

SYLLABUS
PART I
EDISON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
PSY 121S INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY
3 CREDIT HOURS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Introduction to the scientific study of behavior and mental processes with an emphasis on personality, learning and memory, human sexuality, lifespan development, sensation and perception, health psychology, abnormal behavior and interventions, social psychology, stress, motivation, and states of consciousness. Prerequisite: Qualifying assessment scores in reading and writing or satisfactory completion of ENG 091D and ENG 093D.

COURSE GOALS

The student will:

Bloom's Level		Gen Ed Outcomes
3	1. Name, define, identify, and apply through generating and recognizing examples the important theories, terms, processes, and concepts in psychology.	1, 6
2	2. Describe and differentiate the seminal research contributions in the history of psychology for the importance of the findings and the ethics of the studies.	1, 2, 3, 6
2	3. Name and explain the seminal contributions of the major figures in the history of psychology.	1, 6
4	4. Explain one's own behavior and the behavior of significant others in one's life through application of concepts, theories, and processes in psychology.	1, 6
2	5. Interpret the behavior of the individuals and groups within and outside one's own culture in light of salient concepts and processes from social psychology, abnormal psychology, learning, stress, personality, biology, and development.	3, 4
3	6. Explain and apply scientific research methodology to the design and understanding of psychology research.	1, 3, 5, 6

CORE VALUES

The Core Values are a set of principles that guide in creating educational programs and environments at Edison. They include communication, ethics, critical thinking, human diversity, inquiry/respect for learning, and interpersonal skills/teamwork. The goals, objectives, and activities in this course will introduce/reinforce these Core Values whenever appropriate.

TOPIC OUTLINE

1. Defining Psychology
 - a. The Science of Psychology
 - b. Critical and Scientific Thinking
 - c. Descriptive Studies
 - d. Correlational Studies
 - e. Experimental Studies

2. Theories of Personality
 - a. Psychodynamic Theories
 - b. Modern Study of Psychology
 - c. Genetic Contributions
 - d. Environmental Influences
 - e. Cultural Influences
3. Developmental Over the Life Span
 - a. Conception through the First Year
 - b. Cognitive Development
 - c. Moral Development
 - d. Gender Development
 - e. Adolescence
 - f. Adult Development
4. Neurons, Hormones, and the Brain
 - a. The Nervous System
 - b. Communication in the Nervous System
 - c. Structure and Functions of the Brain
 - d. The Endocrine System
5. Consciousness
 - a. Biological Rhythms
 - b. Sleep and Dreams
 - c. The Riddle of Hypnosis
 - d. Altered States of Consciousness
6. Sensation and Perception
 - a. Sensation versus Perception
 - b. Our Sensational Senses
 - c. Vision
 - d. Hearing
 - e. Other Senses
 - f. Puzzles of Perceptions
7. Thinking and Intelligence
 - a. Thought: Using What We Know
 - b. Reasoning Rationally
 - c. Barriers to Rational Reasoning
 - d. Intelligence
 - e. The Origins of Intelligence
 - f. Animal Minds
8. Memory
 - a. Reconstructing the Past
 - b. The Power of Suggestion
 - c. Memory Theories
 - d. Why We Forget
9. Learning
 - a. Classical Conditioning
 - b. Operant Conditioning
 - c. Extinction
 - d. Cognition and Modeling
10. Behavior in Social and Cultural contexts
 - a. Roles and Rules
 - b. Social Influences on Beliefs

- c. Individuals in Groups
- d. Us versus Them
- e. Group Conflict and Prejudice
- 11. Personality Disorders
 - a. Defining and Diagnosing Disorders
 - b. Anxiety Disorders
 - c. Mood Disorders
 - d. Personality Disorders
 - e. Drug Abuse and Addiction
 - f. Schizophrenia
- 12. Psychological Disorder Treatments
 - a. Biological Treatments
 - b. Types of Psychotherapy
 - c. Evaluating Psychotherapy
- 13. Emotion, Stress and Health
 - a. Emotion and the Body and Mind
 - b. Emotion and Culture
 - c. Stress and the Body and Mind
 - d. Stress and Emotion
 - e. How to Cope
- 14. The Major Motives of Life
 - a. Motives for Love
 - b. Motives for Sex
 - c. Motives to Eat
 - d. Motives to Achieve
 - e. Motives, Values, and Well-Being