COURSE SYLLABUS

Course:  PSYC 2301
Course Title: General Psychology  Fall 2011
Catalog Description: An introduction to fundamental concepts in psychology. Topics include developmental, social, cognitive, biological processes, personality, abnormal behavior, applied psychology, and psychological theory. (This course satisfies the University core requirement in social science.)

Day, Time & Room:  MWF  9:00 – 9:55 a.m.  CI 138
Instructor: Mark Hartlaub
Phone: 825-5994
Email: Mark.Hartlaub@tamucc.edu
Office: Bay Hall #309
Office Hours: M-F, 10-11

TEXT:  Introducing Psychology by Schacter, Gilbert, & Wegner (Worth Publishers)
PsychPortal – you must purchase access to PsychPortal as well. There are bundles available with the text or with an ebook.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:
Learning outcomes for this course will include the students’ ability to
• Describe psychological theories, principles, and concepts relevant to the following topics: history and methods, biological bases of behavior, cognition, social behavior, personality, and psychopathology.
• Apply basic psychological principles to current events and daily human experience.
• Explain and understand the ways that psychological phenomena influence health.

ATTENDANCE: Attendance is expected. Family and personal crises should obviously supersede classroom obligations. However, if the crisis consumes too much time and energy so that classroom obligations are not met, the student should drop the class.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES: Students are responsible for all material which is assigned from the text and all material covered in class, including videotape presentations. Careful notetaking during the lectures will greatly aid the student. Students who miss class are expected to borrow the class notes from another student. The most successful students will have read the assigned pages before the topic is discussed in class. Videotapes/films will be presented in class only once; they cannot be viewed on an individual basis. It is wholly the student's responsibility to contact the instructor if for any reason an exam or assignment is missed.

ACADEMIC ADVISING: The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. The College's Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203E, and can be reached at 825-3466.
DISABILITY SERVICES: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Disability Services Office at (361) 825-5816 or visit the office in Driftwood 101.

GRADE APPEAL PROCESS: As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.

EVALUATION: Students will be graded on:
- Four exams consisting of matching, multiple choice, and short answer questions.
- One lab report (assigned, due )
- On-line assignments. There will be 4 on-line assignments through PSYC PORTAL.
  These exercises will normally occur once per week except during exam weeks.

MISSED EXAMS: Exams which are missed must be made up during the final exam time. All make-up exams will be in essay form. The lab can be turned in late with a deduction of points for lateness. Because some points are better than no points, it is always to your advantage to turn in late work.

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE: It is difficult to learn when there are students talking to their friends, reading magazines, walking in late and going up the central aisle, studying for another class, text messaging, receiving cell phone calls, playing video games, checking out Facebook or YouTube, surfing the web, listening to iPods, or napping. It is disrespectful to the other students who are in class to learn. Please help to maintain a learning environment free from distractions. There are no laptops are permitted in the classroom.
POINTS:

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam #1</td>
<td>80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam #2</td>
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<td>Exam #3</td>
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<td>Exam #4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lab</td>
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<tr>
<td>On-line assignments</td>
<td>40</td>
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<td><strong>Total Points</strong></td>
<td><strong>400 points</strong></td>
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GRADING SCALE:

- 360 - 400 A (90%)
- 320 - 359 B (80%)
- 280 - 319 C (70%)
- 240 - 279 D (60%)
- below 240 is failing

*Note:* The instructor does not give grades; students earn grades according to the scale above.

“SECOND CHANCE” EXAM: You have the opportunity to replace your lowest exam score with the score from the “second chance” exam. It is a comprehensive exam given on the day of the final (Monday, 12/12). It will consist of 40 multiple choice questions from all of the chapters that were covered during the course of the class.

It is totally optional; it can only improve your final point total; it cannot lower it. There will be an announcement made during the last week of class. At that time you must let me know if you plan on taking the second chance exam so enough copies can be made.

EXAM SCHEDULE:

- Exam #1 (Wed, 9/21) covers chapters 1-4 plus class notes
- Exam #2 (Wed, 10/19) covers chapters 5-7, 14, class notes, plus review material
- Exam #3 (Thurs, 11/9) covers chapters 8, 10, 15, class notes, plus review material
- Exam #4 (Mon, 12/12) covers chapters 11-13, class notes, plus review material

*Note:* The final exam is Monday, December 12th from 8:00-10:30 a.m.

**COURSE CALENDAR**
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
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| August 24 – Class Begins!  
Introduction (Ch 1) | 26  
Methods (Ch 2) |                        |
| 29              | 31               | September 2  
Neuroscience (Ch 3) |
| Labor Day (No Class) | 7               | 9                       |
| 12              | 14               | 16                      |
| Sensation & Perception  
(Ch 4) | 21  
EXAM #1 | 23  
Memory (Ch 5) |
| 19              | 26               | 30                      |
| 26              | 28               | Learning (Ch 6)         |
| October 3       | 5                | 7  
Intelligence (Ch 7) |
| 10              | 12               | 14  
Stress & Health (Ch 14) |
| 17              | 19               | 21  
Consciousness (Ch 8) |
| 24              | 26               | 28  
Development (Ch 10) |
| November 2      | 4                | 4  
Social Psych (Ch 15) |
| 7               | 9                | 11  
Personality (Ch 11) |
| 14              | 16               | 18  
Psych Disorders (Ch 12) |
| 21              | 23               | 25  
Thanksgiving break  
(no class) |
| 28              | 30               | December 2              |
| Psych Treatment (Ch 13) | Reading Day | 9 |
| 5 (Last Day of Class) | 7         | 9  
Reading Day |
| 12              | EXAM #4 (The Final) |                        |