St. Petersburg College
General Psychology PSY1012_956
Summer 2017

Professor: Dr. Adriana Uruena-Agnes  
Email: Uruena.Adriana@spcollege.edu
Office Hours: By appointment only  
Class Time: TR 11:00am-1:45pm
Class Location: DT 224

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:


COURSE OBJECTIVES:

General Psychology is a course designed to familiarize students with the theoretical and experimental approaches to understanding the processes involved in human behaviors.

1) History
   a. Identify the major theorists within the field of psychology and describe how research contributions from the psychoanalytic, personality, humanistic, behavioral, cognitive and Gestalt approaches have contributed to the scientific understanding of psychological processes.

2) Research Methods in Psychology
   a. Describe and distinguish between descriptive (e.g. case study, naturalistic observation, survey), correlational, and experimental approaches to conducting behavioral research.
   b. Relate experimental research performed in non-human animals to our understanding of behaviors in humans.

3) Fields of Psychology
   a. Describe the biological and psychological processes involved in the processes of sensation and perception, as well as physiological processes contributing to various forms of learning and memory, contributing to behavior.
   b. Describe how biology and environment impact motivation and emotion-regulated behavior.
   c. Identify the stages of development. Describe how normative psychological development contributes to optimal maturation of cognitive and social functioning. Describe at a basic level the short- and long-term clinical implications of impeding normative neurodevelopment (i.e. prenatal drug exposure and drug use during developmental time periods).
   d. Identify theories of social interaction and behavior

4) Clinical Implications
   a. Identify states of emotion and personality traits. Discuss the clinical manifestation of psychopathology (i.e. abnormal psychology) and how these psychological disorders are diagnosed and treated.
FORMAT:

Course relevant material lectured and discussed in class will come from the textbook, research articles, from professional expertise and from student presentations. Class discussion relevant to the lecture topic will be directed when appropriate and student participation is encouraged. I recommend reading the assigned material before coming to class and also taking notes during class. While you are permitted to audio record lectures, you are not permitted to video record or sell any recordings or lecture notes, pertaining to this course.

COURSE POLICIES:

Class Etiquette.

Students are expected to come to class on time and prepared. In addition, students are expected to refrain from distractions. This includes the following: end all phone calls before entering the classroom, no listening to music or wearing headphones in the classroom, no texting during class. Students are expected to be respectful while communicating (i.e. verbal and/or written) with the professor face-to-face and via email. Disrespect will not be tolerated.

Technology in the Classroom.

The use of laptops, tablets, and phones is not permitted during lecture, other than for recording and/or note-taking purposes. No headphones, ear buds, etc for any purpose.

Communication.

Please note that the best way to communicate with the professor is via MyCourses. Please compose a well-written, grammatically correct (i.e. complete sentences), and professional email, when addressing your professor and when listing concerns. Disrespectful, non-professional emails (including “grade changing emails”) will be ignored.

Emails from students asking the professor to “add points” or “to move/bump my grade to…” will not be tolerated and will result in the following answer format:

“Borderline grades of 0.5 points and higher will be rounded up to the nearest whole digit value. Anything less than this, will result in no change. Academic integrity must be upheld to the highest degree. Therefore I will not modify grades, by awarding points or grades that have not been earned through course work, assessments, extra credit and/or bonus points. I must remain firm with this policy, as all students must be treated fairly and equally.”

The professor will email if there is a concern with student progress. Students are encouraged to approach the professor with any concerns pertaining to student success in the course.

Minimum Technical Skills Required.

Students are expected to have regular access to a computer to view posted course material on MyCourses. News items and email may be used to deliver course-related information. It is the student’s responsibility to stay current with news and email postings. Students are required to use Microsoft Word (to compose Assignments 1 and 2) and Microsoft Powerpoint (to compose Assignment 3) which are to be submitted electronically (via MyCourses) by their respective due dates (see course schedule).
Attendance.

SPC summer academic calendar can be accessed by visiting the following website: https://www.spcollege.edu/calendar/. Additional student information pertinent to student success can be accessed http://www.spcollege.edu/addendum/. Regular attendance is strongly encouraged and expected. Attendance will be taken on a daily basis to maintain compliance with SPC’s “No Show,” “Withdrawal” and “Unofficial Withdrawal” policies (http://www.spcollege.edu/withdrawal/). A student that does not show up at least once for class the first and then the second week, will be administratively removed from the course as a “No Show.” You will be allowed 4 absences prior to June 15th. A student that misses 5 or more classes prior to June 15th and misses more than one exam will be identified as no longer “actively participating”, resulting in a “W/F” grade. Following the June 15th 60% mark, students are expected to attend class regularly. Students are expected to email a notification of absence prior to the scheduled class meeting (Please review “Communication” section). Only students can voluntarily withdraw from a class. The professor cannot withdraw you from a course. The last day to withdraw is June 15, 2017.

