PSY 1012 – General Psychology
3 Credit Hours; Class #763

INSTRUCTOR: Mrs. Kim Molinaro
Contact Phone Number: (727) 791-2653 (office)
Email: To email instructor through ANGEL: Go to http://angel.spcollege.edu and click on our PSY 1012 course. Then, go to the Communication Tab, click on "Send Course Email," and highlight “All Faculty,” which goes directly and only to me. Next, click “To,” and type in a subject.

Although the instructor prefers to receive email through ANGEL, you may also use: Molinaro.Kim@spcollege.edu (campus email).

Expectation for Instructor follow-up: Instructor responds to email and phone calls multiple times daily, Monday through Friday. The last email and phone call check of the day is on or before 7:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

Office Location: SS 146
Office Hours: Instructor holds office hours Monday through Friday. Office hours are posted by the instructor’s office door, SS 146.

Availability of Course Content/Interaction: The instructor will be available for consultation during office hours. Instructor may also be available in the Psychology Lab, SS 161. However, email instructor anytime for assistance or to ask questions.

Course Supplement: Instructor provides a detailed course supplement through ANGEL: Go to http://angel.spcollege.edu to access this supplement.

Link to Instructor page for “bio” and teaching philosophy: http://it.spcollege.edu/course_info/inquiry.cfm?number=635

ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT
Dean of Social Sciences: Dr. Joseph Smiley
Department Chair Name: Ms. Anja Waters Norman
Office Location: Clearwater Campus
Department Chair Office Number: SS 133
Link to Social Science Website: http://www.spcollege.edu/clw/Arts_SS/index.htm

MEETING INFORMATION
Course location: SS 125, Clearwater campus
Learning modality: Face-to-Face; Lecture; Classroom Discussion; ANGEL Supplement
Meeting Days: Tuesday and Thursday
Class Times: 9:30 AM – 10:45 PM

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 effects of ethnicity, age, race, and gender are integrated into the study of the discipline. This course partially satisfies the SBE 6A-10.30 writing requirements outlined in the General Education Requirements. Three hours weekly.

Link for Course Description: http://www.spcollege.edu/popcourse/psy-1012
COURSE GOALS
The primary goal of this course is student success in developing an understanding of the science of psychology and its applications.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
- The student will demonstrate knowledge of the historical roots of the science of psychology.
- The student will demonstrate knowledge of research methods used in psychology.
- The student will demonstrate knowledge of the major theories of psychology.
- The student will demonstrate knowledge of self as both a biological and social organism.
- The student will demonstrate knowledge of universal stages of development and of individual differences.
- The student will demonstrate knowledge of the effects of ethnicity, age, and/or gender, and/or race on psychological functioning.

PREREQUISITES
Prerequisites for this course: ENC 0020 and REA 0002 or EAP 1695, or an appropriate score on the SPC placement test.

Proficiencies in ANGEL; Word; credible web research; and Library or Library Online research are needed. The instructor will assist students as needed in further developing this skill set.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK & OTHER RESOURCE INFORMATION

Links for Textbook Website: http://www.worthpublishers.com/discoveringpsych5e.

IMPORTANT DATES
Drop/Add: On or before 1/13/2012
Last Day to Withdraw with a Grade of W: On or before 3/20/2012
Course Dates: 1/9/2012 - 5/3/2012

DUE DATES/ASSIGNED READINGS
Please access the Calendar Tab in ANGEL for the course outline, which includes readings, assignments, time-management strategies, and due dates.

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC INFORMATION
The Psychology Lab, located in SS 161, is an interactive lab with multiple learning tools. The Psychology Lab also contains 15 computers and “hands-on” resources to assist your in-depth exploration of psychology and its applications.

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION
Active participation is defined in two ways: regular attendance and completing assigned coursework. In terms of regular attendance, active participation is defined as not exceeding four unexcused absences. Active participation is also defined as completing assigned coursework. If students have more than four unexcused absences or incomplete coursework, students must contact the instructor to determine an academic plan for successful completion of the course. If students have violated the active participation policy in terms of attendance or completing coursework, and if students have not contacted the instructor to establish a plan for completion of the remaining requirements of the course, then students will be reported as not actively participating in the course, which may result in a grade of WF. If you are in your third attempt at completing a course, you will be given
a grade of “WF” at any point that you attempt to withdraw or at any point that you violate the active participation policy.

