



**DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION
COURSE OUTLINE – WINTER 2011**

PY 1040 BASIC PSYCHOLOGICAL PROCESSES B3 – 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours

INSTRUCTOR: Cheryl Bereziuk **PHONE:** 780 539 2739
OFFICE: C301 **E-MAIL:** CBereziuk@gprc.ab.ca
OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday 1 - 2:30 p.m. and Wednesday 2:30 - 4 p.m.

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: none

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

Psychology and Life (Canadian Edition) by R. Gerrig, P. Zimbardo, S. Desmarais, and T. Ivanco

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

This first introductory course in psychology gives students an understanding of themselves and other people through the study of basic concepts, principles, theories, and methods used in the scientific study of behaviour. The course covers research methods in psychology, the biological bases of behaviour, neurophysiology, sensation, perception, learning, states of consciousness, memory and cognition. This course is a prerequisite for most other psychology courses and is normally followed by PY 1050.

CREDIT/CONTACT HOURS:

PY 1040 consists of three hours of instructional time each week.

DELIVERY MODE:

The course work includes lectures, class discussions, in-class group and individual work.

OBJECTIVES:

As a result of taking this course, students will gain the abilities to define, explain, demonstrate, evaluate and articulate:

- the major theories, perspectives and concepts in the fields of psychology
- the various research methods and the ethical issues in the use of humans and other animals in research
- the theory of evolution and its principles
- the relationship between biological structures and processes and their psychological manifestations
- the states of consciousness and how they are affected by various factors
- how the environment determines behaviour through the principles of learning
- the interaction of nature and nurture in determining behavior

- the aspects of memory and their reciprocal relationship with behaviour and other mental processes
- the cognitive processes involved in language comprehension and production, as well as problem solving and reasoning
- The basics of APA format (6th edition)

TRANSFERABILITY:

GPRC has transfer agreements with the University of Alberta, the University of Calgary, the University of Lethbridge, Athabasca University, Concordia University College, Canadian University College, Grant MacEwan University College and King’s University College. Students should check with the receiving institution concerning transferability as all arrangements are subject to change.

**Grades of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institution to ensure transferability.

GRADING CRITERIA:

Grades will be assigned on the Letter Grading System.

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE			
GRADING CONVERSION CHART			
Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Designation
A⁺	4.0	90 – 100	EXCELLENT
A	4.0	85 – 89	
A⁻	3.7	80 – 84	FIRST CLASS STANDING
B⁺	3.3	77 – 79	
B	3.0	73 – 76	GOOD
B⁻	2.7	70 – 72	
C⁺	2.3	67 – 69	SATISFACTORY
C	2.0	63 – 66	
C⁻	1.7	60 – 62	
D⁺	1.3	55 – 59	MINIMAL PASS
D	1.0	50 – 54	
F	0.0	0 – 49	FAIL
WF	0.0	0	FAIL, withdrawal after the deadline

EVALUATIONS:

Exam #1 (Chapters 1, 2, 3)	25%
Assignment	15%
Exam #2 (Chapters 4, 5, 6)	25%
In Class Activities	10%
Exam #3 (Chapters 7, 8, 9)	25%
Total	100%

Note: In order to pass this class all three exams and the take home assignment must be completed.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

EXAMS: If a student has a valid reason for being unable to attend an exam, the instructor must be advised via email before the exam is administered. Failure to notify the instructor of an absence and/or lack of a valid reason will result in a grade of 0 with no option to write a deferred exam or make up assignment. Permission to grant a deferred exam is at the discretion of the instructor and is contingent on a valid reason. Multiple requests for deferred exams or assignments are not typically granted irrespective of reason(s). Deferred exams are written in the testing center A205. Once permission from the instructor has been granted, contact Natasha Hipkiss at NHipkiss@gprc.ab.ca or 780 539 2954 to schedule the exam and then advise the instructor via email of the day and time well ahead of time.