Students are responsible for all assignments and all material covered on days they are absent, even if such assignments and activities deviate from the attached course schedule. In the event of an emergency, it may be necessary for SPC to suspend normal operations. During this time, SPC may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include but are not limited to MyCourses, Skype, and email messaging and/or an alternate schedule. It is the responsibility of the student to monitor their email and MyCourses websites for each class for course specific communication, and the main websites, emails, and emergency messages for important general information.

Academic Honesty.

St. Petersburg College is committed to the development of each student to become a productive and responsible citizen, who embraces the values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. The scholarly community at SPC strives to instill values that uphold academic integrity and promotes an ethical standard that does not condone academic misconduct. Violation of academic integrity and academic misconduct tarnishes the reputation of the College and discredits the accomplishments of past and present students. Sanctions for violation of academic integrity and academic misconduct include a failing grade in an assignment or in the course, or suspension or expulsion from the College. I take academic integrity very seriously. All submissions and exams will be monitored for violations of the academic integrity policy. Written assignments will be submitted via Turn It In.

Turn it In Reports:

It is the responsibility of the student to ensure all submitted work is original and authentic. If the turn-it-in report indicates a greater than 20% report, the student must seek assistance with a writing tutor, rewrite their paper accordingly and resubmit before the assignment deadline. Therefore, the paper must be revised BEFORE the deadline to be accepted.

Students are held responsible for knowing and observing the SPC’s Academic Integrity Policy posted at: http://www.spcollege.edu/academichonesty/. Students are to email the professor with any questions about the policy.
Sexual Harassment.

St. Petersburg College is committed to ensuring a safe environment that promotes learning. This section of the syllabus is purposely included to inform all students, from the beginning of the semester, that any form of disrespect (i.e. verbal, behavioral, written, etc) and/or any other type of violation towards another student or myself (your professor), perceived as threatening in the form of sexual misconduct and/or harassment will NOT be tolerated and will result in immediate disciplinary action from the Provost office. A one-time offense will result in immediate removal of the classroom and dismissal from the class. For more information pertaining to SPC’s Code of Conduct, visit the following websites:

Student’s Right-to-Know Information: [http://www.spcollege.edu/studentconduct/](http://www.spcollege.edu/studentconduct/)
Disciplinary Action for Sexual Harassment: [http://www.spcollege.edu/sexual_harassment/](http://www.spcollege.edu/sexual_harassment/)

Once again, this matter is taken seriously and will not be tolerated.

COURSE PLATFORM: MyCourses

You can access the class syllabus and lecture handouts on the MyCourses web site ([https://mycourses.spcollege.edu/login.asp](https://mycourses.spcollege.edu/login.asp)). The materials provided on the web site are not intended to replace the class lecture or textbook material. You will be tested on items covered during lecture, but not everything covered during lecture will be provided in the handouts, videos and/or textbook.

ASSESSMENTS AND GRADING:

Student progress will be assessed from the following: 1) Examinations (cumulative final included) 2) Assignment 1 (Critical Film Review) 3) Assignment 2 (Abstract) and 4) Assignment 3 (Presentation Development). This course requires students to write 2000 words minimum. The mandated writing component will be divided across assessments. Specifically, students will write a 500 word paper (Assignment 1: Critical Film Review) and a 500-word abstract (Assignment 2 Abstract). The remaining 1000 words will be pooled from additional in class assignments (i.e. Assignment 3: Presentation Development; extra credit).

Assignment 1 Critical Film Review: 50 points; due 05-28-17 @11:59pm.

All students are required to write a 500-word critical film review in APA format ([https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/](https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/)) to one of the documentaries provided below. The review is due on 05-28-17 at 11:59pm, however you are welcome to submit it at an earlier date. The assignment is regarded as “late” beginning at 12:00am 05-29-16. All late submissions must be emailed to the professor via MyCourses and will incur a letter grade deduction penalty every 24 hours it is late. Submissions will NOT be accepted past 06-01-16 at 11:59pm. Remember: the paper must be revised (to have a turn it in score no greater than 20%) BEFORE the deadline.
Option #1: Steven Fry: The Secret Life of the Manic Depressive


“Stephen Fry presents this documentary exploring the disease of manic depression; a little understood but potentially devastating condition affecting an estimated two percent of the population.” For this film review, choose one of the case studies (i.e. Robbie Williams OR Carrie Fisher OR Stephen Fry, etc) and describe their clinical presentation of bipolar disorder, the difficulties they encountered, how they realized they were suffering from Bipolar Disorder, the treatment the underwent. Lastly, describe how stigma might have contributed to the case presentation or prevented the person from obtaining treatment. Must be in APA format (title page, summary, references).

