Psychology 1: Introduction to Psychology
INTERNET COURSE (100% Distance Education)

SAMPLE SYLLABUS

Instructor: Dr. Caroline Gee
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Office: BGS 307
Voicemail: 949-582-4595

Course Description:
This course is a general introduction to the study of psychology. The major learning objective of this course is for students to gain an understanding of the basic principals of, and research approaches related to, a broad range of areas within psychology. The areas/topics that this course will focus on include; historical perspectives in psychology, methods of studying human and animal behavior, biological psychology, sensation and perception, learning, memory, consciousness, development over the lifespan, motivation, social psychology, emotions and health, and abnormal/clinical psychology.

Student Learning Outcomes:
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
1) Demonstrate an understanding of the various areas of psychology as well as a command of the basic vocabulary in the field
2) Distinguish among the major theoretical perspectives in psychology and how they are used to describe, predict, understand, or modify human behavior
3) Identify and describe how psychological data are gathered, interpreted, and may be susceptible to bias
4) Critically evaluate sources of information in the field of psychology, including research articles published in major psychological journals

Required Text:
Psychology in Action, in Modules, 8th edition by Karen Huffman
OR ISBN: 047008368 (for soft cover version)

OR There may be a less expensive E-book version of this text available at: http://he-cda.wiley.com/WileyCDA/HigherEdTitle/productCd-0471747246,courseCd-SI0100,pageType-techsol,page-16.html

*note: the e-book is organized in Chapters, and the regular one in Modules. You can obtain a list of which Chapters of the e-book correspond to which reading modules from your course Blackboard site. You may also purchase the hard copy of the 8th edition that is not organized in modules if you find it used at a good price, as long as it is the 8th edition. Readings for the chapter version will be posted in Blackboard. Copies of the textbook are on reserve under your instructor’s name for students to read at the Saddleback campus library.

*Additional readings will be posted in Blackboard
Communication:
Saddleback College provides each student with an email address that can be accessed through MySite. Please note that your professor will use this email address to contact you and provide you with feedback on your work; therefore, it is imperative that you check your email address on a regular basis. If you are not accustomed to or willing to check this address on a regular basis, you can set up the account so that it forwards email to an email address that you do use on a regular basis.

When contacting your professor, please identify yourself by placing the ticket number for our class in the subject line and your full name and class name in the body of the email to ensure a prompt response; failure to provide this information will delay replies to your email. Also, it is recommended that you utilize your Saddleback College email account when emailing your professor as other email services (e.g., Hotmail) may block replies from your professor.

Emails will be returned promptly. Your professor responds to all student emails, so if you do not receive a response within 36 hours, please resend your email or check your spam folder as it is likely that your message was not received or that the reply email was blocked by your email service provider. Please note, however, that email responses may be delayed on weekends and holidays, but will still be responded to within approximately 36 hours unless otherwise posted in advance.

Lesson Plan

Course Materials:
Blackboard Website Usage:
This internet-based system will be used for the entire course. It allows for class/faculty interaction and includes: class email lists, discussion boards, announcements, on-line quizzes and exams, grade posting, etc. Instructions to login are posted at the end of the syllabus.

Learning Resources:
You are expected to use the textbook as your primary source of learning. This book has been selected for its visual aides and ease of reading. Each chapter will also have supplementary guides, activities, and videos for you to use for learning the material, a large portion of which is required. You will find these tools in each of the Course Materials folders for that unit.