If illness or other emergencies prevent you from attending class, please notify the instructor immediately and make arrangements to get class notes. Students are responsible for all materials covered in class.

**Important Note:** Students will receive a 10-point extra credit bonus for 1 or fewer absences and arriving/leaving on-time to class.

**ASSIGNMENTS**

1. **Study Activities**
   The purpose of study activities is to engage students in critical thinking exercises based on application of psychological content covered during class and in the text. The following critical thinking exercises will count in the study activity category of your grade and will be assigned and explained during class:
   - a. Team Experimental Design Project
   - b. Operant Conditioning Single-Subject Experiment
   - c. “Bernice” Case Study
   - d. “Dan” Case Study
   - e. “Mr. J” Case Study
   - f. Situation Analysis

   In addition, collaborative study group hours may provide study activity grades. The Study Group Initiative will begin after Exam 1 and continue through the remainder of the semester. This initiative will be explained during class.

   **Each study activity is worth 25 points. Instructor counts only your four highest study activity grades for the entire semester.**

2. **Research Papers**
   The following research papers are designed to integrate your understanding of the subject matter with either your community service experience or your findings from your psychological investigation.

   Students will select either Option A (Community Service Report) or Option B (Psychological Investigation). Option A or Option B papers have four sections. Sections I and II are submitted together, and Sections III and IV are submitted together. Due dates for both submissions are on the Calendar Tab.

   **Late Penalty** - If Sections I/II papers or Sections III/IV papers are submitted late (whether you choose to do the Community Service Report or the Psychological Investigation Report), you will receive a 10-point deduction per weekday as calculated at 11:59 PM.

   **Turnitin Option** – Students are encouraged to submit their reports (whether they choose Option A or Option B) to Turnitin, plagiarism detection software. Turnitin is a tool to help students detect whether or not they have intentionally or unintentionally plagiarized before they submit their reports to the instructor to be graded. Plagiarized reports will receive the grade of F, which may result in a grade of F for the course.
Before reports can be submitted to Turnitin through ANGEL, students are required to respond to a consent form. After accepting the consent form, the turnitin drop boxes will be provided in the ANGEL supplement established for this course.

If students choose to decline the turnitin consent form, a summary and an analysis of a research article in a psychology academic journal is required along with Option A reports, and an annotated bibliography and printed copy of each source is required along with Option B reports. Option A papers not submitted to turnitin or not submitted with the psychology academic journal summary and analysis may receive a grade of “F,” which may result in a grade of F for the course. Option B papers not submitted to turnitin or not submitted with an annotated bibliography and printed copy of each source may receive a grade of “F,” which may result in a grade of F for the course.

**Extra Credit:** Students will receive 5-point extra credit bonuses if they submit Sections I/II papers and Sections III/IV papers to the instructor on or before the due dates, submit word counts on or before the due dates, and submit their final papers to Turnitin on or before the due dates.

**Note:** The due dates for Sections I/II papers and also Sections III/IV papers are on the Calendar Tab.

**Option A. Community Service Report**

Each student will be required to volunteer at least 8 hours at a non-profit community agency, school, hospital, or other non-profit organization. **Choose an agency to serve that you value and think is important not only to your community, but also to you.** Community service not only enhances your life experiences and understanding of others, but also begins building a well-rounded resume you will need for your developing career.

**Community service settings must be approved by the instructor.** The 8 hours may be divided in any way the student and volunteer setting prefer.

Your Community Service Report must be typed and preferably double-spaced.

**Option A: Community Service Report Instructions**

Sections I and II will be submitted together. Please see the Calendar Tab for the due date.

*Please Note:* You need to sign a Release of Liability Contract for Student Volunteers. This paperwork must be submitted to the instructor before you can serve your non-profit agency.

*Please Note:* Turn in the original copy of the Volunteer Verification Form on or before the due date for Sections 1 and II. Each student will receive a 10-point deduction for each community-service hour not served. **All volunteer hours must be served prior to the due date for Sections I and II and during this semester.**

For the first page of your Sections I and II report, please submit a title page, including a word count for Sections I and II.
Section I: Description of Your Community Service

Include the name of the non-profit organization; its history; its purpose; how it operates; the people with whom you had contact; how you contributed by volunteering at this organization; and how and if you were supervised and by whom.

