

Online Orientation: Psych 1 Internet

If you have taken other Online classes before, the Orientation for you will be brief, and only refer you to specific information about this class.

If you have never taken a Blackboard-based course or an online course before, or if you have problems accessing or utilizing the Blackboard site, begin your Orientation immediately by going to <http://www.saddleback.edu/itc/user/blackboardfaq.html> and looking at “Blackboard Information For Students.” This will provide an introduction to Blackboard as an online classroom and will show you how to access the information within the Blackboard web site. There are also video clips on how to get started in Blackboard that you can view at this site. Once you have completed this Tutorial and feel comfortable with your ability to navigate the Blackboard classroom, come back here for specific information about this Psych 1 online class.

You may also call the Distance Education Office (Tel: 582-4515) and Sheri Nelson can assist you.

This Internet version of Psych 1 is a different...but not an “easier” way to complete this requirement. For students who learn better in a more interactive way, you will find this mode of taking the course may suite your needs better than a traditional in-person class. However, it is critical that you understand that you **MUST** keep up with the assignments each week as we will be moving very fast through a lot of material and you will definitely fall behind if you are not checking in several times a week to complete assignments. All assignments will remain open **ONLY** for one week. If you do not complete the assignments during that week...you will get a zero for the work for the week. Since the course only lasts 7 weeks, that is 1/7th of your grade for this portion of the course. You can see how that could hurt your overall grade in the course. Please do not contact me at the end of the class asking if you can do extra credit to make up for not doing the work as it is due. I’m afraid that will not be possible. I will give you every opportunity to do very well in this class if you do the assignments on time. If not...it will not be possible for you to get a good grade in the course.

There will be 2 exams for the course...a midterm and a final exam. Each of these will be multiple choice exams that you will complete online. The Midterm will cover the first 7 chapters in the text and the Final will cover the remaining 7 chapters. The dates for these exams are in your syllabus.

We are using Don and Sandra Hockenbury’s “Discovering Psychology” (4th Ed) as the text for this class. You should have already purchased the text in the bookstore by now. It comes packaged with a Study Guide which you would be wise to make good use of in your preparation for the exams. I think you will find the text highly interesting and very readable.

There are interactive Tutorials for each chapter that we will be completing via the Blackboard web site each week. These should make the material that you are reading

about more understandable and more accessible. I think you will also find that they are fun.

When you complete assignments, including the Tutorials, you will go to the Discussion Boards and write about what you have learned. This will be my opportunity to evaluate you each week so make sure that what you write is how you want to be evaluated. A large part of your grade will be based on these Discussion Board postings so make sure that you are thorough and specific and that what you write is meaningful. I will read every single posting. I will comment on some...not all ...postings. I may ask questions or reply to questions or pose new lines of thought but I will be grading each posting each week so make sure that you are writing what you want to be evaluated.

Your grades will be posted in the Student Grade Book on Blackboard after each test. Your final grade will also be posted here.

Feel free to contact me at any time with questions or problems. I check my email regularly and will always reply promptly. Email is definitely the best way to reach me.

I look forward to getting to know each of you online via our Blackboard classroom and hope that the class will be an enjoyable one for you. Good Luck!