Introduction to Psychology (Psyc1)
Saddleback College
Ticket # XXXXX

Instructor: Kimberly C. Mounsey, M.A.
Office: BGS 314  Email: kmounsey@saddleback.edu
Office hours: By appointment only  Voicemail: 949-582-4900 x3713

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 principles 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.

Course Goals and Objectives: By the end of this course, students should 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 in both discussion and writing.
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:
Huffman, K. Psychology In Action, (8th Active Learning Edition, In Modules

Additional Required Readings: Additional research articles may be made available to
students to read in order to complete the course Writing Assignments described below.
Course Requirements and Policies

Attendance and Participation: It is very important to attend lecture in this course, as lectures will involve demonstrations, classroom activities, films, and discussion of material not covered in the textbook. Students are expected to attend class regularly, as regular attendance will contribute to a better overall understanding of course material. Attendance will be taken at every class meeting. A total of two absences will be excused without penalty, leaving at the break may count as an absence. Every absence thereafter will result in a penalty of 5 points per absence, and students who miss four classes without consulting with the instructor may be dropped from the course. Students are responsible for obtaining any and all information, handouts, etc. as they are provided in class or posted on the course Blackboard website if absent (see below). Should you wish to drop the course, it is your responsibility to do so through MySite or at the Registrar’s office.

Classroom Discussions and Activities: To promote critical thinking and enrich the learning experience, Psych 1 will include structured classroom discussions and activities. Participation points will be assigned and included in the final course grade. Students are highly encouraged to participate in class group discussions and activities.

Classroom Policies:
1. Students are welcomed and encouraged to share their questions, ideas, and insights during class discussions and lecture. You are also expected to respect the values, beliefs, and rights of others in the classroom and to pay attention to whomever is speaking in class. Any students involved in side-conversations unrelated to class discussion or in any other behavior that is potentially disruptive to other students’ learning will be asked to leave the classroom and will be marked as absent for that day.
2. Arriving to class late is disruptive to the entire class, so please arrive on time. Should you be late, please enter the classroom quickly and quietly.
3. Please silence all cellular phones and pagers before entering the classroom.
4. The classroom is meant to be a positive environment that promotes student learning. Students are expected to conduct themselves with respect for the right of all members of the college community to teach and learn in a safe and academically stimulating environment. Discourteous, inappropriate, or disruptive behavior of any type will not be tolerated and may result in the student being asked to leave the classroom for the day and the subsequent class meeting. Such behavior will result in the filing of an official Behavioral Conduct Report at Saddleback College. It may also constitute cause for the imposition of further disciplinary action as provided in the rules and regulations of the California Education Code (Section 66300).
**Blackboard Website Usage:** Students are required to use Blackboard in this course in order to gain participation points and to assist in their learning of course material. This internet-based system will be used to further enhance student learning, increase interaction between students and faculty, and facilitate prompt feedback. The system includes such features as class email lists, discussion boards, announcements, exam grade posting, etc. Your username is your Saddleback College email address given to you at registration and your password is your email password.

**Note:** Blackboard will be my only source of reaching you outside of class, therefore you will need to check your Saddleback college email (http://socccd.blackboard.com) or make sure that you forward your email through MySite. Please speak with the instructor immediately if you are having technical issues logging into Blackboard.

**Exams:** There will be a total of three exams in this course. Each exam is worth 100 points. Each exam will cover the chapters and course lecture material described on the Course Schedule and will not be cumulative. Exams will include both multiple choice and essay questions. The exams will include information covered in class lectures, in-class assignments and videos as well as material covered solely by the textbook. Therefore it will be important to maintain consistent attendance as well as keep up with the readings scheduled on the course schedule in order to best prepare for the exams.

**Writing Assignments:** There will be 1 writing assignment required in this course, worth 100 points. This assignment will include the summarizing of psychology research articles. The due date for the writing assignment is listed on the course schedule, and instructions for the assignment will be posted on the course Blackboard site as well as announced in class. Failing to turn in a written assignment will result in a grade of 0 for the writing assignment, as well as a loss of participation points for the class.

**Missed Assignment/Exam Policy:** Students are expected to complete all assignments on time and to be present for all scheduled exams. Late assignments will not be accepted unless the instructor is contacted beforehand. It is the student’s responsibility to contact the Instructor within one week of missing an exam or assignment and provide written proof of their excuse (e.g., doctor’s note). All excuses are subject to verification by the Instructor and a written make-up exam may be administered for missed exams. Please speak with the instructor if you have schedule conflicts.
Grading Policy:
There are a total of 500 points available to be earned in this class.

- Exams = 300 points (about 60% of total grade)
- Writing Assignment = 100 points (about 20% of total grade)
- In Class Worksheets = 75 points (about 15% of total grade)
- In Class Participation = 25 points (about 5% of total grade)

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

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. 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 or plagiarism, as very serious consequences may result and remain on your student record.

Extra Credit
There is currently no extra credit scheduled for this course. Should an extra credit opportunity become available, it will be posted on Blackboard. However, it is important to note that one cannot change a failing to a passing grade through extra credit.

Student Support Services Available:
There are several student support services available to all students through Saddleback College. You are encouraged to take advantage of such resources. If you have any questions about what resources are available to you please ask your instructor.
**PSYC 1 COURSE SCHEDULE**

NOTE: The following schedule contains the required readings, scheduled exams, assignments, and due dates. It is your responsibility to retain this syllabus for reference, and to check the class Blackboard website for announcements regarding any changes to the order of topics or exam dates if you are absent.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings and Assignment Due Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction to Class Structure, Introduction to Psychology</td>
<td>Syllabus, Module 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Research Methods</td>
<td>Modules 3-4</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Learning and Behavior</td>
<td>Modules 18-20</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Social Psychology</td>
<td>Modules 51-53</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Social Psychology Continued</td>
<td>Modules 51-53</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td><strong>EXAM 1 IN CLASS</strong></td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Biological Foundations</td>
<td>Modules 6-9</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Sensation and Perception: How we see and Hear</td>
<td>Modules 14-15</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Stress and Health/States of Consciousness And Motivation and Emotion</td>
<td>Modules 10-13, 16, Modules 35-36</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Memory</td>
<td>Modules 22-24</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td><strong>EXAM 2 IN CLASS</strong></td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Lifespan Development And Gender and Human Sexuality</td>
<td>Modules 28-32, Modules 33-34</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Personality</td>
<td>Modules 38-41</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Psychological Disorders</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Therapy</td>
<td>Modules 47-50</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td><strong>FINAL EXAM IN CLASS</strong></td>
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