



DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

FALL 2013

PY1040 BASIC PSYCHOLOGICAL PROCESSES

INSTRUCTOR: Eva Scott **PHONE:** to be announced
OFFICE: E401-3 **E-MAIL:** escott@gprc.ab.ca
OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays 1:00 to 2:15 or by appointment

COURSE OUTLINE

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: none

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

- Gerrig, R.J., Zimbardo, P.G., Desmarais, S., & Ivanco, T. (2012). Psychology and Life (2nd Canadian Edition)
- Publication Manual of the APA is available in College Library

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.

CREDIT/CONTACT HOURS:

3 credits / 3 hours per week

DELIVERY MODE(S):

This course 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
- evolution and its principles in psychology
- 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.

EVALUATION:

1. Chapter Tests = 40%. There will be 4 chapter tests consisting of multiple choice questions and short answer questions. Each chapter test will cover two chapters, and will be worth 10%,. The content and nature of the test will be discussed and clarified in class.
2. Mid Term = 20% - key concepts, nature of questions will be discussed in class. Date to be announced.
3. Final Test = 35% - key concepts of the course. Date will be set by college administration.
4. Attendance and participation = 5%
 - Input during lectures is welcomed - ask relevant questions, make insightful comments, contribute to discussion during group work.

Note:

- All test marks are final.
- If you have a disability of any kind, or need any specific support to ensure your success, please discuss it with me immediately.

GPRC GRADING CRITERIA

Alpha Grade	4 pt. Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Designation
A+	4.0	95-100	Excellent
A	4.0	90 - 94	
A-	3.7	85 - 89	First Class Standing
B+	3.3	80 - 84	
B	3.0	75 - 79	Good
B-	2.7	70 - 74	
C+	2.3	66 - 69	Satisfactory
C	2.0	63 - 65	
C-	1.7	60 - 62	
D+	1.3	54 - 59	Poor
D	1.0	50 - 54	Minimal Pass at GPRC
F	0.0	0 - 49	Fail - no credit received
WF			Fail - withdrawal after deadline

TRANSFERABILITY:

This course transfers to University of Alberta (PSYCO 105 (3)), University of Calgary (PSYC 205 (3)), University of Lethbridge (PSYC 2XXX (3)), Athabasca University (PSYC 290 (3)), Kings University College (PSYC 251 (3)) MacEwan (PSYC 105(3)) and Concordia University (PSY 105 (3)). Students should check with their receiving institution concerning transferability as all arrangements are subject to change.

Students receiving grades of D or D+ will receive GPRC credit, however **these grades may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions.**

TENTATIVE LECTURE SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Required Readings
September 5	Introduction - Theories, perspectives and concepts	Chapter 1
September 10 - 12	Psychology and Research	Chapters 1 and 2
September 17 - 19	Research and Statistics	Chapter 2
September 24	Chapter test	Chapters 1 and 2
September 24-26	Evolutionary Psychology and Biology	Chapter 3
October 1 - 3	Biology, Neurology, and Psychology	Chapter 4
October 8 - 10	Biology, Neurology, and Psychology	Chapter 4 and 5
October 15 - 17	Biology, Neurology, and Psychology	Chapter 5
October 22	Chapter test	Chapters 4 and 5
October 22 - 24	Mind, consciousness, altered states, behaviour and learning	Chapter 6
October 29	Mind, consciousness, altered states, behaviour and learning	Chapter 6
October 31	Mid Term	key concepts covered to date
November 5 - 7	Principles of behaviourism and learning	Chapter 7
November 12 - 14	Principles of behaviourism and learning	Chapter 7
November 19	Chapter test	Chapters 6 and 7
November 19 - 21	Memory and cognitive processes	Chapter 8 and 9
November 26 - 28	Memory and cognitive processes	Chapter 8 and 9
December 3 - 5	Memory and cognitive processes	Chapter 8 and 9
December 10	Chapter test	Chapters 8 and 9
December 12	Review of key concepts, study guide, review chapter tests and mid-term	key concepts
TBA	Final exam	

This is a tentative schedule. Any significant changes will be noted and discussed in class.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

The assigned readings and exercises for each class should be completed before attending that class, except for the first class. **Attendance at all sessions is required and is critical to a student's success in the course.** In case of illness or emergency, notify me as soon as possible. If you find yourself having difficulty in this course, please contact me immediately for assistance. If you simply want more discussion about any aspect of the course, please visit my office during office hours or at a more convenient pre-arranged time.

If a student is unable to attend an in-class test or quiz, the instructor must be advised before the test/quiz is administered. Failure to notify the instructor of an absence will result in a grade of 0 on that test/quiz.

It is expected that all students will display professional and respectful attitude and behaviours in the classroom. This includes - arrive on time; be prepared; and listening to and engaging with fellow students and the instructor in a co-operative and attentive manner. All electronic devices (phones, ipods, etc.) will be turned off and stored in backpack, or purse.

Please be sure to familiarize yourself with moodle as all communications with students outside of class and office hours will be done via your gprc e-mail account. Check your e-mail regularly.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Cheating and plagiarism is not tolerated. Please refer to pages 48 - 49 of the College calendar regarding plagiarism, cheating and the resultant penalties. These are serious issues and will be dealt with severely.

Please consult your GPRC for information regarding Academic Regulations and Student Conduct.

<http://www.gprc.ab.ca/downloads/documents/StudentRightsandResponsibilities.pdf>

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Friendship Centre: The Friendship Centre at Grande Prairie Regional College provides a space for all students to meet, do homework, retrieve or leave messages, obtain community resources material, or just relax. The on-campus Friendship Centre is available for sharing circles, gatherings, study groups, and tutoring sessions. Everyone is welcome.

Campus Security: You should be aware that GPRC is no safer than the rest of Grande Prairie. Attacks on campus, as well as theft and vandalism have been occurring with increasing frequency. For your safety, Campus Security will provide a 24-hour Safe Walk service anywhere on campus. Call 780-539-2700 or use the blue phones on campus.

Learning Support Centre: The Learning Support Centre is available to all students who wish to improve their academic skills and ability to learn. Students can receive help with their writing (essay structure, grammar, formatting), as well as with math and science problems. Workshops on exam anxiety, study skills, noting taking, and other important skills are also offered here. The Learning Centre is in the Library.