

**Moravian College**  
**Introduction to Psychology (PSYC 120 B)**  
**Syllabus – spring 2005**  
**Instructor: Dr. Debra Romberger**  
**Time: T/R 3b**  
**Classroom: PPHC 102**  
**number: 610 554-0144 (please use this number to reach me)**  
**[drombergermft@aol.com](mailto:drombergermft@aol.com)**  
**Office hours: TR 8:00 am – 8:30 (Adjunct office PP 224)**  
**College Closing Hotline: 610-861-4595**

**Textbook:** Huffman, Karen. Psychology in Action. (7<sup>th</sup> ed.) New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 2004. Additional supplemental readings may be distributed throughout the semester.

**Course Description:**

Research and psychotherapeutic methods, and the following topics: history of psychology, biological bases of behavior, sensation, perception, consciousness, learning, memory, language and thought, intelligence, motivation, emotion, human development, personality, stress and coping, psychological disorders, social behavior,

**Course Objectives/Outcomes**

1. The student will be able to explain the major psychological approaches to the study of behavior, including their history, contributors, methods, research findings, terminology, and current directions.
2. The student will demonstrate increased personal insight and critical thinking through writing assignments aimed at deepening their understanding and tolerance of human behavior.
3. The student will analyze the forces that make us behave as we do, and integrate the theme of psychology as a scientific enterprise to improve the quality of life.
4. The student will integrate new developments with classic research findings through class discussions and writing assignments.
5. Students will apply topics and terms to their personal lives and engage in self-analysis through class discussions, writing assignments, reaction papers and critical thinking exercises.

**Exams:**

3 exams worth 100 points each. (Please see course schedule for dates and chapters.) Exams are a combination of multiple choice, true and false, and short answer. Final exam will be 75% new material and 25% cumulative material.

**Missed exams/Late Papers ☹**

Make-up exams are given at the discretion of the instructor. Only valid excuses will be honored. Exams may always be taken early if you are planning a vacation on a test day. Late Papers will be reduced by one letter grade per day late.

## **Paper (140 points)**

Format of paper – APA

1. title page (running head, page upper right)
2. abstract
3. introduction
4. body of paper
5. conclusions/suggestions for future research
6. references
- 7.

\* points will be deducted for any missing components

## **Research Paper:**

- Only primary sources may be used
- Your text may **not** be used as a source, however, it may serve as a good source to lead you to finding other sources. Similarly, literature reviews are secondary sources and may not be used. Avoid using popular magazines such as Psychology today are they do not contain empirical work.
- Do not over use a source or your paper will begin to look like a book/article report. No more than half your articles may be from the same journal.

## **Bare minimum Research Paper APA Format Requirements Reminders**

- 5-7 page paper (title page, abstract, and reference lists are **not** counted in this 5-7 pages)
- Sources: minimum 10 (only primary sources will be accepted)
- type font size 12 point
- margins one and one half inches on left side. The right top and bottom margins should be one inch
- paper double spaced – single space between paragraphs
- all paragraphs indented
- pages must be numbered in upper right hand corner
- quotations should include (author, publication date, page number)
- all references require the (author, publication date) page number optional if paraphrased
- no fancy fonts
- proof read and have someone proof read your paper for you

**What needs to be cited?** Please cite liberally. When in doubt cite it. You need to cite anything and everything that you paraphrase or quote from someone else's word. Direct quotations need to include page number in citation.

## **Direct Quotes – include page number**

### **Ex. 1**

Dr. Romberger (2006) suggests in her syllabus, "When in doubt cite it." (p. 2).

### **Ex. 2**

“When in doubt cite it.” (Romberger, 2006, p. 2).

**Paraphrase – which gives use a better understanding of what it is that Romberger wrote? (page number optional)**

**Ex. 1**

Writing in APA style can be tricky, and it needs to be done carefully. The writer needs to cite liberally throughout his/her paper (Romberger, 2006).

**Ex. 2**

Writing in APA style can be tricky, and it needs to be done carefully. Romberger (2006) suggests in her syllabus, the writer needs to cite liberally throughout his/her paper.

**What if it is something that you have learned from other classes or just know?** If it is not your theory or work it needs to be cited. For example, you may already have an understanding of the Id, ego, and Superego. Can you just include this information in your paper and not pay tribute to Freud? No. You need to go and find a source to reference that includes that information. In the case of Freud, go to the library and find a **primary source** (translation of Freud) and read it. Use the index in the back of the text and find where he talks about these concepts. You may then quote him directly or paraphrase what he has said citing accordingly. This is a **primary source**. If you read what someone else says he said, as in your text, that is a **secondary source** and you are reading their interpretation of that authors words. You will be required to use both primary and secondary sources for this paper.

