

DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION COURSE OUTLINE – FALL 2010

PY1040 (D2): Basic Psychological Processes – 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours

INSTRUCTOR: Kalua Rhody PHONE: TBA

OFFICE: E401 Station 8 **E-MAIL:** <u>krhody@gprc.ab.ca</u>

OFFICE HOURS: Wednesdays and Fridays from 12:00-12:50

PREREQUISITE(S)/ COREQUISITE: None. This course is a prerequisite for most other psychology courses

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

Gerrig, R.J., Zimbardo, P.G., Desmarais, S., Ivanco, T. (2009). *Psychology and Life (Canadian Edition*). Pearson Publishing: Toronto, Canada

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

Principles and development of perception, motivation, brain and behaviour relationships, learning and thinking and their significance to the psychological functioning of the individual will be explored. This course is a prerequisite for most other psychological courses and is normally followed by PY1050.

CREDIT/CONTACT HOURS:

PY 1040 consists of three 3 hours per week for a total of 45 class hours.

DELIVERY MODE(S):

The course work primarily consists of lectures and class discussion.

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

TRANSFERABILITY:

University of Alberta, University of Calgary, University of Lethbridge, Athabasca University, Grant MacEwan University, Concordia University College, Canadian University College, King's University College.

** Grade 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 institutions to ensure transferability.

EVALUATIONS:

Mini Quizzes	20%
Midterm Exam 1: Chapters 1, 2 and 3	20%
Midterm Exam 2: Chapters 3, 4 and 5	20%
Final Exam: Chapters 7,8 and 9	35%
(scheduled by the Registrar)	
Participation/Attendance	5%
Total	100%

- 1) <u>Mini Quizzes</u>: There will be 7 mini quizzes. Your lowest mark will be dropped. Marks across your 6 best quizzes will be averaged. The average mark of these 6 quizzes is worth 20% of your grade. (Please refer to page 4 for information on missed quizzes.)
- 2) Exams: Exams will consist largely of multiple choices, fill in the blank, and true false questions. All exams may include questions from lectures that not covered by your textbook, or questions from the textbook not covered in class.
- 3) <u>Final Exam</u>: The final examination is **comprehensive** but greater emphasis will be placed on chapters 7, 8 and 9.
- 4) <u>Participation/Attendance</u>: Student input during lectures is highly valued and strongly encouraged. Students who receive full marks for participation make insightful comments, ask relevant questions, actively participate in group discussions/activities and contribute to a positive learning environment.

GRADING SYSTEM:

Final grades will be assigned on the Letter Grading System.

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE					
GRADING CONVERSION CHART					
Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Designation		
\textbf{A}^{\star}	4.0	90 – 100	EXCELLENT		
Α	4.0	85 – 89			
A ⁻	3.7	80 – 84	FIRST CLASS STANDING		
B⁺	3.3	77 – 79	FIRST CLASS STANDING		
В	3.0	73 – 76	GOOD		
B ⁻	2.7	70 – 72			
C ⁺	2.3	67 – 69	SATISFACTORY		
С	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		

EXAMINATIONS:

Nine mini-quizzes and two midterm exams will take place during class times; a final exam will be scheduled in December by the registrar's office. All quizzes and exams are closed-book.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

Preparation

Students are responsible for all lecture materials and readings. Limited class time prevents review of all textbook content. You are still responsible for learning textbook material not covered in class. You are also expected to prepare for each lecture by reading the relevant chapter(s) and supplemental reading (if assigned). Students who prepare for lectures learn and perform much better than students who do not come prepared.

Attendance:

Regular attendance is critical to success in PY1040. Please note that your participation mark is based on your regular contributions to class discussions. In order to contribute, you must be present! If you are unable to attend a class, it is your responsibility to acquire missed material.

