Syllabus for PSY 1012, General Psychology
FALL 2018

Welcome to General Psychology!

I am looking very forward to introducing you to the compelling science of psychology. Please know that I am here to help every step of the way; your success is a priority. I look very forward to our semester!

View the Syllabus Addendum, which provides relevant information, such as information about student success and the academic calendar.

Instructor

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Course Information

Course Description: This course is an introduction to the field of psychology. It includes the history, scientific methodology, major theoretical schools of thought, various approaches to interpersonal functioning, and human development. The psychological application of ethics as well as social and cultural diversity are integrated into the course. This course partially satisfies the writing requirements outlined in the General Education Requirements. Credit is not given for both PSY 1012 and PSY 1020H or IDS 1610.

Course Goal: The primary goal of this course is student success in demonstrating knowledge of the science of psychology and its applications. Specially, the student will:

- demonstrate knowledge of the historical roots of the science of psychology.
- demonstrate knowledge of research methods used in psychology.
- demonstrate knowledge of the major pillars of psychology.
- demonstrate knowledge of cultural and social diversity as applied to human behavior, thought, and emotion.
- demonstrate knowledge of research, writing, use of APA style, and critical thinking.

Prerequisites: ENC 0025 and REA 0017 or EAP 1695 or appropriate score on the SPC placement test.

Availability of Course Content: The MyCourses Calendar Tab provides students with a semester-wide overview of the due dates for the entire semester. The News Tab provides students with a week-by-week narrative of the assignments due each week. Students interested in working ahead can do so by one module unless otherwise notified by the instructor.

Textbook

Students do *not* have to purchase a textbook. Instead, the required textbook is available in each module and is free for students.

Learner Support
If illness or other emergencies prevent your active participation, please notify the instructor immediately to determine an academic plan.

Students classified with inactive participation may be administratively withdrawn with a "WF." Written assignment, quiz, and/or test. If you do not complete the attendance activity or activities by the weekly due date, you will be counted as absent. Two or more consecutive absences may result in inactive participation. Students classified with inactive participation may be administratively withdrawn with a "WF."

Immediately following the 60 percent point in the term, the instructor will verify which students are actively participating. Inactive participation. Students classified with inactive participation may be administratively withdrawn with a "WF."

Expected Participation: Students are expected to be alert and participating in class. This means that students should be listening to the instructor, writing notes, using electronics according to policy, asking course related questions, and sometimes adding to class lectures by sharing their knowledge and experiences related to lecture material. Stories should be related to class material and are shared with the class, not your neighbor! Students are required to actively participate by logging in to MyCourses at least twice a week to check email and keep up with lecture material and all assignments.

Late Assignments: Students are responsible for all course requirements as well as submitting assignments on the date they are due regardless of absence. If this is a face-to-face class, many of the assignments will be posted online in MyCourses. However, some may not and will require your attendance in class. If you are absent, please contact a fellow student to find out if you have missed a homework assignment. Please avoid emailing your instructor for missed work. On the first day, get the contact information for at least 2 fellow classmates.

All assignments with the exception of in-class assignments and the final exam can be made up on the following class meeting date. The total grade that can be earned is 80% of the total earned grade (in other words, a 20% reduction in the earned grade).

- Example A: A student passes in a homework assignment late and earns a “1000/1000” for the quality of work, but because it was late they earn 80% of the earned grade (1000*.8= 800). The student’s late penalty is 200 points.
- Example B: A student passes in a paper late and earns a “700/1000” for the quality of work, but because it was late they earn 80% of the earned grade (700*.8= 560). The student’s late penalty is 440 points.

The final exam cannot be made up and will result in a grade of 0. Extenuating circumstances may apply in some extreme cases and are at the discretion of the instructor. There is no extra credit offered in this course. Please make sure you meet all course expectations as they happen.

Plagiarism & Academic Integrity Policy: Your instructor takes plagiarism and academic honesty very seriously. Students are responsible for knowing the class policy on plagiarism. To help you avoid plagiarism, here are some examples of “What NOT to do”:

Serious plagiarism violations warranting a possible class failure and/or report to the Dean of Student Affairs:

- Purchasing and submitting a paper from the internet
- Using an assignment that has already previously been submitted. (i.e. from another student, or from a previous class you’ve taken, even if it your own work)
- Copying from a source without using quotations (even if you change a few words)

Moderate plagiarism violations warranting a possible assignment failure:

- More than 25% of an assignment is in quotations and properly cited
- More than 50% of an assignment is not in your own words
- Copying from a source without using quotations and changing many words

Minor plagiarism violations warranting a possible assignment failure and/or lower grade:

- Using information from a source in your own words and not citing the source
- Improper citation of sources (i.e. wrong source, missing/untraceable citation information)

As reflected in SPC’s Honor Code, honesty and integrity are core values that should guide your conduct and decisions as members of the SPC community. Plagiarism and cheating contradict these values (http://www.spcollege.edu/webcentral/catalog/current/stu_affairs_honesty.htm).

