



DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

COURSE OUTLINE – FALL 2011

PY 1040 (D2 & E2): BASIC PSYCHOLOGICAL PROCESSES – 3 (3-0-0) 45 HOURS

INSTRUCTOR: Koreen Kerswell

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OFFICE: C312

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OFFICE HOURS: Tues. & Thurs. 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. or by appointment

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: None

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

- Gerrig, R.J., Zimbardo, P.G., Desmarais, S., Ivanco, T. (2009). *Psychology and Life (Second Canadian Edition)*. Pearson Publishing, Toronto, Canada
- Publication Manual of the APA, 6th edition (available in 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): Lectures, Discussions

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 field 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 behavior through the principles of learning
- The interaction of nature and nurture in determining behavior
- The aspects of memory and their reciprocal relationship with behavior and other mental processes
- The cognitive processes involved in language comprehension and production, as well as problem solving and reasoning.

TRANSFERABILITY: UA, UC, UL, AU, GMU, CU, CUC, KUC

**** 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

**Please note that the Universities will not accept your course for transfer credit if your grade is less than C-. **

GRADING CRITERIA:

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:

Chapter Quizzes 25%

Midterm Examination 20%

Written Paper 15%

Final Examination 35%

Class Participation and Attendance 5%

- A quiz will occur approximately once a week
- The nature of the written paper will be discussed in class

- The final examination is comprehensive, but more emphasis will be placed on topics from the second half of the course.
- All exams may include questions from lectures that may not be covered in your text book. Attendance in class is important.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

Students should complete the assigned readings and exercises for each class prior to attending class, with the exception of the first day. Attendance in each session is required and critical to academic success. In case of illness, emergency, or other unavoidable absence, please notify the instructor as soon as possible by leaving a phone message or sending an e-mail to the address noted on the first page.

Students are responsible for obtaining all missed material from classmates and information posted by the instructor. It is expected that students who are absent for a quiz or assignment **will complete that quiz within three days**. Quizzes not completed within that timeframe will be assigned a "0" (zero). Extraordinary circumstances will be considered on a case by case basis. Work commitments and holidays do not warrant consideration as extraordinary circumstances.

Students who miss the **midterm examination** are expected to provide a verified legitimate excuse for their absence and will be expected to write the exam at a later date that is mutually convenient.

Absences from a registrar-scheduled **final exam** fall under GPRC Examination Policy. It is the responsibility of the student to be informed about these policies prior to the final examination period. A description of the policy is available on the GPRC website and in the student handbook.

Students are expected to display a respectful attitude and behavior at all times within the classroom. This includes being on time for class, coming and leaving in a manner that is not disruptive to others, and limiting discussions to what is relevant to the class. Students are expected to use discretion and demonstrate responsible and respectful behavior when it comes to cell phone use, eating or drinking within the classroom, listening to music, and other activities not directly related to the educational activities of the class. **Students unable to meet these expectations will be asked to leave the classroom immediately so as to preserve the learning environment for other students.**

Students with specific learning needs or learning disabilities are asked to please identify themselves to the instructor so that appropriate accommodations can be granted.

Please note the office hours listed on the first page. Arrangements can be made for students to meet with the instructor at other times by contacting the instructor via voice message or e-mail.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Please refer to the Admissions Guide under Academic Misconduct for the policy regarding plagiarism, cheating and the resultant penalties. This policy can also be found at:

<http://www.gprc.ab.ca/downloads/documents/Student%20Misconduct%20Plagiarism%20and%20Cheating.pdf> These are serious issues and will be dealt with severely.

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Date	Topic	Activity
September 8 -16	Chapter One	Quiz One
September 20-23	Chapter Two	Quiz Two
September 27-30	Chapter Three	Quiz Three
October 4-7	Chapter Four	
October 11-14	Chapter Four	Quiz Four
October 18-21	Chapter Five	Quiz Five
October 25-29	Chapter Five	Midterm
November 1-4	Chapter Six	Quiz six
November 8-11	Chapter Seven	
November 15-18	Chapter Seven	Quiz seven
November 22-25	Chapter Eight	Quiz Eight, Written Report
November 29-Dec. 2	Chapter Nine	Quiz Nine
Dec 6 – Dec. 9	Review	
Dec. 12-21		FINAL EXAMS