

PSY 150 General Psychology

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Prerequisites: ENG 002 or DRE 097; or satisfactory score on placement test

Corequisites: None

This course provides an overview of the scientific study of human behavior. Topics include history, methodology, biopsychology, sensation, perception, learning, motivation, cognition, abnormal behavior, personality theory, social psychology, and other relevant topics. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate a basic knowledge of the science of psychology. *This course has been approved to satisfy the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement for the general education core requirement in social/behavioral sciences.*

Course Hours per Week: Class, 3. Semester Hours Credit, 3.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon completing requirements for this course, the student will be able to:

1. Discriminate among the major theoretical perspectives in the field of psychology.
2. Demonstrate understanding of the strengths and limitations of the various research methods used in psychology.
3. Demonstrate understanding of the basic structure and functioning of the human nervous system.
4. Demonstrate understanding of the major theories of learning and motivation.
5. Demonstrate understanding of memory as a process of human cognition.
6. Distinguish among the major theories of personality.
7. Demonstrate knowledge of the major psychological disorders, their causes, and their common treatments.
8. Demonstrate knowledge of the influence of social variables on individual behavior.

OUTLINE OF INSTRUCTION:

- I. Research Methods in Psychology
 - A. The Scientific Approach to Behavior
 - B. Experimental Research
 - C. Descriptive/Correlational Research
 - D. Evaluating Research
- II. Biological Bases of Behavior
 - A. The Nervous System
- III. Learning (Conditioning)
 - A. Classical Conditioning
 - B. Operant Conditioning
- IV. Developmental Psychology
 - A. Major Stage Theories in the subfield
- V. Social Psychology
 - A. Major Experiments and Theories in the subfield
- VI. Memory
 - A. Encoding, Storage, and Retrieval
- VII. Abnormal Psychology
 - A. Common Disorders
 - B. Therapeutic Approaches

VIII. Personality

A. Major Perspectives and Theories in the subfield

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIAL:

The textbook and other instructional material will be determined by the instructor.