

Dakota College at Bottineau Course Syllabus

Course Prefix/Number/Title: PSYCH 111, Introduction to psychology

Number of credits: 3

Course Description: This course involves the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. It is a basic prerequisite to most other psychology classes.

Pre-/Co-requisites: None

Course Objectives: It is expected that students will be able to:

- Identify theoretical perspectives and research methods.
- Identify the parts of the brain and nervous system and their functions.
- Outline the different types of learning.
- Summarize current theories about memory and forgetting.
- Discuss key concepts regarding intelligence and psychological testing.
- Describe the psychological changes humans undergo during childhood, adolescence, and adulthood.
- Define the different types of psychological disorders and outline the methods used to treat them.
- Recognize the factors that influence how humans behave toward one another in social situations.

Instructor: Amy Lopez

Office: Online. You may post questions in the Virtual Office in the online classroom. These will be visible to all students. Use the eMail tool within the online course to communicate with the instructor privately.

Office Hours: Course eMail messages will be checked daily, Monday through Friday.

Phone: 407-744-6286

Email: amy.lopez@dakotacollege.edu

Lecture/Lab Schedule: Self study

Textbook(s): Weiten, Wayne. Psychology: Themes & Variations. 8th ed. (will use the 9th edition of the book as of summer/fall 2012)

Course Requirements:

There are weekly deadlines for completing assignments.

Discussion Forums: Each week, you will have one or more discussion forums (one for each chapter.) For each forum, you will need to post one answer to a question, two replies to other students' answers, and two replies to students who have replied to you. Forums will close on Saturday nights at 11:45 p.m. Central Time.

Homework Assignments: Weekly 1 page papers will cover the material discussed in that week. These papers are to be submitted in the drop box for that week. The deadline for submitting this homework to the drop box is 11:45 p.m. Central Time Saturday nights.

Paper: A 3 to 5 page paper on a topic from our textbook of your choosing is due at the end of the course. The topic for your paper is due the 2nd week of the term and must be approved by your instructor.

Tests: There will be four tests given during the semester. The questions will be multiple choice in nature. Each test consists of 30 questions, will be available for one week and will close at 11:45 p.m. Central

Time Saturday nights.

Attendance: Regular participation is expected. Students should complete all assignments by the due dates.

General Education Goals/Objectives: Complete an introduction in psychology and gain and apply knowledge about the scientific study of human behavior

Relationship to Campus Theme: This course develops a background in psychology that can be used to understand people in family, social, professional, and community settings.

Classroom Policies: • Regular participation is expected.

- All tests can be taken on any computer with Internet access.
- Students need to set up or select an environment conducive for testing (e.g. distraction-free area at home, a computer lab at a library, etc.)
- Students can take the tests at any time between the given dates and times.
- A discussion is only a discussion if everyone is participating together. Therefore, no points will be given for forum posts once the week is over.
- Homework assignments and the paper will lose 10% for each day they are late, and will not be accepted more than one week after the due date.

Academic Integrity: The academic community is operated on the basis of honesty, integrity and fair play. It is the expectation that all students, as members of the college community, adhere to the highest levels of academic integrity. This means that:

- Students are responsible for submitting their own work. Student work must not be plagiarized.
- Students must not cooperate on oral or written examinations or work together on evaluated assignments without authorization.

Disabilities and Special Needs: If you have a disability for which you need accommodation, contact the Learning Center to request disability support services: phone 701-228-5477 or toll-free 1-888-918-5623.