Option #2: Science of Sex Appeal (2009)


This documentary describes how human attraction is consequential to chemical and physical (i.e. symmetry) attractions. For this film review, briefly discuss the theories of human attraction that are presented in the film and then propose a new theory of human attraction. Research and include information about how Harry Harlow defined the emotion of love and incorporate his research findings and others discussed in class or in your textbook, supporting your novel theory. Also list any possible limitations to your theory.

Assignments 2 and 3 Abstract and Presentation 25 points each; due 07-02-17 @11:59pm:

Students are expected to write a scientific review and develop a powerpoint presentation, reviewing learned information from Exam Modules 1, 2, or 3 respectively. Students can choose any three similar topics to discuss in the abstract and presentation. The abstract will discuss three topics of interest and the presentation will review the three topics previously discussed in the abstract (see below sections).

Assignment 2 Abstract General Information:

Assignment 2 will be an abstract (i.e. scientific review). The abstract will be submitted on or before 07-02-17 at 11:59pm (see course schedule). In order to receive full credit for the abstract (25 points), the abstract must identify and discuss three topics of interest in complete, grammatically correct sentences. The document must be in APA format, saved in a Microsoft Word or Adobe document, and successfully uploaded into the appropriate dropbox before the scheduled due date (see “Course Schedule”).

Assignment 2 Abstract Rubric (500 words; 25 points total):

Written in APA format (visit https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/

2.5 points – APA format (running head, title page, abstract, references; 1-inch margins)
10 points – Introduce, list and discuss the 3 topics of information that will be addressed at the time of the presentation. Information will be assessed for accuracy.
10 points – Material will be assessed for the following for accuracy, ideas conveyed are in a manner easy to understand; appropriate use of grammar (i.e. logical and complete sentences, scientific wording, grammar, punctuation, etc)
2.5 points – Abstract fulfills but does not exceed the 500 word maximum limit
Assignment 2 Additional Information:

On the first day of classes, each student will be assigned to a module, which contains topics that the student can review in their abstract. Each student will write only one abstract, based on their interests from any 3 topics discussed in class. The abstract can be submitted any time before the deadline. The abstract must be submitted into the appropriate dropbox, titled “Abstract”. The dropbox will close at promptly the second after 11:59pm on 07-02-17.

Uploading submissions: It is important that students begin uploading the document at least 5 minutes before the deadline, to allow for successful upload and submission before the dropbox closes. Do not wait until 11:59pm to attempt to upload and submit: it will not work and unsuccessful submission will result in late penalty.

Late submissions: In the event a technical issue or unexpected event arises, students can email their abstract to the professor before the final exam for the ability to earn up to 25 points. Late assignments will incur a 25-point penalty. Electronic assignments will not be accepted after the final exam starts. No other exceptions.

Assignment 3: Presentation Development

In Assignment 3, students are to develop a brief scientific presentation, which mirrors the abstract. Specifically, students will develop a presentation that contains information of the same three topics written in Assignment 2 (see “Assignment 2: Abstract”). The presentation will be in powerpoint or similar modality. If the student does not use Powerpoint to develop the presentation, it must be saved and submitted in an Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) saved format. The presentation will be submitted on or before 07-02-17 at 11:59pm.

Assignment 3: Presentation Development Rubric (25 points total)

10 points – Introduce and present the addressed 3 topics from the abstract, with adequate and correct information in a manner easy to understand.
15 points – Writing (8-10 slides), development, accuracy, comprehensive and presentation quality

Additional Information: The three topics addressed in the abstract must be the same three topics discussed in the presentation. The presentation developed can be submitted into the dropbox at any time before the deadline. The final presentation developed must be submitted into the appropriate dropbox, titled “Presentation”. The dropbox will close at promptly the second after 11:59pm on 07-02-17.

Uploading submissions: It is important that students begin uploading the document at least 5 minutes before the deadline, to allow for successful upload and submission before the dropbox closes. Do not wait until 11:59pm to attempt to upload and submit: it will not work and unsuccessful submission will result in late penalty.