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all classes on time. Attendance is extremely important to obtain the full value for your education and statistically have earned better grades than students who do not attend class. If there is an emergency, the student is responsible for contacting their professor as soon as possible. If a student has prior knowledge that they will be absent from a class, it is the responsibility of the student to notify and make arrangements with the professor to submit the required work early and obtain missed notes from a classmate. If you do not know your classmates, make friends now! Any student who has more than 2 absences, frequent tardies and/or dismissals may earn a lower grade or class failure.

Instructor will verify that students are in attendance once each week throughout the semester. Students classified as “No Show” for both of the first two weeks will be administratively withdrawn. Immediately following the 60 percent point in the term, the instructor will verify which students are actively participating.

Active participation (for online classes) is defined as completing the weekly attendance activity or activities assigned each week. The attendance activity or activities may be an online discussion, written assignment, quiz, and/or test. If you do not complete the attendance activity or activities by the weekly due date, you will be counted as absent. Two or more consecutive absences may result in inactive participation. Students classified with inactive participation may be administratively withdrawn with a "WF."

If illness or other emergencies prevent your active participation, please notify the instructor immediately to determine an academic plan.
Students will be able to withdraw themselves at any time during the semester. However, requests submitted after the 60 percent deadline will result in a "WF." Students and the instructor will automatically receive an email notification to SPC email whenever a withdrawal occurs.

Excluded absences that have been communicated with the instructor and documented accordingly will not count against you. Frequent communication with the instructor is highly recommended.

For additional information, please view the college-wide attendance policy in the Syllabus Addendum.

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Grading

The student's final grade in this course is determined on the basis of accumulated points as follows:

A = 900 - 1000 points (90 - 100%)
B = 800 - 899 points (80 - 89.9%)
C = 700 - 799 points (70 - 79.9%)
D = 600 - 699 points (60 - 69.9%)
F = 0 - 599 points (0 - 59.9%)

Extra credit is not provided in this course. Also, students need to keep up with the completion of all assignments. Not completing assignments and therefore receiving a grade of 0 quickly reduces grades. Students are strongly encouraged to carefully manage time to avoid not completing assignments by the due date.

Students are encouraged to complete each textbook activity (which follows reading each textbook section) twice because the higher score counts. For each written assignment and discussion forum, a rubric is provided. Students are encouraged to carefully review the rubric prior to submitting the written assignment or discussion forum.

The instructor will not "bump up" grades at the end of the semester. Instead, students are encouraged to work with the instructor throughout the semester and to carefully review written assignment/discussion forum feedback to implement strategies for improvement throughout the semester.

Assignments

In Module 1, students are graded on three textbook activities, totaling 30 points. Students can complete each textbook activity twice and the higher score counts. Students are also graded on a Module 1 Test worth 25 points and a Module 1 Discussion worth 30 points. **Total Possible Points: 85**

In Module 2, students are graded on two textbook activities, totaling 20 points. Students can complete each textbook activity twice and the higher score counts. Students are also graded on a Module 2 Test worth 25 points and a Module 2 Discussion worth 30 points. **Total Possible Points: 75**

In Module 3, students are graded on three textbook activities, totaling 30 points. Students can complete each textbook activity twice and the higher score counts. Students are also graded on a Module 3 Test worth 25 points and a Module 3 Discussion worth 30 points. **Total Possible Points: 85**

In Module 4, students are graded on two textbook activities, totaling 20 points. Students can complete each textbook activity twice and the higher score counts. Students are also graded on a Module 4 Test worth 25 points and a Module 4 Discussion worth 30 points. **Total Possible Points: 75**

In Module 5, students are graded on three textbook activities, totaling 30 points. Students can complete each textbook activity twice and the higher score counts. Students are also graded on a Module 5 Test worth 25 points and a Module 5 Written Assignment worth 30 points. **Total Possible Points: 85**

In Module 6, students are graded on two textbook activities, totaling 20 points. Students can complete each textbook activity twice and the higher score counts. Students are also graded on a Module 6 Test worth 25 points and a Module 6 Discussion worth 30 points. **Total Possible Points: 75**

In Module 7, students are graded on three textbook activities, totaling 30 points. Students can complete each textbook activity twice and the higher score counts. Students are also graded on a Module 7 Test worth 25 points and a Module 7 Discussion worth 30 points. **Total Possible Points: 85**

In Module 8, students are graded on three textbook activities, totaling 30 points. Students can complete each textbook activity twice and the higher score counts. Students are also graded on a Module 8 Test worth 25 points and a Module 8 Written Assignment worth 30 points. **Total Possible Points: 85**

In Module 9, students are graded on four textbook activities, totaling 40 points. Students can complete each textbook activity twice and the higher score counts. Students are also graded on a Module 9 Test worth 25 points and a Module 9 Discussion worth 30 points. **Total Possible Points: 95**

In Module 10, students are graded on two textbook activities, totaling 20 points. Students can complete each textbook activity twice and the higher score counts. Students are also graded on a Module 10 Test worth 25 points and a Module 10 Written Assignment worth 30 points. **Total Possible Points: 75**

In Module 11, students are graded on three textbook activities, totaling 30 points. Students can complete each textbook activity twice and the higher score counts. Students are also graded on a Module 11 Test worth 25 points and a Module 11 Discussion worth 30 points. **Total Possible Points: 85**

In Module 12, students are graded on four textbook activities, totaling 40 points. Students can complete each textbook activity twice and the higher score counts. Students are also graded on a Module 12 Test worth 25 points and a Module 12 Written Assignment worth 30 points. **Total Possible Points: 95**

This course does not have a midterm exam and does not have a final exam. Also, module tests are completed through MyCourses and are not proctored.