The word count guideline for this section is about 600 words.

Section II: Analysis of Your Community Service

Discuss your impressions, thoughts, and feelings about your experience as a volunteer in your chosen area. Did it meet your expectations and preconceived notions? How did you change from this experience? Self-analysis is a part of learning about psychology. Thus, analyze your thoughts, feelings, and attitudes about this community service experience and analyze why you think you were affected in that way. What personal assumptions, values, and perspectives did you have regarding the non-profit you chose that were challenged during your service? Also, provide some insights into your own functioning and abilities in your community service setting. Analyze why you felt (for example) competent, incompetent, comfortable, successful, useful, empathetic, etc.

The word count guideline for this section is about 600 words.

Sections III and IV will be submitted together. Please see the Calendar Tab for the due date.

Please submit a title page as the first page of your Sections III and IV report, including a word count for Sections III and IV.

Section III: Integration of Your Community Service Experience with Psychological Theory and Concepts

Choose *three* psychological concepts or theories presented in your text or presented during this course and apply them to analyze your community service experience. In other words, integrate the concept or theory with your community service experience. Each concept or theory you choose for this section should be specific. For example, if you volunteered in a school setting, you may want to describe how the teacher used operant conditioning to influence his/her students.

Please avoid explaining the theory or defining the concept. Instead, fully integrate the theory/concept with the person you selected. Please see the instructor for assistance with this section if you need help.

The word count guideline for this section is about 600 words.

Section IV: Reflection

Discuss any conclusions you may have about your community service experience. Was your experience worthwhile? How did this experience change your perceptions, feelings, thoughts, and attitudes? What did you expect that did not occur during your community service? How might the non-profit you served change for the better?

The word count guideline for this section is about 200 words.
**Option B. Psychological Investigation Report**

Each student will be required to choose a “famous” person (either living or deceased) whose life has been written about in printed literature (biographies, autobiographies, etc.). If a tremendous amount has been written about the person you have chosen (for example: John F. Kennedy), then judge the material and choose the resources that may be the most accurate or objective reflection of the person’s life. Try to choose literature that gives you the best “psychological history” of that person’s life. **Please submit the person’s name that you have chosen to “psychologically explore” to the instructor.**

Your Psychological Investigation Report must be typed, preferably double-spaced.

**Option B: Psychological Investigation Report Instructions**

**Sections I and II will be submitted together. Please see the Calendar Tab for the due date.**

Please submit a title page as the first page of your Sections 1 and II report. The title page needs to include a word count for Sections I and II.

You will need to submit a Reference Page as the last page of your Sections I and II report. To write Section I, references are required.

The reference page consists of bibliographic information for each book, article, or website you used in your report. Please include the author(s), year, title of book, city of the publication, and publisher. If you are referencing a journal, please include the author(s), year, title of article, journal, journal issue, and page numbers. If you are referencing a website, please include the web address and if relevant, please include the author(s), year, and title of the web publication.

**APA style** is preferred for your in-text citations and Reference Page; however, MLA is acceptable.

**Section 1: Description of (insert person’s name whom you have chosen)**

In this section, objectively describe the person you have chosen. Provide information about the person, such as: Where was he/she born and raised? What is his/her cultural background? How is he/she diverse (for example: race, ethnicity, socio-economic status, etc.)? How old is he/she? Describe his/her family dynamics. Describe his/her career. What is his/her personality? How did other people describe him/her?

Overall, the goal of this section is to explain the key life experiences that contributed to his or her psychological development.

**Suggestion on how to begin:** Begin Section 1 with your conclusion about the person that you investigated. After all, you have read at least eight hours about his/her life, and you most likely have drawn conclusions.

The word count guideline for this section is about 600 words.
Section II: Analysis of (insert person’s name that you have chosen)

In this section, discuss your impressions, thoughts, and feelings about the person you have chosen. Did he/she meet your expectations and preconceived notions? Self-analysis is part of psychology; therefore, include in this section what you have learned about his/her life. Analyze your thoughts, feelings, and attitudes about him/her and why you were affected in that way. What personal assumptions, values, and perspectives did you have regarding the person you chose that were challenged during this investigation? Also, provide some insights into your own analysis of how the person you chose may have changed for the better or improved his/her life.

The word count guideline for this section is about 600 words.

Section III and IV will be submitted together. Please see the Calendar Tab for the due date.