Evaluation and Requirements:
Chapter Quizzes: You should read assigned unit material before taking the quizzes, as quizzes can only be taken once and will be administered entirely on the internet. There is no time limit to complete a quiz, but it cannot be saved and returned to at a later time once it is open. Each quiz is worth 10 points. There are a total of 11 quizzes, but one quiz grade will be dropped at the end of the semester (either the lowest or one that you missed, etc.). You will submit your answers through the Blackboard website. Most are due Thursday at noon. See the course schedule.
Discussion Board Activities and Assignments: Students will be required complete research or an activity and to submit thoughtful and clear answers to the questions posted each week. You are also required to respond other students’ discussion postings to fulfill this requirement. Posts will be due on Tuesdays and Thursdays at noon. Each posting will be graded based on a) how well it addressed the specific question, and b) quality of thoughts expressed. At least one clear paragraph containing all complete sentences is required, although many discussions will require more than just one paragraph. Partial credit may be assigned for incomplete answers. Each Discussion Topic is worth 5 points. There are a total of 11 Discussion Topics, but one topic grade will be dropped at the end of the semester (either the lowest or one that you missed, etc.). Note: participation on the discussion board is essential to your success in the class and the points for this assignment play and important role in your overall grade in the class.

Exams: There will be a total of three exams in this course. Each one will be worth 100 points. Each exam will cover the chapters and course lecture material described on the Course Schedule and will not be cumulative in nature. Exams will include both multiple choice and essay questions. Exams can only be taken once and will be administered entirely on the internet, with a 1.5 hour time limit to complete the exam once it has been started. There is no scheduled exam time during which the exam must be taken, but the due dates are firm. Be sure to prepare by reading and reviewing chapters, as well as all additional course materials before taking the exams. You will submit your answers through the Blackboard website.

Written Assignment: The written assignment will require students to read, critique, and evaluate three research articles. This will be worth 80 points and is expected to be typed, 4-5 pages long, and double-spaced. Be sure to type your name and section number at the top of the assignment, and to make sure that you turn it in online as directed on the Blackboard website. (Do not send the written assignment to the instructor by email). All written assignments will be run through TURNITIN.com, which provides a report with the percentage of your paper that is not in your own words, and the website/source that those words came from.

Note that the plagiarism policy in this class is that students receive a zero for plagiarized assignments with no chance to make up the work. If you have concerns about your ability to write in your own words or simply need help writing or proofreading, contact the Saddleback College Writing Center on campus 949-582-4784 or sbwritinglab@saddleback.edu.
Grading
There are a total of 530 points available to be earned in this class.

- Online Chapter Quizzes = 100 points
- Exams = 300 points
- Writing Assignment = 80 points
- Discussion Boards Contributions = 50 points

Final letter grades will be based on the percentage of total points earned in the class. The following scale will be used in assigning final letter grades:

- 90% - 100% = A
- 80% - 89% = B
- 70% - 79% = C
- 60% - 69% = D
- ≤ 59% = F

Class Policies

Missed Assignment/Exam Policy:
Late assignments/exams will not be accepted. If you must contact the instructor to inquire about documented valid excuses (medical emergencies with a medical note, etc.), you are required to contact the instructor before the due date of the assignment. With an accepted excuse, students will lose 10% of the total points for the assignment for each day it is past the due date.

Technical Difficulties:
If you experience difficulties with Blackboard that last beyond a few hours, you must immediately contact your professor. General questions or problems with navigating Blackboard can often be resolved by reading the general instructions for Blackboard available at [http://www.saddleback.edu/itc/user/blackboardfaq.html](http://www.saddleback.edu/itc/user/blackboardfaq.html). If you do have a technical difficulty, it is your responsibility to contact your instructor (by sending an email or leaving a voicemail) as soon as possible after experiencing the problem with a detailed account of the technical issue (e.g., a screen shot of the error message or problem you encounter would be helpful). This serves as a time stamp for when our problem occurred. A true technical difficulty may be accepted as a one-time excuse for not turning in a quiz on time if these directions are followed and the time stamp on the email is more than 24 hours before the quiz due date. After a one-time exception is given, it is expected that the student work with technical support staff on campus and the instructor to learn how to avoid future technical difficulties. This policy is to assure that technical difficulties are not encountered during online exams by preventing the possibility of recurrent technical issues. Please note that exam and quiz dates will not be extended for technical difficulties related to personal computer equipment, only for system-wide Blackboard errors. You have at least 1 week to complete each exam or quiz; therefore, it is suggested that you do not wait until the last minute to complete them, as all assignments completed within 24 hours of the due date are done so at your own risk.
Preventing Technical Difficulties:
To ensure that there are no technical difficulties while taking the online quizzes and exams you will need to close all OTHER BROWERS, block all POP-UPS, and DO NOT click on “Refresh” as this can cause the website and the exam to freeze up and kick you out of the system. In this instance it will show that you have completed the exam and any questions you have not answered will be marked incorrect. Please make sure you click on “submit” once you have completed the exam (if you only chose “save” the exam is not submitted to me). Please use “Firefox” (go to firefox.com to download; do not use “Vista” as your browser) as your internet browser as it seems to work best when taking online exams. Students must also make sure they are on a WIRED CONNECTION (do not use a wireless router) when completing exams. Make-ups will not be allowed for such avoidable technical difficulties. Also, make sure your internet connection is not moving slower than usual before you take the exam as this could cause your exam to not be processed upon submitting it. Do not wait until the last minute to take exam as technical difficulties will not be considered if it is within the last 24 hours allotted to complete the exam.

