**PSY 1012 – *General Psychology***

3 Credit Hours

**INSTRUCTOR:** Kim Molinaro

**Contact Phone Number:** (727) 791- 2653 (office)

**Email:** To email your instructor in MyCourses, click “Email Faculty” from your course homepage.

Another way to email your instructor through MyCourses is as follows: Go to [http://mycourses.spcollege.edu](http://mycourses.spcollege.edu/) and click on our PSY 1012 course. Then, click the Communicate drop down arrow and select Classlist. Check the box next to Molinaro,Kimberly and click Email.

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

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

**Office Hours:** Instructor holds office hours or is in class Monday through Thursday from 7:30 AM – 1:30 PM. On various days throughout the semester, instructor is on multiple campuses until 7:00 PM. Instructor typically holds office hours in her classroom (ES 113) in addition to her office (ES 313G). Please reach out through email to set up a time to meet. I am here to help!

**Course Supplement**: Instructor provides a detailed course supplement through MyCourses: Go to [http://mycourses.spcollege.edu](http://mycourses.spcollege.edu/) to access this supplement.

**Link to Instructor page for “bio” and teaching philosophy:** <https://web.spcollege.edu/instructors/id/molinaro.kim>

**ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT**

College of Social/Behavioral Sciences and Human Services: Dr. Joseph Smiley

Office Location: Clearwater Campus

Department Chair Office Number: ES 313B

Link to Social Science Website: <http://www.spcollege.edu/socialsciences>

**MEETING INFORMATION**

Learning modality: Face-to-Face for Lecture and Discussion; MyCourses Supplement

Meeting Days: Tuesday and Thursday

Class Times: 10:00 AM – 11:15 AM

Location: ES 113, Clearwater Campus

**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: <https://go.spcollege.edu/Psychology/>

**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 MyCourses; 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.

**TEXTBOOK: No textbook purchase is required.**

**IMPORTANT DATES**

Drop/Add: On or before 1/19/2024

Last Day to Withdraw with a Grade of W: On or before 4/7/2024

*Please contact instructor prior to withdrawing to evaluate options and construct a workable solution. Your success is a priority.*

Course Dates: 1/16/2024 – 5/10/2024

**DUE DATES/ASSIGNED READINGS**

After each class meeting, please check the **News** in MyCourses (the announcement on our course home page) for the agenda for the next class and relevant readings and activities that need to be completed prior to the next class.

Also, please access the **Calendar** in MyCourses for assignments due dates, time-management strategies, and projected exam dates.

**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 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 our class on-time.

**ASSIGNMENTS**

1. **Study Activities**

The purpose of study activities is to provide academic support for the research paper and exams. The following exercises will count in the study activity category of your grade and will be assigned during class:

* 1. APA Workshop Video and Drop Box
  2. Writing Workshop Video and Drop Box
  3. Exam 1 Research Methods and Classical Conditioning Review and Drop Box
  4. Exam 1 Review and Drop Box
  5. Exam 2 Review and Drop Box
  6. Exam 3 Review and Drop Box

***Each study activity is worth 25 points, totaling 150 points.***

**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 in MyCourses.

**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 day as calculated at 11:59 PM.

**Originality Drop Boxes –** Students are encouraged to submit their papers (whether they choose Option A or Option B) to the practice drop boxes in MyCourses, which will run papers through 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 papers will receive the grade of F, which may result in a grade of F for the course.

**Extra Credit:** Students will receive a 5-point extra credit bonus each for the Sections I/II submission and again for the Section III/IV submission (10-point extra credit bonus total) if they submit Sections I/II papers and Sections III/IV papers to the “Grade this One” drop boxes on or before the due dates; submit word counts on or before the due dates; use the practice drop boxes to avoid errors in originality; submit final papers to the “Grade this One” drop boxes with appropriate originality; submit relevant paperwork (for Community Service papers); and submit APA style reference pages and in-text citations.

**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-profitorganization. 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 typedandpreferablydouble-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:\* Submit 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 hour not served/documented. *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. You will need to submit a reference page titled **References** as the last page of your Sections I and II report. APA style is required for both in-text citations and the citations on the reference page.