Please submit a title page as your first page of your Sections III and IV report. The title page needs to include a word count for Sections III and IV.

For Sections III and IV, you do not need to submit a reference page unless you use a resource.

Section III: Integration of the Psychological Investigation of (insert person’s name that you have chosen) with Psychological Theory and Concepts

Choose *three* psychological concepts or theories presented in your text or presented during this course and apply them to analyze the results of your psychological investigation. The theory/concept for each integration should be specific.

For example, if you selected Marilyn Monroe as your subject, you may want to integrate Erikson’s theory (Chapter 9) by synthesizing Erikson’s psychosocial stage of “Intimacy versus Isolation” to explain her intimate relationships. Then, you could recycle back to Erikson’s psychosocial stage of “Trust versus Mistrust” to capture the consequences of her relationship with her mother.

If you selected Eminem as your subject, you may choose to integrate Erikson’s theory by synthesizing Erikson’s psychosocial stage of “Identity versus Role Confusion” to capture the characteristics of Eminem, Marshall Mathers, and Slim Shady.

Avoid selecting concepts or theories that are too general, such as the psychodynamic approach.

Also, please avoid describing the theory or defining the concept. Please see the instructor for assistance with this section if you need help.

The word count guideline for this section is about 600 words.

Section IV: Reflection

Discuss any conclusions you may have about your experience conducting a psychological investigation. Was your experience worthwhile? What did you learn from this process? What would you do differently next time to improve the depth of your investigation? What (if any) missing information were you not able to uncover through your research? How did this
experience change your perceptions, feelings, thoughts, and attitudes about not only the person you investigated, but also yourself?

The word count guideline for this section is about 200 words.

**GRADING**

Student’s total points scored on the following will determine his/her final grade:

- 3 Chapter Tests (100 points each) ____________________________ 300 points
- 1 Comprehensive Final Exam __________________________________ 200 points
- Sections I and II of Research Paper __________________________ 200 points
- Sections III and IV of Research Paper _________________________ 200 points
- 4 Study Activities/Study Group Hours (25 points each) _________ 100 points

______________________________
1000 points

**Note:** 10-point extra credit bonus for 1 or fewer absences and arriving/departing on-time to class.

The student’s final grade in this course is determined on the basis of his/her accumulated points:

- 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%)

Each student can determine his/her grade at any point during the course by totaling the number of points accumulated to date and comparing it to the total number of possible points. For example: After the first test (possible 100 points), and two study activities (possible 50 points), the maximum possible point value equals 150. If you received a total of 130 points on the three assignments, then divide 130 by 150 obtaining a score of 86.6%, which means you have earned a B thus far.

**COURSE ETIQUETTE/NETIQUETTE**

Students are expected to respect diverse opinions during class discussions, some of which may center on sensitive topics. Rude, crude, or disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated and may result in class withdrawal.

Students are expected to complete exams and assignments independently, unless the assignment is given a “team” option. Cheating may result in failure of the course.

Plagiarism is not tolerated. Academic honesty violations may result in failure of the course in addition to college penalties. Please consult the following link for more information: [http://www.spcollege.edu/webcentral/admit/honesty.htm](http://www.spcollege.edu/webcentral/admit/honesty.htm)

Students are expected to contribute fully to the workload of team assignments. If a conflict arises during a team project, the team must immediately consult the instructor for assistance. Failure of a student to contribute to team projects may result in his or her failure of the assignment.
Please silence your cell phones during class. If a student has a concern regarding silencing his or her cell phone, please consult the instructor.

Please be reminded that online communication through ANGEL or other means is saved, stored, and can be referenced. Please do not put anything in an email, drop box, or discussion forum that you would not openly share.

**COURSE OUTLINE**

The course outline is located on the Calendar Tab in ANGEL. The course outline includes reading assignments and all due dates for the entire semester. The course outline also includes time management strategies.
Grading Record:  *Grades are maintained on ANGEL via the Reports Tab*

*Students are strongly encouraged to track their grade throughout the semester.*

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<th>“Team” Experimental Design</th>
<th>Operant Conditioning</th>
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Study Group Hours documented via “Time Tracker” Form and verified through Sign-In Sheet (up to four hours only)

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*Count Only Your 4 Highest Grades from this Study Activity Category*

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*Count All Exam Scores*

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