

Course Outline for: PSYC 1110 Introduction to Psychology**A. Course Description**

1. Number of credits: 4
2. Lecture hours per week: 4
3. Prerequisites: None
4. Corequisites: None
5. MnTC Goals: Goal 5 – History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences

This course is an introduction to the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. It prepares students for pursuing more advanced coursework in Psychology and provides a basic understanding of Psychology for those entering other fields. The course introduces the questions, methods, findings, and limitations of the Psychology discipline.

B. Date last revised: November 2022**C. Outline of Major Content Areas**

The seven core areas must be covered in every offering of Introduction to Psychology. The topics with an asterisk within each core area are required. In addition, four (without an asterisk) from at least two different core areas are required.

1. History of Psychology
2. Research Methods
3. Biological (Neuroscience*, Sensation, Consciousness)
4. Cognitive (Memory*, Perception, Intelligence)
5. Developmental (Learning*, Lifespan Development, Language)
6. Social and Personality (Social*, Personality, Emotion, Multicultural, Gender, Sexuality, Motivation)
7. Mental and Physical Health (Disorders and Therapies*, Health)

D. Course Learning Outcomes

After taking Introduction to Psychology, students will be able to

1. Demonstrate knowledge of key topics and concepts, research methods, and findings in psychology. (Goal 2a; Goal 5a)
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the history / philosophy of psychology as a science. (Goal 5a)
3. Compare and contrast major theoretical approaches to psychology (such as the psychodynamic approach, behaviorism, etc.). (Goal 2a; Goal 5c)

4. Apply critical thinking skills (e.g., distinguish the strengths and weaknesses of personal experience vs. science, distinguish correlation and causation). (Goal 2a, 2b, 2d; Goal 5a, 5c)
5. Apply research findings and psychological concepts to real world topics, such as study skills, stress management, work-related issues, interpersonal relationships, and social issues. (Goal 2a, 2b, 2d; Goal 5a, 5c, 5d)
6. Demonstrate knowledge of how culture, biases, and assumptions influence behavior and mental processes. (Goal 2a, 2b, 2d; Goal 5a, 5c)
7. Adopt the framework of Psychological Science (correctly use terminology and concepts, engage in scientific problem-solving). (Goal 2a; Goal 5a)
8. Recognize how cultural biases (e.g., racial biases) in the theories and research samples of Psychology limits understanding of behavior and how modern Psychology attempts to address these to seek to better incorporate diversity and contribute to a more just society. (Goal 2a, 2b, 2c; 5a, 5b)

E. Methods for Assessing Student Learning

Individual instructors may devise their own methods for assessing student performance.

F. Special Information

None