Academic Dishonesty Policy:
Academic dishonesty in the form of cheating on an exam or plagiarizing the written work of others is considered a very serious offense & will not be tolerated in this course. Examples of academic dishonesty are: unacceptable examination behavior (communicating with other students, copying an exam from another person, allowing another student to copy your own exam, using cheat sheets or other unauthorized material), plagiarism (using another individual’s words as your own and/or not citing another individual’s work), fraud, unauthorized collaboration (including allowing other students to read your completed papers), and document falsification. Academic dishonesty of any type will not be tolerated. If a student is suspected of or caught cheating on any test or assignment, he/she will receive a grade of zero on that test or assignment and an Academic Dishonesty Report will be filed with the Dean’s office to be retained on record. It is very important to avoid putting yourself in the position of even being suspected of cheating (working with others on exams or assignments) or plagiarism (i.e., using another’s words as if they were your own written words), as very serious consequences may result and remain on your student record. See the Student Handbook for more information on academic dishonesty, http://www.saddleback.edu/media/pdf/handbook.pdf

Online Etiquette:
It is essential that each student be polite and respectful at all times. When posting on the discussion board, responding to other students’ postings, and throughout written assignments courtesy and respect must be maintained. A good thing to keep in mind is, “would I say this to the person’s face?” or “would I say this to my grandma?” Also note that offensive language will not be tolerated. If a student is found to be disrespectful and/or providing a negative learning environment for others he or she will receive a warning or immediately dropped from the course according to the instructor’s discretion. Please go to the following websites for information on “Netiquette”: http://www.albion.com/netiquette/ http://www.chirpingbird.com/netpets/html/computer/emoticon.html
**Student Services**
There are several student support services available to all students through Saddleback College. General Student Service Information is available at the Saddleback College Website. General, academic, and service information can be obtained by accessing the Counseling Division and Financial Aid Websites. Individual and small group counseling information such as academic planning and review of transcripts is available by appointment. All other student services are available on campus during normal business hours. You are encouraged to take advantage of such resources including:

*Learning Assistance Program (LAP) Tutoring Center:*
The Learning Assistance Program offers free tutoring for Saddleback College students in most subject areas. The LAP is located in Library 114.

*Counseling:*
Counselors are available to assist students in the areas of academic advisement, career planning, and personal counseling. For an appointment or for information regarding the availability of drop-in counseling, call 582-4572.

*Special Services for Students with Disabilities:*
This course meets the requirements set forth in the accessibility checklist and universal design grid provided by Special Services. The Web pages, video presentations, textbooks, and class materials used in this course are accessible to students with disabilities. The Special Services Office can be reached by calling 582-4885 and is located in the Student Services Center, room 113. Students should also speak with the Instructor as soon as possible so that we can work together to make sure that your learning needs are met.

