

Administrative Master Syllabus

Course Information

Course Title	General Psychology
Course Prefix, Num. and Title	PSYC 2301 General Psychology
Division	Social and Behavioral Sciences
Department	Psychology, Sociology, and Anthropology
Course Type	Academic WCJC Core Course
Course Catalog Description	General Psychology is a study of the major psychological topics, theories and approaches to the scientific study of behavior and mental processes.
Pre-Requisites	TSI ELAR (Reading and Writing) requirements met
Co-Requisites	None

Semester Credit Hours

Total Semester Credit Hours (SCH): Lecture Hours:	3:3:0
Lab/Other Hours	
Equated Pay Hours	3
Lab/Other Hours Breakdown: Lab Hours	0
Lab/Other Hours Breakdown: Clinical Hours	0
Lab/Other Hours Breakdown: Practicum Hours	0
Other Hours Breakdown	0

Approval Signatures

Title	Signature	Date
Department Head:		
Division Chair:		
VPI:		

Additional Course Information

Topical Outline: Each offering of this course must include the following topics (be sure to include information regarding lab, practicum, and clinical or other non-lecture instruction).

- A description of what general psychology is, its distinctive characteristics, and how it is traditionally subdivided;
- An overview of the major psychological approaches to the study of behavior and mental/cognitive processes; including relevant history, philosophy, contributors, methods, research findings, terminology, and current directions;
- A historical and current review of what psychologists do, including areas of expertise that may be a focus of study and future career option;
- An overview of the major concepts of psychology including: brain and behavior, sensation and perception, development, learning/conditioning, memory, cognitive and intellectual processes, emotion and motivation, stress and health issues, personality, abnormal psychology, and therapies;
- An introduction to Social Psychology and relevant new directions in psychology

Course Learning Outcomes:

Learning Outcomes – Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Identify various research methods and their characteristics used in the scientific study of psychology.
2. Describe the historical influences and early schools of thought that shaped the field of psychology.
3. Describe some of the prominent perspectives and approaches used in the study of psychology.
4. Use terminology unique to the study of psychology.
5. Describe accepted approaches and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation.
6. Identify factors in physiological and psychological processes involved in human behavior.

Methods of Assessment:

1. Online database research for a peer reviewed, scientific, journal article based on an assigned, current topic in psychology will be conducted. A review of this article, inclusive of an evaluation and identification of the hypothesis, population, methods, findings, and possible extensions of the research will be written in APA format. Grading will be by instructor rubric assigning points to accuracy and veracity of summary and APA formatting.
2. Scored test items and departmental comprehensive final questions pertaining directly to related lecture, discussion, text, and peripheral information.
3. Scored test items and departmental comprehensive final questions pertaining directly to related lecture, discussion, text, and peripheral information.
4. Scored test items and departmental comprehensive final questions pertaining directly to related lecture, discussion, text, and peripheral information.
5. Scored test items and departmental comprehensive final questions pertaining directly to related lecture, discussion, classroom demonstrations, text, and peripheral information.
6. Scored test items and departmental comprehensive final questions pertaining directly to related lecture, discussion, text, scientific models, and peripheral information.

Required text(s), optional text(s) and/or materials to be supplied by the student:

Real World Psychology by Sanderson & Huffman; Wiley; most recent edition

Suggested Course Maximum:

35

List any specific or physical requirements beyond a typical classroom required to teach the course.

None

Course Requirements/Grading System: Describe any course specific requirements such as research papers or reading assignments and the generalized grading format for the course.

Instructors may use the narrative/lecture method of instruction to impart factual information and to elaborate on the topic areas in order to impart practical application of theory. This method of instruction also encourages and enables class discussion. Class discussion of theory and its practical application is necessary in order for students to enhance their understanding of the terms used in psychology, and to fully comprehend the relevance and utility of the material. Discussion is fostered by the use of practical examples, readings, video, and the students own research. Reading assignments are mandatory and include the text, outside readings, and research as assigned. Students may be required to complete a research paper, using online technology, which will enable the use of relatively recent research taken from peer reviewed journal articles concerning topic areas under study. This will acquaint the student with the technology used in research, relevant topic areas in psychology, and the type of research that is required in the behavioral science field. This research paper may be written using American Psychological Association (APA) style, which may be reviewed in class, by handouts, and in the online library. Written work may also be required in the form of essay questions on tests and written exercises in class. These requirements are to be designed to challenge the student to analyze and/or critique the material presented in class.