Missed mini-quizzes/exams:

Dates for mini-quizzes and exams are included in the course outline. **Quizzes that are missed for any reason will not be rescheduled.** If a student misses a mini-quiz due to **verified** illness, dentistry, accident or emergency, their marks across the quizzes taken will be averaged. Holidays, employment and other such activities are not considered excusable. If a student misses a quiz for reasons that do not include verified illness, dentistry, accident or emergency, a "0" (zero) will be assigned to that mini-quiz.

According to GPRC policy, deferring a missed midterm exam (Exams 1 and 2) is at the instructor's discretion. Students who miss exams without explanation or valid reason will receive a "0" on that exam. Students who miss the exam due to **verified** illness, illness, dentistry, accident or emergency, may write the midterm at a later date (set by me—I will choose a date that is mutually convenient).

Absences from a registrar-scheduled final exam fall under the GPRC examination policy. It is the responsibility of the **student** to be informed of these policies prior to the final examination period. A description of the policy is available in the GPRC Calendar and in the Student Handbook. Students who miss the final exam due to verified illness are required to submit an application to the registrar's office for permission to write a deferred exam and must do so within 48 hours of the scheduled exam time. The final exam may be deferred for up to 20 days of the end of the examination period.

Student Conduct:

It is expected that students will display professional attitude and behavior at all times. It is assumed that students are mature adults who will treat the instructor and fellow classmates with respect and consideration. This includes punctuality, paying attention when others are speaking, turning off electronic devices, etc. **Disrespect will not be tolerated.** Examples of disrespectful behaviour include making rude or destructive comments to the instructor or fellow learners, texting, putting feet on the desk, talking during lectures, putting your head down for a nap, etc. Students unable to meet these expectations will be required to leave the class in the interest of preserving the learning opportunities of other students.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Cheating on an exam, quiz or any other form of academic misconduct such as plagiarism is taken very seriously and is punishable in a variety of ways. Please refer to pages 49-50 of the College calendar regarding plagiarism, cheating and the resultant penalties. If you are caught cheating on a quiz or exam you will be given a "0" zero, may be dismissed from my class and suspended from the College.

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

*please note that the dates are tentative and may be subject to change

Week	Dates	Topics covered	Evaluation
Week 1 September 3		Introduce course	
		Chapter. 1: Psychology and Life	
Week 2	September 8	Chapter 1 continued	
	September 10	Chapter 2: Research Methods	Mini-quiz 1
Week 3	September 15	Chapter. 2 continued	
	September 17	Chapter 2 complete	
Week 4	September 22	Chapter 3: Evolutionary Psychology	Mini-quiz 2
	September 24	Chapter 3 continued	
Week 5	September 29	Chapter 3 complete	
	October 1	Exam 1	Exam: 20%, chpt. 1, 2,3
Week 6	October 6	Chapter 4: Biological bases of behaviour	
	October 8	Chapter 4 continued	
Week 7	October 13	Chapter 4 complete	
	October 15	Chapter 5: Sensation and Perception	Mini-quiz 3
Week 8	October 20	Chapter 5 continued	
	October 22	Chapter 6: Mind, Consciousness	Mini-quiz 4
		and Alternate states	
Week 9	October 27	Chapter 6 continued	
	October 29	Exam 2	Exam: 20%, chpt. 4,5,6
Week 10	November 3	Chapter 7: Learning and	
		Behaviour Analysis	
	November 5	Chapter 7 continued	
Week 11	November 10	Chapter 7 completed	
	November 12	NO CLASS	
Week 12	November 17	Chapter 8: Memory	Mini-quiz 5
	November 19	Chapter 8 continued	
Week 13	November 24	Chapter 8 completed	
	November 26	Chapter 9: Cognitive processes	Mini-quiz 6
Week 14	December 1	Chapter 9 continued	
	December 3	Chapter 9 completed	Mini-quiz 7
Final Exams Week	December 9-21	NO CLASS—FINAL EXAM PERIOD	Exam: 35%: chpt. 7,8,9 Final exams are scheduled by the Registrar Office