

Introduction to Psychology
PSYC 120-A
Fall, 2013

Instructor:	Dr. Thomas C. Helm	Office Phone #:	(610) 737-2553
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Office Hours: **Tues & Thurs** 7:00 – 7:30 A.M. Room 102
Tues & Thurs– 5:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M. by appointment
CLASS MEETINGS: Tues & Thurs 7:30 - 8:40 A.M. (Hurd Academic Complex)

Course Description:

Overview of research drawn from biological, perceptual, cognitive, developmental, clinical, social, and personality traditions in the disciplines. This course has been developed to provide an introduction to the field of psychology with students including the following topics: bases of behavior, human development, emotion, sensation, perception, intelligence, language and thought, stress and coping, memory, learning, psychological disorders, and motivation.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Outcome I: Students will utilize concepts, language, and major theory to think through psychological problems, questions, and issues. At the conclusion of this course you should be able to: 1) recall and recognize a range of issues and problems organized around the major concepts, theories, and principles of the field of psychology; and 2) consistently and creatively use the terminology of psychology with accuracy and relevancy.

Outcome II: Students will be able to understand, accurately describe, and differentiate psychological research approaches. At the conclusion of this course you should be able to: 1) demonstrate comprehension of basic research methods in psychology; and 2) make assessments of psychological research conclusions.

Outcome III: Students will use and evaluate research sources, including: 1) academic versus nonacademic sources, 2) library computer databases, and 3) media sources of psychological information.

Required text:

Myers, D. G. (2012) Psychology in everyday life (2nd ed.), NY, NY, Worth Publishers.

Any additional reading requirements will be identified in class.

Classroom Management Policy:

Cell phones and electronic equipment are not permitted during class without express permission. Turn them off completely or do not bring them into the classroom. If you must leave the classroom secure approval.

Attendance and Class Participation:

The attendance policy is simple. You need to make every class on time and prepared unless the college has canceled classes. Govern your personal schedules accordingly. Missing class and being late is disrespectful to Moravian, your classmates, and to yourself. The lectures are intended to supplement the readings and presuppose your familiarity with assigned subject readings.

If there is an emergency, communicate this to me directly via the contact information at the beginning of this document.

Your productive and positive participation in the classroom is encouraged. Successful dialogue and participation in class requires diligent preparation by keeping current with assignments. Demonstrating an open mindedness to new viewpoints and a willingness to explore and explain your own thinking in a positive and appropriate manner is part of your total grade.

Academic Policy:

Academic honesty is a value expected at Moravian and the academic community expects you to conduct yourselves and your work ethically and honestly. Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated. The policy is that the student must keep all note cards and rough drafts of a paper or presentation. The instructor may request these materials, along with the sources at any time. If you need help I will assist you with the material.

Students are solely responsible for their work and for making sure that their work represents their own efforts to meet the academic requirements of this course. The penalty for plagiarizing or cheating on an exam will be an "F" for the course.

Summary of Final Grade and Evaluation Determination:**Grading scale determined by point accumulation:**

There is a possible total of 550 points distributed accordingly: 3 Exams (100 points each), 1 Reflections/Critical Thinking Journal (100 points), 1 Presentation Paper (100 points), and class participation (50 points)

484-550 = A 429 – 483 = B 374 – 428 = C 330 – 373 = D 329 & below = F

Reflections/Critical Thinking Journal:

This journal requires an entry for every class session and will be turned in at the end of the semester. Your grade for this project is directly indicative of the amount of effort you put into your reflections of the class subject material and your position and perception from a critical thinking perspective. This journal must be turned in typed (handwritten journals will not be accepted). The length of each entry is left to your discretion; understand however, your reflection and critical position must be defined for comprehension.

The Presentation:

The particulars and requirements of this presentation will be fully explained in class. It must be 4-5 pages and 5-10 minutes for presentation time. You must be prepared to defend your paper.

Accommodations:

Should you require special accommodations for a disability, you must obtain this documentation for special accommodations through the Learning Services Office. Contact Mrs. Laurie Roth, Director of Learning Services, 1307 Main Street (ext. 1510). Students

require accommodations for support of other disabilities contact Dr. Ron Kline, Director of the Counseling Center, 1307 Main Street, (ext. 1510). Accommodations cannot be provided without authorization from the appropriate disability support provider on campus.

The syllabus is a plan for the semester and is subject to change. Any changes will be communicated in class.

Course Schedule

8/27 Tue	Introduction, organization, Syllabus review, Case Presentation Ch 1: Thinking Critically with Psychological Sciences & Roots Prologue: The Story of Psychology Appendix A: Careers in Psychology
8/29 Thur	Ch 1: Thinking Critically with Psychological Sciences & Roots Case Presentation Requirements
9/3 Tue	Ch 1 Thinking Critically with Psychological Sciences & Roots Ch 2 The Biology of the Mind
9/5 Thur	Ch 2: The Biology of the Mind & Consciousness
9/10 Tue	Ch 2: The Biology of the Mind
9/12 Thur	Ch 3 Developing Through the Lifespan Consciousness of the Two-Track Mind Substance Abuse
9/17 Tue	Ch 3: Developing Through the Lifespan Consciousness of the Two-Track Mind Substance Abuse
9/19 Thur	Ch 4: Gender & Sexuality Nature, Nurture, and Human Diversity
9/24 Tue	Ch 4: Gender & Sexuality Nature, Nurture, and Human Diversity
9/26 Thur	Exam #1 Chapters 1-4 Lecture Material
10/1 Tue	Ch 5: Sensation & Perceptions
10/3 Thur	Ch 5: Sensations and Perceptions
10/8 Tue	Ch 6: Learning
10/10 Thur	Ch 6: Learning
10/15 Tue	Fall Recess – No Class

10/17 Thur	Ch 7: Memory Ch 8: Thinking, Language & Intelligence
10/22 Tue	Ch 8: Thinking, Language & Intelligence
10/24 Thur	Ch 9: Motivation and Work Case Presentation Q & A
10/29 Tue	Ch 9: Motivation and Work
10/31 Thur	Exam #2 Chapters 5-9 Lecture Material
11/5 Tue	Ch 10: Stress, Health & Human Emotions
11/7 Thur	Ch 10: Stress, Health & Human Emotions
11/12 Tue	Ch 11: Personality Personality Disorders DSM-5
11/14 Thur	Ch 11: Personality Psychological Disorders Substance Disorders DSM-5
11/19 Tue	Ch 12: Psychological Disorders Substance Abuse Disorders DSMK-5
11/21 Thur	Ch 12: Psychological Disorders Case Presentation Review DSM-5
11/26 Tue	Ch 13: Therapy & Treatment Ch 14: Social Psychology Case Presentations
11/28 Thur	Thanksgiving – No Class
12/3 Tue	Case Presentations
12/5 Thur	Case Presentations
12/12 Thur	Final Exam Chapters 10-14 Lecture Materials Turn in Journals

Final Exams: December 11-13 and 16-18