Late submissions: In the event a technical issue or unexpected event arises, students can email their presentation to the professor before the final exam for the ability to earn up to 25 points. Electronic assignments will not be accepted after the final exam starts. No other exceptions.

*No credit will be earned for any disrespectful submissions with profanity.
Assignment Schedule:

Assignment 1: Critical Film Review due on 05-28-17
Assignment 2: Abstracts due on 07-02-17 at 11:59pm
Assignment 3: Presentations due on 07-02-17 at 11:59pm

Examinations (100 points each):

There will be four in-class examinations (05-25, 06-13, 06-27, 07-06) including the cumulative, mandatory final exam (07-06). No one will be able to start taking the test once the first person has finished. Students must receive permission from the professor to leave the classroom, during the exam. If you must leave the classroom during the exam, for any reason, your exam must be turned upside down on the desk and your cell phone must be handed to the professor. Breaks lasting more than 5-7 minutes will increase suspicion of academic dishonesty. The test format will consist of multiple choice questions. Exam questions will be drawn from in-class lecture and other assigned materials.

Student Accessibility Resources.

If there is any student who receives accessibility resources because of a disability, please go directly to the Accessibility Resources Department (http://www.spcollege.edu/dr/). Accommodations will be granted accordingly with appropriate paperwork. Please feel free to discuss this issue in private if you need more information.

Extra Credit.

Formal extra credit is not an available option. However occasional assignments may become available during class that can count as extra credit. Therefore, it is recommended that you attend lecture. Any extra credit will be added to the respective exam. In the event the exam is missed, resulting in the student making up the exam at the end of the semester (see “Make-Up Policy”), extra credit for that specific exam module will be forfeited. Extra credit will NOT be rolled over and applied to another exam. Extra credit will be announced once in class and may not be announced in a news item or email.

Make-Up Exam Policy.

There is NO “drop” or a “retake” policy for this course.

ONE DAY will be scheduled for students to make up a missed exam. The make-up exam day will take place on 07-06-17 and this will be the ONLY DAY students are permitted to make-up an exam that has been previously missed. Students cannot retake an exam. There are no exceptions. Students can only make-up one exam. Note: The Final Exam cannot be rescheduled or made up. If a student does not attend the final exam or arrives late and cannot take the final exam (see above), then a “0” grade will be entered for the final exam and they are unable to make-up a missed exam.
GRADING:

Your cumulative grade will be calculated using the following percentage distributions:

3 EXAMS 60% of your final grade (300 points total)
FINAL EXAM 20% of your final grade (100 points)
FILM REVIEW 10% of your final grade (50 points)
ABSTRACT 05% of your final grade (25 points)
PRESENTATION: 05% of your final grade (25 points)

Your final letter grade will be calculated using the following scale:

A 90%-100% (450-500 points)
B 80%-89% (400-449 points)
C 70%-79% (350-399 points)
D 60%-69% (300-349 points)
F 59%-0% (000-299 points)

COURSE SCHEDULE:

I reserve the right to change the course schedule as it is described in the syllabus, either to incorporate mid-course adjustments designed to enhance student learning, to adjust to external constraints such as inclement weather and unforeseen circumstances, to adjust assignments so they are consistent with material covered in class, or simply to correct errors. Students are responsible for complying with any deviations noted in the course schedule, which may be made available to them during normal class meetings and/or through email announcements.
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<th>TOPIC / TESTING</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENTS</th>
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<td>Syllabus, Introduction Chapter 1</td>
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<td>05-18</td>
<td>Brain, Biology and Behavior</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
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<td>05-23</td>
<td>Neuroanatomy and Neurophysiology</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
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<td>05-25</td>
<td><strong>Exam 1</strong></td>
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<td>05-28</td>
<td><strong>Critical Film Review Due</strong></td>
<td>11:59pm MyCourses</td>
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<td>05-30</td>
<td>Sensation and Perception</td>
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<td>06-01</td>
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<td>06-06</td>
<td>Development/Impeding Normative Development</td>
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<td>06-08</td>
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<td>06-15</td>
<td>Psychological Disorders &amp; DSM 5</td>
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<td>06-29</td>
<td>Final Exam Review</td>
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<td>07-02</td>
<td><strong>Abstract/Presentations Due</strong></td>
<td>11:59pm MyCourses</td>
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<td>07-04</td>
<td>NO CLASS</td>
<td>Independence Day!</td>
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<tr>
<td>07-06</td>
<td>Cumulative Final Exam/Make-Up Exam Day</td>
<td>Class Time</td>
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