**CRITICAL POINT:** Lack of references within the body of your paper is unacceptable. It either means you have plagiarized or have written the paper without the support of research to back it up. Both need to be avoided. The APA manual stipulates the following: “References cited in text must appear in the reference list; conversely, each entry in the reference list **MUST BE CITED IN THE TEXT**. The author must make certain that each source referenced appears in **BOTH** places and that the text citation and reference list entry are identical in spelling and year ...” (APA Publication Manual, 4<sup>th</sup> ed., )

### **Paper grading criterion**

1. Quality of literature search (are your sources current, primary, and speaking to your thesis statement?)
2. Quality of summaries of articles (Do you provide evidence of a clear understanding of the articles summarized without overwhelming the reader with trivia?)
3. Quality of overall discussion of major points (Did you discuss all aspects of your thesis statement and nothing else? If it does not speak to your thesis statement in some way it does not belong in your paper)
4. Discussion of strengths and weaknesses in current research and suggestion of future research studies/areas.
5. Overall writing style (clarity, grammar, spelling, proper APA formatting)

**Public Service Announcement – group project (4-5 in a group)**

**Requirements/grading criterion (20 min.)**

1. PP presentation introducing problem facing college students today.
  - a. Identify population
  - b. Operationally define problem
  - c. Possible solutions
2. Create a live presentation or PBS (30 sec/60 sec) that may be presented to freshman in Introduction to College life.
3. Include class participation
4. Be creative/original
5. Stay organized
6. Submit writing PP to instructor with list of who did what on this project.
7. Research will support your discussion of the problem, prevalence, and possible solutions and need to be cited as such and referenced at the end of presentation in APA format.
8. Possible topics: date rape, drinking on campus, how to stay organized, the adjustment process, I feel so alone, home sickness, finding a major

**Total Points**

|                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| 3 exams             | 300 |
| paper               | 100 |
| PSA (group project) | 100 |
| total               | 500 |

**Attendance/lateness**

Attendance is important and will be taken each time class meets. You will be dropped from the class if you miss more than 4 classes regardless if they are illegitimate or legitimate absences. If you arrive after attendance is taken you will be marked absent.

**Participation**

I encourage you to prepare for class by reading material assigned for class. Your participation will make the class much more interesting and informative for both yourself and your classmates. Participation may help you if you are between two grades.

**Extra Credit - TBA**

## **Cheating and Plagiarism**

Plagiarism on Papers or cheating on test will result in failure of the course no questions asked. Please refer to your student handbook for additional information.

## **Grading system**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| A  | 93-100%   |
| A- | 90-92%    |
| B+ | 87-89%    |
| B  | 83-86%    |
| B- | 80-82%    |
| C+ | 77-79%    |
| C  | 73-76%    |
| C- | 70-72%    |
| D  | 69-60%    |
| F  | below 60% |

## **Introduction to Psychology – Course Schedule**

| <b>Dates</b>  | <b>Topics</b>   | <b>Assignments</b> |
|---------------|---|--------------------|
| Jan 17, 19    | Introduction/Review Syllabus/Critical Thinking  | Chapter 1          |
| Jan 24,       | Four schools of Psychology  |                    |
| Jan 26, 31    | Neuroscience and Biological Foundations   | Chapter 2          |
| <b>Jan 31</b> | <b>thesis statement for paper &amp; 15 possible primary resources</b>   |                    |
| Feb 2, 7      | Health Psychology/Stress/Stress & Illness/<br>Stress management   | Chapter 3          |
| Feb 9, 14     | Sensation and Perception/ESP/Subliminal<br>Perception   | Chapter 4          |
| <b>Feb 16</b> | <b>test 1, chapters 1-4</b>   |                    |
| <b>Feb 21</b> | <b>Discussion of PSA project/group assignments/class time to<br/>begin/submit topic &amp; group names at end of class</b> |                    |
| Feb 23        | States of Consciousness/Sleep & Dreaming/<br>Altered states: drugs, hypnosis, meditation                                  | Chapter 5          |
| <b>Feb 24</b> | <b>midterm grades due to office</b>   |                    |
| Feb 28        | States of Consciousness/Sleep & Dreaming/<br>Altered states: drugs, hypnosis, meditation                                  | Chapter 5          |

|                     |   |                |
|---------------------|---|----------------|
| March 2             | Learning: Classical/Operant Conditioning  | Chapter 6      |
| <b>March 5-12</b>   | <b>no classes - spring break</b>  |                |
| March 14, 16        | Learning: Classical/Operant Conditioning  | Chapter 6      |
| March 21, 23        | Memory, Improving Memory  | Chapter 7      |
| <b>March 21</b>     | <b>PAPER DUE</b>  |                |
| March 28, 30        | Intelligence, IQ, Language  | Chapter 8      |
| <b>April 4</b>      | <b>test 2 chapters 5-8</b>  |                |
| April 6, 11         | Life span Dev. I. & II  | Chapter 9 & 10 |
| April 13, 18        | Gender and Human Sexuality: gender<br>Role development, Sexual orientation,<br>Sexual dysfunction, rape myths | Chapter 11     |
| <b>April 20</b>     | <b>test 3 chapters 9-11 (75%) cumulative final (25%)</b>  |                |
| <b>April 25, 27</b> | <b>public service presentations (20 mins each)</b>  |                |

*This syllabus is an approximation of what is to occur during the semester. It may be altered at the discretion of the Instructor.*

*If you have any disabilities that require special accommodations please see me after class.*