

**Introduction to Psychology**  
**PSYC 120-A**  
**Fall, 2015**

---

<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. Thomas C. Helm	<b>Office Phone #:</b>	(610) 737-2553
<b>Office Location:</b>	PPHAC Adjunct Office	<b>FAX #:</b>	(610) 530-7441
<b>E-Mail:</b>	<a href="mailto:drtom4@verizon.net">drtom4@verizon.net</a>		

**Office Hours:**      **Class Mon & Wed 7:30 – 8:40 A. M.**  
                                 **Tue-Thur – 8:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M. Adjunct Office by appointment**  
                                 **CLASS MEETINGS:** Room TBA (Hurd Academic Complex)

---

**Course Description:**

Overview of research and psychotherapeutic methods 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. *Psychology In Everyday Life* (2nd). New York, NY: Worth Publishers.

Any additional reading requirements will be identified in class.

**Classroom Management Policy:**

Cell phones and electronic equipment usage 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 request approval.

### **Attendance and Class Participation:**

The attendance policy is simple. You need to make 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 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 (cell, office phone, email, or text).

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 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 and help 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 scheduled 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 (emailed and handwritten journals will not be accepted). The length of each entry is left to your discretion; however understand your reflection and critical position must be defined for comprehension in just a couple of sentences.

#### **The Presentation:**

The particulars and requirements of this presentation will be fully explained in class. A format for this presentation will be provided for your use in preparing the presentation. All areas of the format must be completed and explained. Presentation time for this project is expected to be 5-7 minutes in duration. 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 Academic & Disability Support Office. Contact Ms. Elaine Roth, Assistant Director of Academic & Disability Support (ext. 1401). 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

8/24 Mon	Introductions/Origins/Research Psychology & Expectations, organization, Syllabus review Ch 1: Psychology's Roots, Big Ideas, & Critical Thinking Tools (Martin Luther King Day - Classes will be held).
8/26 Wed	Ch 1: Psychology's Roots, Big Ideas, & Critical Thinking Tools Case Presentation Requirements/DSM-V
9/2 Wed	Ch 2: Biology of Mind & Consciousness
9/7 Mon	Labor Day Ch 2: Biology of Mind & Consciousness
9/9 Wed	Ch 3: Developing Through the Lifespan Substance Abuse
9/14 Mon	Ch 3: Developing Through the Lifespan Substance Abuse Disorders
9/16 Wed	Ch 4: Gender & Sexuality Ch 5: Sensations & Perceptions
9/21 Mon	Ch 5: Sensations & Perceptions DSM-V/Case Q&A Discussion Review (Chapters 1-5)
9/23 Wed	Exam #1 Chapters 1-5
9/28 Mon	Ch 6: Learning
9/30 Wed	Ch 6 Learning
10/5 Mon	Ch 7: Memory
10/7 Wed	Ch 7: Memory Ch 8: Thinking, Language, & Intelligence
10/12 Mon	Fall Recess
10/14 Wed	Ch 8: Thinking, Language, & Intelligence

10/19 Mon	Ch 9: Motivation & Emotion
10/21 Wed	Ch 9 Motivation & Emotion
10/26 Mon	Ch 10 Stress, Health, & Human Flourishing
10/28 Wed	Ch 10 Stress, Health, & Human Flourishing
11/2 Mon	Diagnostic Impressions & Development for Mental Health * Substance Abuse Psychological Disorders Review (Chapters 6-10)
11/4 Wed	Exam # 2 Chapters 6-10
11/9 Mon	Ch 11: Personality Ch 12: Psychological Disorders
11/11 Wed	Ch 12: Psychological Disorders
11/16 Mon	Ch 13: Therapy
11/18 Wed	Ch 14: Social Psychology Review Chapters 11-14 Case Presentations
11/23 Mon	Case Presentations
11/25 Wed	Case Presentations
11/30 Mon	Case Presentations
12/2 Wed	Case Presentations Critical Thinking Reflections Journals Due
12/7-12/12	Final Exam Period (Date of Final TBA) Chapters 11-14