COURSE INFORMATION
Introduction to Psychology

Instructor: N. Solomowitz, Ph.D.  Prerequisite: Reading Level 2
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Catalogue Description:
Introduction to the scientific study of behavior through an exploration of the major concepts and research in the field of psychology. This course will provide the basic foundation for more advanced courses (UC, CSU).

Textbook:
Psychology Themes & Variations, Wayne Weiten
Book is on reserve in the Goleman Library
(Reserve) BF 121 .W38 1998 / (Reserve) BF 121 .W38 2002

Supplemental Text:
When Bad Things Happen to Good People, Harold Kushner

General Aims
1. To provide background for more advanced courses in psychology.
2. To develop an appreciation for the research method in psychology.
3. To help the student better understand himself or herself.
4. To develop skills for intelligent analysis of new information.

Classroom Expectations
Attend each class.
Read the scheduled chapter(s) before class.
Turn off cell phones and pagers
Do not talk with others when the instructor is lecturing.
No drinking or eating in the classroom.

Attendance:
During the semester, attendance will be taken in accordance with the college guidelines.

Note:
The last day to drop a course **without** a grade of “W” is ________.
The last day to drop a course **with** a “W” is ________.
After ________, you **must** take a letter grade.
The above dates will be announced in class. They can also be found in the San Joaquin Delta College schedule of classes or online.
Psychology Themes and Variations
Syllabus for the 6th edition

Five Section Quizzes and a Final Exam

Section 1 (Chapters 1, 2, and 3)
Chapter 1 - Evolution of Psychology
Chapter 2 - Research Methods
Read also 'Conformity & Obedience' Chp. 15, pages 473-476.
Chapter 3 - Biological Bases of Behavior (5 extra credit questions)
Section Quiz 1 (30 pts)

Skip Chapter 4 'Sensation & Perception'

Section 2 (Chapters 5 and 6)
Chapter 5 - Variations in Consciousness
Chapter 6 - Learning Through Conditioning
Section Quiz 2 (25 pts)

Section 3 (Chapters 7 and part of Chapter 8)
Chapter 7 - Human Memory
Chapter 8 - Cognition – read pages 223 – 238
Read also 'Language Development.' Chp. 10 pages 300-302.
Section Quiz 3 (25 pts)

Section 4 (Chapters 8, and 9)
Chapter 8 – Intelligence (read pages 238 – 259)
Read also
'Achievement Motivation' Chp 9, pages 274 – 276, &
'Projective Tests' Chp 11, pages 351-353.
Chapter 9 - Motivation and Emotion
Read 'Maslow – Self Actualization' Chp 11, pages 342 – 343.
Section Quiz 4 (25 pts)

Section 5 (Chapters 10, and 11)
Chapter 10 - Human Development
Chapter 11 - Personality
Section Quiz 5 (25 pts)

The lowest score of the five section quizzes will be dropped. If you miss a quiz without a school-approved, excuse, there is no make-up quiz. That will be considered the test dropped. Total possible points from the section quizzes is 100 (25 pts x 4 quizzes.)

Comprehensive Final Exam
Chapter 12 - Stress, Coping, and Health
Chapter 13 - Psychological Disorders
Chapter 14 - Psychotherapy

Additional information (50 pts)
30 questions of the final exam will be on Chapters 12,13 &14, similar to a section quiz.
20 questions of the final exam will be taken from earlier quizzes, approximately four questions from each quiz. Review notes.
When Bad Things Happen to Good People

EVALUATION

Your paper should not be an overview of the book. Students often approach this assignment by writing about a difficult situation in their life, how they coped & what they learned from it. Don’t just tell a story. Focus on what you learned and how the experience can be connected to a theme in the book. Your paper should connect Kushner’s ideas to your experience and show original thought. If you ignore these guidelines, there will be point deductions.

STYLE

More than half of your overall score will be based on your attention to the details of writing a paper. The paper should be type or computer printed (font size 14), double spaced and reflect college level standards with regard to spelling, grammar, sentence structure, and continuity.

Length: 4-6 pages (8 ½ x 11) – white paper.

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES

Put your name on the title page. Make a copy for your records. Don’t ask the instructor for a stapler or paper clips, the day the paper is being turned in. If the pages aren’t stapled together, the paper will not be accepted.

Check for spelling & grammatical errors! These will be counted. Papers (not discs) should be handed to the instructor. They should not be put in his mailbox nor handed in at the Division Office. They will not be accepted electronically.

Papers can be turned in prior to the due date. Unless there is a school approved excuse, a grade will be deducted for each class the paper is late. Print a copy of your paper before the due date.

PLAGIARISM

Do your own work. Do not let others look at or copy your work. Current school guidelines may result in both students receiving a failing grade for the course if plagiarism occurs.
SUMMARIZING

Method of Evaluation

- Four section quizzes: 100 points
- Final Exam (cumulative): 50 points
- Paper (check due date): 50 points

There will be four countable quizzes, the final exam and a report. All exams are given at the end of the class. They could include material from the assigned text, lectures, overhead transparencies, classroom discussions or films. If you miss a class, it is up to you to get the notes from another student. Test items may be multiple choice or short answer.

Grades are based on 90% = A, 80% = B, 65% = C, 51% = D.

The instructor reserves the right to make any necessary adjustments in the operation of the course that in his professional judgment are warranted to better meet the needs of the students.

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