

ARIZONA WESTERN COLLEGE
SYLLABUS

PSY 101 INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY/GE

Credit Hours: 3 Lec 3



PSY 1101

PREREQUISITE: None

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Although basic theories are included, the course emphasizes the relationship between the material discussed and everyday life. Areas covered are history and systems, scientific methods, development processes, perception, learning, memory, basic statistics, intelligence and personality testing, motivation, conflict and frustration, mental disorders and therapy, and social psychology.

1. COURSE GOALS

- 1.1 Develop an understanding of the basic concepts and principles of psychology. To reach this goal, students are encouraged to define concepts in their own words rather than merely rote memorizing textbook definitions.
- 1.2 Communicate their understanding to others clearly and accurately both orally and in writing.
- 1.3 Understand how these concepts and principles relate to their everyday life and the lives of those around them. Topics covered will emphasize the similarities and variations related to age, gender, religious, racial, ethnic, socioeconomic and other human groupings.
- 1.4 Be aware of how these concepts were developed and some of the prominent persons responsible for this development.
- 1.5 Promote a questioning, scientific attitude toward the information presented rather than an uncritical acceptance of textbook and lecture material.

2. OUTCOMES

Upon satisfactory completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 2.1 describe the basic schools of thought in psychology and identify the major persons responsible for these views.
- 2.2 describe the effects of heredity, maturation, and environmental factors on individuals throughout their lifespan, along with some of the more common developmental problems and some possible remedies for these problems.
- 2.3 describe the basic principles of learning and memory, especially in relation to studying and taking exams.
- 2.4 describe some of the basic concepts related to both physiological and psychological aspects of motivation.
- 2.5 describe some of the basic processes in relation to conflict, frustration, stress, and the use of defense mechanisms.
- 2.6 identify and describe mental disorders, including those at a neurotic level, psychoses, and personality disorders.
- 2.7 describe the basic principles of individual and group social interaction, with some of the problems in this interaction, including topics of nonverbal communication, attitude formation, conformity, social influence, and prejudice.

3. AWC GENERAL EDUCATION (GE) CATEGORY & CRITERIA
SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

- The importance of understanding and respecting cultures through social, family, historical, political events and/or processes using social scientific theories, methods, principles, and/or perspectives

- How to apply social scientific methods of inquiry to generate knowledge about human behavior within individuals, societies, and across cultural groups
- The diversity of human development for individuals and/or social groups, including behaviors across time, culture, and historic/social/political/economic contexts
- The interactions among human thought, behavior, relationships, and actions through the lens of social scientific analytic frameworks
- The challenges of understanding the diverse natures of individuals and cultural groups who live together in a complex and evolving world
- How to think critically to better understand the range of human experience through time and to navigate stressful challenges inherent in the human condition
- How to investigate social consequences or large-scale and group economic, technological, scientific, political, ecological, and cultural change
- The importance of global awareness, intercultural knowledge, and intellectual humility, objectivity, and/or curiosity, by situating cultural, social, and/or intellectual artifacts in a diverse range of cultural, historical, and intellectual contexts

4. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- 4.1 Lecture and classroom discussion
- 4.2 Reading from text and handouts
- 4.3 Films and videos

5. LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- 5.1 Class discussions
- 5.2 Written assignments

6. EVALUATION

- 6.1 Grade will be earned by an assortment of learning activities, exams, assignments, and participation
- 6.2 Please see the class schedule and assignment sheet for more information

7. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- 7.1 Under AWC Policy, students are expected to attend every session of class in which they are enrolled.
- 7.2 If a student is unable to attend the course or must drop the course for any reason, it will be the responsibility of the student to withdraw from the course. Students who are not attending as of the 45th day of the course may be withdrawn by the instructor. If the student does not withdraw from the course and fails to complete the requirements of the course, the student will receive a failing grade.
- 7.3 Americans with Disabilities Act Accommodations: Arizona Western College provides academic accommodations to students with disabilities through AccessABILITY Resource Services (ARS). ARS provides reasonable and appropriate accommodations to students who have documented disabilities. It is the responsibility of the student to make the ARS Coordinator aware of the need for accommodations in the classroom prior to the beginning of the semester. Students should follow up with their instructors once the semester begins. To make an appointment call the ARS front desk at (928) 344-7674 or ARS Coordinator at (928) 344-7629, in the College Community Center (3C) building, next to Advising.
- 7.4 Academic Integrity: Any student participating in acts of academic dishonesty—including, but not limited to, copying the work of other students, using unauthorized “crib notes”, plagiarism, stealing tests, or forging an instructor’s signature—will be subject to the procedures and consequences outlined in AWC’s Student Code of Conduct.
- 7.5 Texts and Notebooks: Students are required to obtain the class materials for the course.
- 7.6 Arizona Western College students are expected to attend every class session in which they are enrolled. To comply with Federal Financial Aid regulations (34 CFR 668.21), Arizona Western College (AWC) has established an Attendance Verification process for “No Show” reporting during the first 10 days of each semester.

Students who have enrolled but have never attended class may be issued a “No Show” (NS) grade by the professor or instructor and receive a final grade of “NS” on their official academic record. An NS grade may result in a student losing their federal financial aid.

For online classes, *student attendance in an online class is defined as the following* (FSA Handbook, 2012, 5-90):

- Submitting an academic assignment
- Taking an exam, an interactive tutorial or computer-assisted instruction
- Attending a study group that is assigned by the school
- Participating in an online discussion about academic matters
- Initiating contact with a faculty member to ask a question about the academic subject studied in the course