Minimum requirements must include the following:

- Class attendance in accordance with college policy and as stipulated by the instructor
- Completion of reading assignments made by the instructor
- Understanding of research methodology
- Encouragement and opportunity to participate in class discussion
- Completion of assigned tests and departmental final assessment

A typical grading composition for this course might look like this:

3-5 exams—50% of final grade

1 term paper or another substantial critical written assignment—25%

1 comprehensive end-of-course exam—25%

Grading system for individual instructors may vary slightly, but all instructors will meet established general reading and writing requirements (and related learning assessments thereof) during the course.

The general grading rubric for tests, papers, and projects will approximate as follows:

90% - 100%=A

80% - 89% =B

70% - 79% =C

60% - 69% =D

Below 60%= F

Curriculum Checklist:

- Administrative General Education Course** (from ACGM, but not in WCJC Core) – No additional documents needed.
- Administrative WCJC Core Course.** Attach the Core Curriculum Review Forms
 - Critical Thinking



**Wharton County
Junior College**

- Communication
- Empirical & Quantitative Skills
- Teamwork
- Social Responsibility
- Personal Responsibility

WECM Course -If needed, revise the Program SCANS Matrix and Competencies Checklist

Core Curriculum Review Form

Foundational Component Area: Core 080: Social & Behavioral Sciences

Course Prefix & Suffix: PSYC 2301

Core Objective:

Critical Thinking Skills—to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information

Student Learning Outcome Supporting Core Objective:

For each core objective, there must be at least two different methods of assessment.

SLO Status	Student Learning Outcome (SLO)	Learning Activity	Assessment
State Mandated	Describe accepted approaches and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation.	-lecture/class discussion on concepts, methods, and competing theories in anthropology -paper/project exploring methods and competing theories	-section quiz/unit exams -written paper/project -section/comprehensive final exam
State Mandated	Identify factors in physiological and psychological processes involved in human behavior.	-lecture/class discussion on social institutions and cross cultural differences -paper/project exploring cultural institutions	-section quiz/unit exams -written paper/project -section/comprehensive final exam
State Mandated	Describe the historical influences and early schools of thought that shaped the field of psychology.	Reading assignments and in class lecture, review and discussion inclusive of PPTs, printed handouts, and video peripherals of historical basis, development, and applications of modern day theory	-section quiz/unit exams -written paper/project -section/comprehensive final exam

Core Curriculum Review Form

Foundational Component Area: Core 080: Social & Behavioral Sciences

Course Prefix & Suffix: PSYC 2301

Core Objective:

Communication Skills—to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication

Student Learning Outcome Supporting Core Objective:

For each core objective, there must be at least two different methods of assessment.

SLO Status	Student Learning Outcome (SLO)	Learning Activity	Assessment
State Mandated	Use terminology unique to the study of psychology.	-Reading assignments and in class lecture, review and discussion inclusive of PPTs, printed handouts, and video peripherals -Writing assignment	-section quiz/unit exams -written paper/project -section/comprehensive final exam
State Mandated	Describe accepted approaches and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation.	-Reading assignments and in class lecture, review and discussion inclusive of PPTs, printed handouts, and video peripherals -Writing assignment	-section quiz/unit exams -written paper/project -section/comprehensive final exam

Core Curriculum Review Form

Foundational Component Area: Core 080: Social & Behavioral Sciences

Course Prefix & Suffix: PSYC 2301

Core Objective:

Empirical and Quantitative Skills—to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions

Student Learning Outcome Supporting Core Objective:

For each core objective, there must be at least two different methods of assessment.

SLO Status	Student Learning Outcome (SLO)	Learning Activity	Assessment
State Mandated	Identify various research methods and their characteristics used in the scientific study of psychology.	Online database research for scientific journal articles; Summation and evaluation of hypothesis, methods, findings, and data in prescribed APA format of topical study	-section quiz/unit exams -written paper/project -section/comprehensive final exam
State Mandated	Describe some of the prominent perspectives and approaches used in the study of psychology.	Reading assignments and in class lecture, review and discussion inclusive of PPTs, printed handouts, and video peripherals of historical basis, development, and applications of modern day theory	-section quiz/unit exams -written paper/project -section/comprehensive final exam

Core Curriculum Review Form

Foundational Component Area: Core 080: Social & Behavioral Sciences

Course Prefix & Suffix: PSYC 2301

Core Objective:

Teamwork—to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal

Student Learning Outcome Supporting Core Objective:

For each core objective, there must be at least two different methods of assessment.

SLO Status	Student Learning Outcome (SLO)	Learning Activity	Assessment
State Mandated	Identify factors in physiological and psychological processes involved in human behavior.	-Reading assignments and in class lecture, review and discussion inclusive of PPTs, printed handouts, and video peripherals -Writing assignment	-section quiz/unit exams -written paper/project -section/comprehensive final exam