Exams can consist of multiple-choice, short and long answer questions. Students are not permitted to leave the exam room once the exam has started until the exam has been completed and turned in. All electronic devices are prohibited from use at any time during class and especially during exams. This includes I-pods and cell phones. The instructor reserves the right to confiscate and keep any cell phone that rings during class time.

All exam marks are final. This means you cannot rewrite an exam because of a poor grade and there are no written assignments to make up for a poor exam grade.

ASSIGNMENTS: All take home assignments must be word-processed. It is important to save a copy of any written work handed in for credit or grading.

Assignments are due on the dates set by the instructor at the beginning of class. Unauthorized late assignments will have a 5% per day late penalty applied to the assigned grade (including weekend days). If there is a valid reason for an extension, it must be requested prior to the due date although students should be advised that extensions are rarely granted in lieu of the late penalty.

If a student does not hand in an assignment when it is due, the procedure is as follows:

1. Advise the instructor via email that the assignment has not be submitted and confirm the date it will be submitted.
2. Deliver the assignment directly to the instructor or to the Cashier's Office where it will be placed in the instructor's mailbox.
3. Confirm with the instructor the receipt of the assignment. The assignment will be considered submitted the day the instructor receives or picks up the assignment not the day it is placed in the mailbox.

IN CLASS ACTIVITIES: In class activities are short in-class assignments pertaining to that day's chapter discussion. Most classes will have some sort of assignment that must be handed in during that class. Failure to be in class and not handing in an assignment will result in a grade of 0 with no opportunity for a make-up assignment. The exception to this is if you have an excused absence for a valid reason in advance of class time. Please do this via email and be sure to specify exactly which course you are in (i.e., PY 1040 section B3). In these cases you will not get a makeup assignment but neither will you be docked marked for noncompliance. These assignments will range from a written response to a question, group activity/experiment, worksheets, summary of films/chapter material, pop quiz etc. Grading for these assignments will be: 0 if not submitted or an obvious lack of effort, 1 for adequate but many errors/lack of understanding and 2 for good effort with minimal errors. Your full name (first and last) must be on all submitted assignments or marks will be docked during grading.

Regular attendance is critical to success in this course. Should a student be unable to attend a class, it is the student's responsibility to acquire the missed material and to complete the assigned readings. The instructor does not lend out lecture notes. If you are unwell, please do stay home until you are feeling better. However, be advised that the instructor reserves the right to bar you from writing the final exam if you accumulate more than 10% of unexcused absences.

Learning is an active process that will take effort on your part. Students are expected to read the chapters in advance of lectures, participate in activities and discussions in the classroom, and communicate with the instructor when difficulties are encountered with the course material. Students are responsible for learning all of the assigned chapters, even if all the material has not been covered in lecture, as well as any other topic or video covered during class time.

Students are expected to display a professional attitude and behavior in the classroom including academic honesty, respect for and cooperation with your colleagues and the instructor, attention to colleague's questions and the instructor's response, and a determination to meet deadlines. Students who are unable to meet these expectations will be required to leave the class in the interest of preserving the learning environment for the other students.

If you have a disability, please self-identify to the instructor if you require any specialized supports.

Please be sure to familiarize yourself with moodle as all communication with students outside of class and office hours will be done via email to your gprc email account. Be sure to check your college email often. Please also be sure to specify exactly which course you are in when contacting the instructor.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Please refer to pages 48-50 of the College calendar regarding plagiarism, cheating and the resultant penalties. There are serious issues and will be dealt with severely. The instructor reserves the right to use electronic plagiarism detection services.

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

January 6	Class begins
January 11	Last day to add a class
January 19	Last day to drop a class
February 3	Exam #1 (Chapters 1, 2, 3: Current theories in psychology, research methods, evolutionary psychology)
February 17	Assignment due
February 22, 24	Holiday – No class
March 10	Exam #2 (Chapters 4, 5, 6: Biological basis of behaviour, sensation and perception, consciousness)
March 15	Last day to withdraw from a class
April 12	Last scheduled lecture Exam #3 (Chapters 7, 8, 9: Learning, memory and cognitive processes)

The dates listed on this outline are tentative and subject to change.