

MARTINCOMMUNITY COLLEGE

COURSE SYLLABUS

Semester/Year: Spring 2011

COURSE NUMBER: PSY150 (50)

INSTRUCTOR: Pam Riggs

COURSE TITLE: General Psychology

OFFICE NO: None on Campus

CREDIT HOURS: 3

OFFICE/VIRTUAL HOURS: By email, phone or

CONTACT HRS/WK: 3

Virtual Hours as announced

PREREQUISITES: None

COREQUISITES: None

PHONE NO: Dr. Phyllis Broughton (252) 789-0246

FAX: (252) 792-0826

E-MAIL: priggs@mcc.martincc.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION: 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 general education core requirement in social/behavioral sciences.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Apply critical thinking skills to problem-solving.
2. Demonstrate appropriate use of related technology.
3. Demonstrate effective oral and written communication skills.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Apply the major research methods in psychology.
2. Recognize, understand, and respect the complexity of sociocultural and international diversity as it relates to human behavior.
3. Apply psychological knowledge, skills, and values in various personal and occupational settings.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS: Rathus, S. (2008). *Psychology: Concepts and connections*. (9th ed.). New York: Thomson. ISBN 0-495-09800-0

SUPPLEMENTAL RESOURCES: Study guides or books related to general Psychology.

LEARNING/TEACHING METHODS: This course will be taught in a lecture/discussion format. Additional ideas may be discussed which are not found in the text including material found in outside reading assignments as assigned. Students are expected to keep up with assignments (weekly discussion boards, homework and weekly quiz) and are encouraged to ask questions when material covered is not clearly understood. Class participation by the student is an efficient method of learning and its importance cannot be overstressed. Students will be expected to participate in relevant class activities as scheduled.

ASSESMENTS/METHODS OF EVALUATION: To demonstrate attainment in program and learning outcomes for Psychology 150, you must achieve an overall average of C (70) or better and this grading scale is based on a 10 point scale. To achieve these outcomes, you must successfully complete the following:

Discussion Boards/Icebreakers:

Icebreaker (on discussion board)

Discussion Boards (15)

Outside Reading Assignment/Individual Project: Research Paper (1/4 of your grade)

Quizzes: There will be a quiz on each learning module - a total of 14. Quizzes are done basically on a weekly basis. Review in the Assignments section the Schedule of Assignment for the specific days that you must have completed the quiz.

Homework: There will be a homework assignment each week/chapter - there is a total of 14 homeworks.

GRADING POLICY: To receive credit for this course, you must complete:

- **14 total discussion boards**
 - **1 Icebreaker Discussion Boards (value 20 points)**
 - **Discussion Boards on Chapters (13 total 20 points each) *Reply to discussion boards/ 2 classmates each time (part of discussion board grade)***
- **13 Quizzes** (10 points each, total value is 130 points)
- **13 Homework Assignments (1 per chapter)** (10 points each, total value of 130 points)
- **Research Paper** (Value 135 points)

Other activities as assigned

Items are due by the dates/times on date stated. No late assignments accepted! I will check on the time/date so don't post or send anything late, as it will NOT be counted!

If you miss more than 2 weeks of assignments - you are required to drop the course, as you cannot make up that much missed material. If you do not drop the course, you will earn an F. Regardless of the points you've earned inactivity for 2 or more weeks, without contact to the instructor regarding your absence will result in a failing grade in this course.

Consult your syllabus for more details about the grading scale and expectations.

All items are due by 12 noon on the date stated unless otherwise announced.

Assignments in this course:

Homeworks are 25% of your grade

Discussion Boards are 28 % of your grade

Quizzes are 26% of your grade

Research Paper is 21 % of your grade

Grading Scale:

608 - 675 points	A
540 – 607 points	B
473 - 539 points	C
405 – 472 points	D
Below 404 points	F

Everything you complete in this class has a point value. This class is set up on a 10 point scale.

- A is 90 – 100
- B is 80 – 89
- C is 70 – 79
- D is 60 – 69
- F – below 60

Scores will be posted in the Grade Book under tools in as timely a manner as possible. Some quizzes will automatically grade themselves.

COURSE OUTLINE/SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS

Week # 1 – Getting to Know you Activities

Week # 2 – Chapter # 1

Week # 3 – Chapter # 3

Week # 4 – Chapter # 4

Week # 5 – Chapter # 5

Week # 6 – Chapter # 6

Week # 7 – Chapter # 7

Week # 8 – Chapter # 9

Week #9 - Research paper Due

Week # 10 – Chapter # 11

Week # 11 – Chapter # 12

Week # 12 – Chapter # 13

Week # 13 – Chapter # 14

Week # 14 – Chapter # 15

Week # 15 – Chapter # 16 begins

Week # 16 - Chapter # 16 concludes

*** Please note that we are not covering Chapters # 2 , # 8 & # 10 this semester.**

*** Please check the posted schedule of assignments posted on the Blackboard Course for a more detailed schedule with exact due dates.**

Student Attendance in an Internet Course:

To enter section 50 (Internet) courses, students must do two things:

(1) First, students must complete a technology assessment located on the Blackboard or Moodle login page.

(2) Second, students must login into Blackboard or Moodle and complete the first assignment within seven (7) school days.

Both the technology assessment and the first assignment must be completed for students to remain in the course. If students are taking more than one online course, the student ONLY takes the technology assessment ONE time.

Attendance throughout the semester is determined by regular course work, completion of assignments and regularly logging into the course for updates and assignments. An inactivity of more than 2 weeks without explanation may result in being dropped from the course or receiving an F.

**** Attendance** throughout the semester is determined by regular course work, completion of assignments and regularly logging into the course for updates and assignments on a weekly basis. Due to the nature of Internet classes, attendance in this class is based upon completion of quizzes, exams, discussion boards and additional assignments. An inactivity of more than 2 weeks without explanation may result in being dropped from the course or receiving an F.

Students must be present at least one class during first ten percent (10%) of the course in order to be considered enrolled in the class. If a student has not attended at least one class by the ten percent census date, the instructor will administratively withdraw the student.

According to Martin Community College Attendance Policy, you must attend 85% of the time. If you miss more than 7 hours of class or 6 contiguous hours without providing written documentation (doctor's notes, etc.) and verifiable contact with me, you will be given a "WF" which is calculated as an "F" in student's GPA.

***In compliance with G.S. 115D-5, MCC policy permits a student to be excused, with the opportunity to make-up any test or other missed work, a minimum of two excused absences per academic year for religious observances required by the student's faith. The policy limits the excused absences to a maximum of two days per academic year.**

Students who wish to be excused for a Religious Observance required by their faith must complete and submit a request form to the instructor(s) prior to the census date of each class. The **Request for Excused Absences for Religious Observances** form can be picked up from Student Services. This does not supersede the college-wide attendance policy as outlined in the college catalog or syllabus, with the exception of a reasonable accommodation for the make-up of missed course work.

Martin Community College has added a Help Desk for distance learning. This Help Desk will be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year. Help is provided by searching a knowledge base, by email, or by a toll free phone call (1-866-833-2953). The College's Distance Learning website has the link to the Help Desk.

CONTACT: If you cannot reach your instructor, you may contact Dr. Phyllis Broughton and Student Services at (252) 789-0246 or (252) 789-0247 by phone, pbroughton@martincc.edu by email, or in person at her office in Building 2, Room 33.

To access the Martin Community College Career Catalog for policies and curriculum requirements, please go online to www.martincc.edu.

Disability Statement:

If you have a need for a disability-related accommodation, please notify the Student Services Counselor at (252)789-0293.