCurve is an adaptive quizzing program for students that quickly adapts to what students know and helps them practice what they don't yet understand.

                This is a low-stakes assignment intended to help you learn the material rather than to assess what you know. You are not penalized for answering a question incorrectly. The number of questions in the exercise is not predetermined, so the number of total points you can earn does not decrease if you get a question wrong. If you guess incorrectly, ask for hints, or request the correct answer, then you will be required to answer more questions in order to reach the target completion score.

                Once you complete the exercise, you will receive 5 points. The number of LearningCurve exercises you are assigned varies from module to module.

APPLY: For each module, a relevant question will be asked on the discussion board. Each topic will be worth 10 points. There is NO partial credit. **You need to answer the question AND respond to a classmate to receive any points for a single discussion topic.** Active participation on the discussion board may be a factor in determining borderline grades.

                The grading of the discussion board is fairly lenient; as long as you are making an effort (i.e., your response is relevant, appropriate, and at LEAST several sentences in length), you will receive the full 10 points.

                If I comment on your post and ask you to correct or clarify your answer, you must do so within one week to receive credit.

                Writing proficiency is expected to be at the college level. You can lose up to 3 points for incorrect spelling, grammar, punctuation and/or syntax.

TEST: There will be one exam for each module. Each exam will consist of 30 multiple-choice questions, worth 1 point each. You will have 35 minutes to complete each exam.

The course concludes with a cumulative final exam, worth 200 points. The exam consists of 100 questions, approximately 7 to 8 from each chapter. You will have 2 hours to complete the final exam.