Course Syllabus: Introduction to Psychology – Psy 2301.91W
Texas A & M University – Commerce, Spring 2013

Instructor Contact Information
Marion E Blake
Office Hours: Use Virtual Office in eCollege or send me an email
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Please include Psy2301.91W in the subject line of all email sent to me. Do not hesitate to discuss any questions or concerns that may arise concerning the course. Restrict email to course related matters only.

Course Duration
This is an online class from January 14, 2013 to May 10, 2013.

Course Materials
Required Course Text:

Course Description
The purpose of this course is to provide an overview of the major areas of study in the field of psychology. Areas that will be covered include major theoretical perspectives in psychology and concepts from different content areas such as sensation, and perception, learning, motivation, memory, personality, life span development, and social psychology.

Course Outcomes
Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Understand some of the major concepts in psychology
2. Identify and discuss major schools of thought in psychology
3. Demonstrate critical thinking skills that are necessary in the study of psychology
4. Navigate and use the eCollege Learning Management System (LMS)
5. Work in group to accomplish a given task.

Participation
Students are expected to make an effort to actively contribute to the class as this is an important area of your academic development. This will include prior preparation and participating appropriately in online discussions and group work, completion of exams, and submission of assignments on time.

Course Schedule
The course schedule below provides general details as a guide to assist you in moving through the course. The course schedule is subject to change due to various circumstances. Schedule changes will be communicated by email.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week (2013)</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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</thead>
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| Modules     | Jan. 14 | Syllabus Review, Introductions  
Modules 1 - 3: Introduction to the History and  
Science of Psychology  
*Discussion Post 1* |
| Week 2      | Jan. 21 | Modules 4 - 6: Biology of the Mind  
*Discussion Post 2* |
| Week 3      | Jan. 28 | Modules 7 - 10: Consciousness and the Two-Track Mind  
EXAM 1 – Modules 1 – 10 |
| Week 4      | Feb. 4  | Modules 11 - 13: Nature, Nurture, and Human Diversity  
*Discussion Post 3* |
| Week 5      | Feb. 11 | Modules 14 - 16: Nature, Nurture, and Human Diversity  
*Discussion Post 4* |
| Week 6      | Feb. 18 | Modules 17 - 19: Nature, Nurture, and Human Diversity  
EXAM 2 – Modules 11 – 19 |
| Week 7      | Feb. 25 | *Discussion Post 5*  
*Group Project Assignment – Beginning* |
| Week 8      | Mar. 4  | Modules 23 - 25: Learning  
*Discussion Post 6* |
| Week 9      | Mar. 11 | SPRING BREAK |
| Week 10     | Mar. 18 | Modules 26 - 30: Memory  
EXAM 3 – Modules 20 – 30 |
| Week 11     | Mar. 25 | Modules 31 - 35: Thinking, Language, and Intelligence  
*Discussion Post 7* |
| Week 12     | April 1 | Modules 36 – 39 – Motivation and Work  
*Discussion Post 8* |
| Week 13     | April 8 | Modules 40 - 44: Emotions, Stress, and Health  
EXAM 4 – Modules 26 – 44 |
| Week 14     | April 15 | Modules 45 - 47: Personality  
*Group Project Assignment – Ending* |
| Week 15     | April 22 | *Discussion Post 9*  
Modules 48 - 52: Psychological Disorders |
| Week 16     | April 29 | Modules 53 - 55: Therapy  
*Discussion Post 10* |
| Finals Week | May 6   | EXAM 5 – Modules 45 – 55 |
There are 500 points available. You need 450 points (90%) or better for an ‘A’, 400 - 449 points (80 - 89%) for a ‘B’, 350 - 399 points (70 - 79%) for a ‘C’ and 300 - 349 points (60 - 69%) for a ‘D’. A total below 300 points (59% or less) will result in an ‘F.’

The course items and grade points attached are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Items</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Grade Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams (5)</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Project</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussions</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td><strong>500</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

There will be five exams comprised of multiple choice and true false items. Students must take the exams during the scheduled time unless they have an excused absence as described in the Student Handbook and/or have made other arrangements with me in advance. **There will be no make-up exams.** The exam questions will require not only your recognition of concepts, but will be designed to test your comprehension and application of those concepts. Material for the exams will be drawn from the text, lecture slide presentations, articles, and group projects.

You will work in small groups to complete an assignment, prepare, and upload a Power Point presentation for review by the entire class and the instructor. Detailed instructions and a grading rubric will be provided.

All course work will be due at the designated deadline dates.
Exams will have a specified time frame during which you can take them. Except for a university approved excuse, late work or missing an exam/assignment due date will result in a mark of zero. **There will be no make-up exams.**

You are encouraged to offer your opinions in a manner that is respectful to your classmates and instructor in whatever forum that you might be participating (e.g., discussion posts). If you disagree, then do so in a manner that is respectful to others. Racial, sexist, non-scholarly comments or derogatory statements are not permitted and will invoke disciplinary action. In order to maintain an environment of respect and trust, it is vital that no information that is shared here be reproduced in ANY other forum. You can be certain that the information that you share here will only be used for class purposes, except where informed consent has been given for research purposes. Any reproduction of student submitted content, with or without credit to the responsible party, is both unethical and prohibited. Please see the TAMU-C Student Handbook for more details on consequences for violations of University policy.
Honesty and Plagiarism

Independent Student Work
There may be an opportunity to share information related to this course, however you are expected to do your work independently except as specified in the group project. Any suspected of academic dishonesty will be subject to disciplinary actions. Please see the TAMU-C Student Handbook for more details on consequences for violations relating to honesty and plagiarism.

APA Format:
You are required to use APA format for all references, including those gathered from the internet. If you are unaware of how to use APA format, you may consult the APA Publication Manual, 6th edition. In addition, there are many free internet sources that can help you in this regard such as the Purdue Owl at http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01. Examples are included below of how to cite the work of others appropriately.

If you incorporate material that you have not created, you must provide an internal citation within the body of the text and a full reference at the end of your document to give proper credit to the work of persons other than yourself.

Paraphrasing versus Quotations:
- Personal experiences and opinions do not, obviously, need to be cited as they are your own creation. However, whenever using information from sources other than those you have created or generated, please include appropriate citations in APA format. Infringements upon intellectual property rights is not allowed in academia and is considered as plagiarism with serious consequences attached.
- Paraphrasing (using someone’s ideas, facts, historical data, research etc. in your own words) without citing is plagiarism.
- Using exact wording, even if you cite, without quotation marks is plagiarism.
- Using most of the words from a sentence and using synonyms for select words or switching up the order (basically improper paraphrasing) with or without citing is plagiarism.

When to cite:
You are required to cite sources when you:
- Use other sources to supplement and support your ideas
- Use relevant literature or theory that was cited by the original author.

Use of quotations:
- Try to use less rather than more direct quotes and try to convey the ideas of the specific author or sources in your own words with appropriate citations and references.
Warning: Plagiarism is a very serious offence and the consequences can be severe including course failure and other disciplinary actions.

Students with Disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please notify me. If there is a question that needs clarification, assistance will be sought from the Dean of Students. As an alternative, you may make direct contact with: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services, Texas A&M University-Commerce, Gee Library, Room 132, Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835, Fax (903) 468-8148, StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu