Course Description

Psychology is a diverse field that seeks to describe, explain, predict, and influence behavior, cognition, emotion, and physiology. Psychology is applicable to everyone at anytime; you just need to know how to look for it. This course should help give a starting point to psychology if you are interested in making a career of it, gain some insight into human nature, or develop a better understanding of yourself and others. This course will cover the “study of perception, attention, learning, remembering, thinking, development of the individual, intelligence, aptitudes, emotions, motivation, adjustment and conflict; designed to give insight into oneself and others” (SJSU course catalog).

Each student will have the opportunity to develop and demonstrate a working familiarity with classical and current methods, theories, and research in each of the major subdivisions of psychology. This opportunity will allow students to develop and demonstrate an understanding of many facets of everyday life events. This understanding will allow students to evaluate and apply a variety of technical concepts and principles to understanding the behavior of individuals. Accordingly, students will be encouraged to think critically about the content of this course. Students will gain an understanding of how and why people think, feel, and act as they do in adapting to their everyday environments. Such an understanding should enhance each student’s quality of life, educational experience, personal effectiveness, and sense of fulfillment in matters related to health, work, and interpersonal relationships.

Students will have the opportunity to develop and demonstrate proficiency in using the methods, concepts, and principles of psychology in two ways. First, from the perspective of the psychologist as a social scientist who collects, analyses, and interprets behavioral data. Second, from the perspective of the psychologist as a practitioner who applies the technical concepts and principles to facilitate an understanding of everyday life in contemporary societies, of personal experiences, of self-awareness, and of personal growth.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook
   a. Book Website (Student Study Guide, etc): www.mhhe.com/feist1e

Other Readings
Additional readings will be posted on the class website

Course Website
Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, major assignment handouts, lecture slides, additional reading, etc. may be found on the class website (https://sjsu.desire2learn.com/).

Assessment of Area D1 GE Learning Objectives:

Students will be assessed for knowledge acquired relating to each of the five learning objectives listed below. Assessment opportunities will occur throughout the semester and may include: (a) exam questions (e.g., multiple choice, essay, fill in the blank, matching, or computations; (b) writing assignments (e.g., short reports, essays, opinion pieces, term papers, or reaction papers); (c) class discussions (e.g., individual participation, small groups, or debates); (d) in-class activities (e.g., quizzes, group work, individual assignments, questions pertaining to films/videos presented); and (e) take-home assignments/homework (e.g., worksheets, data collection activities, projects, library tutorials, web-based exercises or activities).

Below is a list of the Area D1 GE Learning Objectives that will be addressed throughout the semester. Chapters that correspond to each objective are provided for each objective. In addition to the material presented in those chapters, material presented via lectures, films/videos, and through various learning activities (i.e., assessment activities listed above) will allow students to meet these learning objectives, thus meeting the requirements for Area D1 GE.

Area D1 GE Learning Objectives

1. Students shall be able to identify and analyze the social dimension of society as a context for human life, the processes of social change and social continuity, the role of human agency in those processes, and the forces that engender social cohesion and fragmentation.
   - This objective is met through material presented in Chapters 2, 3, 5, & 14 and lectures associated with these chapters. Students will be assessed through essay questions on examinations and may address this objective in writing assignments.

2. Students will be able to place contemporary developments in cultural, historical, environmental, and spatial contexts.
   - This objective is met through material presented in Chapters 1, 2, 5, 10, 15, & 16 and lectures associated with these chapters. Students will be assessed through essay questions on examinations and may address this objective in writing assignments.
3. Students will be able to identify the dynamics of ethnic, cultural, gender/sexual, age-based, class, regional, national, transnational, and global identities and the similarities, differences, linkages, and interactions between them.

- This objective is met through material presented in Chapters 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, & 15 and lectures associated with these chapters. Students will be assessed through essay questions on examinations and may address this objective in writing assignments.

4. Students will be able to evaluate social science information, draw on different points of view, and formulate applications appropriate to contemporary social issues.

- This objective is met through material presented in Chapters 2, 6, 10, 13, & 16 and lectures associated with these chapters. Students will be assessed through essay questions on examinations and may address this objective in writing assignments.

5. Students will be able to recognize the interactions of social institutions, culture, and environment with the behavior of individuals.

- This objective is met through material presented in Chapters 14, 15, & 16 and lectures associated with these chapters. Students will be assessed through essay questions on examinations and may address this objective in writing assignments.

Classroom Protocol

Some guidelines for this class…

1. **Treat everyone with respect.** This seems like common sense, but you’d be surprised. There will be people in this class who have differing opinions and beliefs. I don’t expect you to agree with everything they (or I) say, but I do expect you to treat people the way you would want to be treated.

2. **Attend lectures.** Much of the information presented in the textbook is expanded upon, and described in more detail, during lectures. Therefore, if you don’t understand something from the text, lecture is your opportunity to have it cleared up. Also, a fair amount of new (non textbook) material will be in lectures that you will be responsible for. This is college, you’re adults. If you don’t plan on paying attention during class, just don’t come.

3. **Ask questions.** Not understanding something in the book or lectures is to be expected. That’s what class is for. If you don’t feel like speaking up in class, please come visit me during office hours.

4. **Turn stuff in on time.** Things are due when they are due. For every day that something is late, 5% will be deducted off the total amount of points you could earn. For example, the writing assignment is worth 75 points. If you turn it in two days late, the maximum amount of points you can earn is 67.5/75 (10% off). I will not subtract 10%
off of your overall writing assignment grade. Penalties begin immediately after assignments are due.

5. **Silence cell phones.** In this day and age, I don’t expect you to be cutoff from the world entirely during class, but I’d like to avoid being interrupted by a Lady Gaga ringtone if at all possible.

6. **Feel free to use computers during class.** For note taking and other class related affairs. But get your Facebooking and game playing all out of your system before class begins. If I suspect you to be off topic on the Internet, I will ask you to leave class or stare at you in silence until you regain focus.

7. **Keep track of your grade.** There is nothing less compelling to me than a student who comes to me at the end of the semester, begging to change a grade or do extra credit. If you suspect you’re in trouble, come find me as early as possible. I assure you, if we catch it early, we can find ways to improve.

**Assignments and Grading Policy**

1. **Classes:** This course covers a huge amount of material; therefore, attending class is crucial to your success. There is too much information discussed in this class that cannot be found in the text or slides. If you want to do well, you’ve got to come to class. If you miss a class, you are responsible for getting the information from that class.

2. **Exams:** There will be two mid-term exams and one final exam, all of which will be weighed equally. The final exam is non-cumulative. The exams will in essay format. You will have 2 hours and 45 minutes to complete each midterm, and 2 hours and 15 minutes to complete the final. No other make-up exams will be given.

3. **Writing projects:** There will be two medium sized writing projects throughout the semester. Papers should be at least 3 pages in length (double-spaced, single sided). Proper spelling, grammar, punctuation is expected and will be factored into your grade. Plagiarized papers will result in a failing grade for the course (i.e., “F”) and the student will be referred to the Office of Judicial Affairs. More details regarding the structure of the paper will be provided in class.

4. **Extra credit:** There may be chances for extra credit which we will discuss later.

5. **Research:** All Psych 001 students need to complete the Psychology Departments Research Participation Requirement as described below:

   **Research participation requirement**
   For more information go here: [http://www.sjsu.edu/psych/Undergraduate/subjectpool.htm](http://www.sjsu.edu/psych/Undergraduate/subjectpool.htm)

   **WHO?** ALL Psychology 001 students.

   **WHAT?** Students are required to participate in 4 hours of research during the course of their enrollment in Psychology 001. There are three ways to earn this credit: **SIGN-UP SHEETS.** Outside DMH 358, you may sign up for valid studies at the Sign-Up Boards. You should be aware that if you don't show up to your scheduled appointment,
you will lose an equal number of credit hours. Please be considerate of other people's time. Cancellation requires 24 hrs advance notice to the researcher.

**OPEN RESEARCH DAYS.** These are days when many researchers conduct their experiments on the same day in Dudley Moorehead Hall. Students can go from room to room, collecting up to several credit hours in one day. You do not sign-up for this event. Just show up. First come, first serve basis. If there are a lot of researchers who wish to participate, then we will hold this event on a weekend. This event is NOT a guarantee, nor that you will get all the available hours at the event. Check the Sign-up Board for updates.

**ALTERNATIVE ASSIGNMENT.** (For when you are unable to do the two ways above or you need a few more hours to complete this requirement.) NOTE: if you do this Assignment, then please indicate how many hours you plan on completing to the right of where you place your name.

**WHEN?** Open Research Days are: To be announced. Please see Sign-up Board for update.

**WHERE?** Open Research Days are held in Dudley Moorhead Hall. Just follow the signs once you enter the building -- the experimenters will be in the classrooms waiting for you.

**WHY?** This research experience is not only required by the department as part of the Psychology 001 curriculum, but if you participate willingly, you will learn a great deal about how psychology works. Who knows, you may like what you see and become a psychology researcher!

### Grading

Your grade will be determined by the total number of points you earn throughout the semester. Points are assigned as follows:

1. 1\textsuperscript{st} midterm 100 pts = 100
2. 2\textsuperscript{nd} midterm 100 pts = 100
3. Writing project 1 75 pts = 75
4. Writing project 2 75 pts = 75
5. Final exam 100 pts = 100

\[ \text{Total} = 450 \]

In addition to the above grading criteria, in order to pass this class, each student MUST complete the research-participant requirement.

### Grading Scale

\[
\begin{align*}
A+ &= 97\% \text{ or above} & B+ &= 87-89\% & C+ &= 77-79\% & D+ &= 67-69\% & F < 60\% \\
A &= 93-96\% & B &= 83-86\% & C &= 73-76\% & D &= 63-66\% \\
A- &= 90-92\% & B- &= 80-82\% & C- &= 70-72\% & D- &= 60-62\%
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University Policies

Academic integrity

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The University’s Academic Integrity policy, located at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm, requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The Student Conduct and Ethical Development website is available at http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html. Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person’s ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include your assignment or any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU’s Academic Policy S07-2 requires approval of instructors.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/ to establish a record of their disability.

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester’s Catalog Policies section at http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic calendar web page located at http://www.sjsu.edu/academic_programs/calendars/academic_calendar/. The Late Drop Policy is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the Advising Hub at http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/.

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library.

A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include digital and VHS camcorders, VHS and Beta video players, 16 mm, slide, overhead, DVD, CD, and audiotape players, sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

Learning Assistance Resource Center
The Learning Assistance Resource Center (LARC) is located in Room 600 in the Student Services Center. It is designed to assist students in the development of their full academic potential and to motivate them to become self-directed learners. The center provides support services, such as skills assessment, individual or group tutorials, subject advising, learning assistance, summer academic preparation and basic skills development. The LARC website is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/.

**SJSU Writing Center**
The SJSU Writing Center is located in Room 126 in Clark Hall. It is staffed by professional instructors and upper-division or graduate-level writing specialists from each of the seven SJSU colleges. Our writing specialists have met a rigorous GPA requirement, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. The Writing Center website is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/.

**Peer Mentor Center**
The Peer Mentor Center is located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall in the Academic Success Center. The Peer Mentor Center is staffed with Peer Mentors who excel in helping students manage university life, tackling problems that range from academic challenges to interpersonal struggles. On the road to graduation, Peer Mentors are navigators, offering “roadside assistance” to peers who feel a bit lost or simply need help mapping out the locations of campus resources. Peer Mentor services are free and available on a drop-in basis, no reservation required. The Peer Mentor Center website is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/
# Psych 001 / Introduction to Psychology, Spring 2011

Course Schedule

*This schedule is subject to change with fair notice. Any major changes will be announced in class, via email, or class website.*

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<thead>
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<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Chapter - Assignment</th>
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<td>T 2/1</td>
<td>Course Overview – Introduction, Schools of Thought, Critical Thinking, History of Psychology, Research Methods/Design, Ethics</td>
<td>1-2</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>T 2/8</td>
<td>Human Development</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>T 2/15</td>
<td>Biology of Behavior</td>
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<td>T 2/22</td>
<td>Consciousness</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>T 3/1</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>T 3/8</td>
<td><strong>Midterm 1</strong></td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>T 3/15</td>
<td>Learning</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>T 3/22</td>
<td>Language &amp; Thought -- Intelligence</td>
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<td>9</td>
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<td>Social Behavior</td>
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<td>T 4/5</td>
<td><strong>Spring Break</strong></td>
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<td>Emotion</td>
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<td><strong>Midterm 2</strong></td>
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<td>Personality</td>
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<td>T 5/3</td>
<td>Psychological Disorders</td>
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<td>Treatment of Disorders</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>T 5/17</td>
<td>Movie – “A Beautiful Mind”</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>T 5/24</td>
<td><strong>Final Exam: 5:15-7:30PM</strong></td>
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