*Computer Lab Information:*
Computer labs are located on the 2nd floor of the BGS building, in the Library, and the Science/Math building (SM207).
Getting Started in Blackboard

1. Go to http://socccd.blackboard.com/ (Note: You do not need to go through the Saddleback College website to access Blackboard, although the main Saddleback website has a link to it under the "Online Education" tab.)

2. Click User Login
3. Enter your **Username** (the first part of your Saddleback College email address; the part that comes before the @ sign only) and **Password** (usually the last four digits of your social security number plus two zeros by default). For example, perhaps your username is “jdoe18” and your password is “777700”.

4. Click on **PSYC 1 – INTRO TO PSYCH** under **My Courses**

5. Use the menus to the left to navigate the system.

6. To get started, click on the Orientation menu tab, and read the Orientation Document.

**For Blackboard or Mysite login problems contact:** Sheri Nelson at snelson@saddleback.edu or (949) 582-4515
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Modules</th>
<th># pages to read*</th>
<th>Items due</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Syllabus &amp; Orientation Document</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>DT 1: Initial Post DT1: Reply posts Syllabus Quiz</td>
<td>Tue. 9/15 noon Thur. 9/17 noon Thur. 9/17 noon</td>
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<td>Introduction/Research Methods</td>
<td>1-4</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>DT 2: Initial Post DT2: Reply posts Introduction/Research Methods Quiz</td>
<td>Tue. 9/22 noon Thur. 9/24 noon Thur. 9/24 noon</td>
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<td>Biological Foundations</td>
<td>6-9</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>DT 3: Initial Post DT3: Reply posts Biological Quiz</td>
<td>Tue. 9/29 Thur. 10/1 noon Thur. 10/1 noon</td>
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<td>Sensation and Perception</td>
<td>14-15</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>DT 4: Initial Post DT4: Reply posts Sensation &amp; Perception Quiz</td>
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<td>(prepare for exam)</td>
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<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>Thur. 10/15 noon</td>
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<td>Development</td>
<td>28-30</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>DT 5: Initial Post DT 5: Reply posts Development Quiz</td>
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<td>Language &amp; Intelligence</td>
<td>26-27</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>Tue. 10/27 noon Thur. 10/29 noon Thur. 10/29 noon</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Memory</td>
<td>22-24</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>DT 7: Initial Post DT 7: Reply posts Memory Quiz</td>
<td>Tue. 11/3 noon Thur. 11/5 noon Thur. 11/5 noon</td>
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<td>Gender &amp; Human Sexuality</td>
<td>33-34</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>DT 8: Initial Post DT 8: Reply posts Gender &amp; Sexuality Quiz</td>
<td>Tue. 11/10 noon Thur. 11/12 noon Thur. 11/12 noon</td>
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<td>(prepare for exam)</td>
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<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>Thur. 11/19 noon</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Happy Thanksgiving</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Work on written assignment</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Social Psychology</td>
<td>51-54</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>DT 9: Initial Post DT 9: Reply posts Social Quiz Written Assignment</td>
<td>Tue. 12/1 noon Thur. 12/3 noon Thur. 12/3 noon</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Psychological Disorders</td>
<td>42-46</td>
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<td>DT 10: Initial Post DT 10: Reply posts Disorders Quiz</td>
<td>Tue. 12/8 noon Thur. 12/10 noon Thur. 12/10 noon</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Learning (prepare for exam)</td>
<td>18-19, and 48</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>DT 11: Initial Post Learning Quiz Exam 3</td>
<td>All items due: Sun. 12/20 noon</td>
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NOTE: The following schedule contains the required readings, scheduled exams, assignments, and due dates. This class is structured by WEEK and divided into three units with one exam per unit. Note, exams are not cumulative, and only cover materials discussed in the current unit (e.g., exam 2 only contains materials covered after exam 1).

* # pages is approximate, to be used as a guide when planning your study time. In addition to reading the modules, there are additional activities, videos, mini-lectures, etc that you will find in the respective Course Materials folder.