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Required Interaction

When communicating, please be careful to:

- treat everyone with respect in each communication.
- use clear and concise language.
- remember that college level communication should use correct grammar, whether written or spoken.
- use correct spelling and avoid text abbreviations and slang.
- avoid using the caps lock feature as it can be interpreted as yelling online.
- be cautious when using humor or sarcasm as tone is sometimes lost in an email, written assignment, or discussion post-reply.
- be cautious with personal information.

When you send an email to your instructor, department chair, dean, or classmates, please be careful to:

- use a subject line to describe the reason of the email.
- put attachments in Word, RTF, or PDF format to ensure they can be opened.
- be clear, concise, and courteous.
Students should expect feedback on written assignments and discussion forums within one week of the due date.

**Participation, Conduct, and Netiquette**

Unlike a traditional classroom-based course, you do not need to show up to class at a specific time every day. Instead, you need to complete the module's readings and assignments by the due dates specified by your instructor. The due dates are found via the Calendar Tab.

For more information, please view the following: Online Student Participation and Conduct Guidelines.

**Academic Honesty**

Academic Honesty is expected. By enrolling at SPC, you agree to obey all of the standards of academic honesty and integrity. Academic dishonesty may result in academic and disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion from the College. As members of the College community, you also have an ethical obligation to report violations of the SPC academic honesty policies you may witness.

For more information, please view the following: Academic Honesty Policy, which describes details regarding the following academic honesty violations:

- Cheating.
- Bribery.
- Misrepresentation.
- Conspiracy.
- Fabrication.
- Collusion.
- Duplicate submissions.
- Academic misconduct.
- Improper calculator, computer or online use.

**Netiquette**

The objective in an online discussion is to be collaborative, not combative. Please proofread your responses carefully before you post them to make sure they will not be offensive to others. Use discussions to develop your skills in collaboration and teamwork. Treat the discussion areas as a creative environment where you and your classmates can ask questions, express opinions, revise opinions, and take positions just as you would in a more traditional classroom setting. Please be sure to proofread your submissions, submit college-level work, and avoid text language or slang.

SPC has outlined expectations for student behavior and interaction for online discussions, email, and other forms of communication. For more information, please view Netiquette Expectations in the Syllabus Addendum.

**Turnitin**

The instructor of this course may require use of Turnitin as a tool to promote learning. The tool flags similarity and mechanical issues in written work that merit review. Use of the service enables students and faculty to identify areas that can be strengthened through improved paraphrasing, integration of sources, or proper citation. Submitted papers remain as source documents in the Turnitin database solely for the purpose of detecting originality. Students retain full copyright to their works. Please review the Turnitin Usage Agreement. Students who do not wish to submit work through Turnitin must notify their instructor via course email within the first seven days of the course. In lieu of Turnitin use, faculty may require a student to submit copies of sources, preliminary drafts, a research journal, or an annotated bibliography.

**Student Survey of Instruction**

The Student Survey of Instruction is administered in courses each semester. It is designed to improve the quality of instruction at St. Petersburg College. All student responses are confidential and anonymous and will be used solely for the purpose of performance improvement.

**Technology**

Please view the following: MyCourses Minimum Technology Requirements.

Students should know how to navigate the course and use the course tools. Dropbox-style assignments may require attachments in either Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx), Rich Text Format (.rtf), or PDF format so they can be properly evaluated. If an attachment cannot be opened by the instructor, students will be required to re-format and re-submit an assignment so that it can be evaluated and returned with feedback.

MyCourses tutorials are available to students and are located at the beginning of the course. Most features on MyCourses are accessible on mobile devices, although it is recommended that you use a computer for quizzes, tests, and essay assignments.

**Accessibility of Technology**

Please click on the following link to learn about equal access to education: MyCourses (Brightspace by Desire2Learn) Accessibility Statement.

**Privacy**

Please view the MyCourses privacy statement at the following link: MyCourses (Brightspace by Desire2Learn) Privacy Statement.

**Technical Support**

Technical support is available to assist you via the Technical Support Desk.

**Instructional Continuity Plan - Emergency Preparedness Policy**

The St. Petersburg College website at [www.spcollege.edu](http://www.spcollege.edu) is the official source of college information regarding the status of the institution. Other important information will be communicated via SPC Alert, local media outlets, and the college toll-free phone number 866-822-3978. All decisions concerning the discontinuation of college functions, cancellation of classes, or cessation of operations rest with the President or his/her designee. The College realizes that it is possible for a significant natural disaster to compromise SPC campus facilities sufficiently to disrupt the delivery of classes on campus/campuses for an extended period of time, and is planning ways our operations can continue following such an emergency.