**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 the students.

Please avoid explaining the theory or defining the concept. Instead, fully integrate the theory/concept with your community service experience.

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: Martin Luther King, Jr.), then evaluate 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 titled **References** as the last page of your Sections I and II report. To write Section I, references are required. I have established no set number of references. Use as many as you need to fully develop your content. Typically, three to five well-chosen references is appropriate. Also, please use credible resources. Wikipedia, for instance, is \*not\* a credible resource. APA style is required for both in-text citations and the citations on the reference page.

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

In this section, objectively describe the person you have chosen. Overall, the goal of this section is to explain the key life experiences that contributed to their psychological development.

**Opening paragraph:** Begin Section 1 with the patterns you identified about the person you investigated. To assist your process of identifying the patterns about the person, thoroughly think through the significant life experiences that affected the person’s development, how the person coped with those experiences, and the lasting impact of those experiences. Then, ponder similar themes (or patterns) related to the impact of those experiences. You have read at least eight hours about the person’s life, and you most likely have started to see patterns.

**Remaining paragraphs:** Organized in chronological order, explain the significant life experiences you identified (between four and six experiences), how the person coped with each experience, and any lasting impact the experience appeared to have on the person’s development. Also, integrate other relevant information about the person, such as: Birthplace, racial and cultural background, family dynamics, personality traits, and any other information you find relevant.

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 the person meet your expectations and preconceived notions? Self-analysis is part of psychology; therefore, include in this section what you have learned about the person’s life. Analyze your thoughts, feelings, and attitudes 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.

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 Eminem as your subject, you may choose to integrate Erikson’s theory by synthesizing the 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 explaining the theory or defining the concept; instead, integrate the theory with the person you selected.

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 their final grade:

3 Chapter Tests (150 points each) 450 points

Sections I and II of Research Paper 200 points

Sections III and IV of Research Paper 200 points

6 Study Activities (25 points each) 150 points

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1000 points

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

The student’s final grade in this course is determined on the basis of their 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%)

**\*Grades are maintained in MyCourses via the Grades Tab. If you have any questions about your grade, please reach out to me.**

**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. 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: <https://go.spcollege.edu/AcademicHonesty/>

Please enable your video during our Zoom class.

Please mute your audio during our Zoom class unless you are speaking.

Please be reminded that online communication through Zoom, MyCourses, 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** in MyCourses. The course outline includes due dates for all assignments for the entire semester. The course outline also includes time management strategies.

Agendas for each class, including reading assignments, will be posted on the **News** in MyCourses, which can be viewed through our course homepage.

**TURNITIN AGREEMENT**

The instructor provides access to Turnitin.com 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.

The Turnitin Usage Agreement can be reviewed at <https://turnitin.com/agreement.asp?>. 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.

**ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES AND STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

SPC Accessibility Services provide accommodations that ensure equal access for all students. If you need assistance, please reach out to: <https://www.spcollege.edu/current-students/student-affairs/student-support-resources/accessibility-services>.

As an SPC student, it is vital that you know Titans Care.  You can access resources through SPC’s Student Assistance Program (SAP) <https://mycoursessupport.spcollege.edu/student-assistance-program>, a collaborative resource for students with mental health or general life issues.  If you need support, advice, or a friendly ear, help is only a phone call away. SPC is offering this service free to SPC students. SAP provides help and education in suicide prevention, mental health, substance abuse awareness and more.  It is SPC’s belief that supporting mental wellness is everyone’s charge, and that one loss as a result of substance abuse, mental illness, or suicide is one too many. If you or a loved one are considering suicide, please call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255. If you or a loved one needs mental health support, please text HOME to 741741 day or night.

**EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

In the event of a weather emergency or natural disaster that prevents students from attending and completing assignments for a period of time, please reach out to the instructor. Your instructor will also email you with instructions about how to complete this course through an online modality. Here is the link to stay up-to-date on weather and other alerts: <https://spcemergency.com/>.

**REGISTRATION FOR NEXT SEMESTER**

If you have any questions for next semester’s registration and selection of courses, please reach out to me so I can help you or guide you to someone who can be helpful to you. To view the registration dates for next semester, please click on the following link: <https://go.spcollege.edu/calendar/> and scroll to “Registration.”