

Psychology 1101: Honors General Psychology
Malone Three Credit Hours
Kareen Ror Malone, Ph.D.
Melson 205
VOICE: 678-839-0616 (O); 404-216-1231 (C).
Email: kmalone@westga.edu

Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday: 12:00-2:00; Wednesday, 3:00-4:00

Appointment hours can be set up in order to facilitate individual meetings, in-depth intellectual inquiry and for the further exploration of classroom discussions and questions. Please avail yourself of such opportunities by making an appointment. There will be times during my office hours that I will be unavailable due to meetings, other appointments, etc. The best idea *always* is to make an appointment ahead of time so that we are assured of adequate time together. The best way to contact me is by email. Only use home phone for weekends or an emergency.

I. Course Description

A broad survey of the major topics in psychology including, but not limited to, research methodology, biological and social factors influencing behavior, development, learning, memory, personality, and abnormal.

This introductory psychology course runs through the usual topics and areas of interest that define psychology. But it will also try to understand the place of psychology as a cultural and intellectual enterprise. As well, we will consider how each of us can “relate” to the questions of psychology. The course will entail exercises, lectures, seminars and students presentations. There may be small homework assignments. Psychology draws from clinical work, from philosophy, from laboratory experimentation, and from autobiography in its search to understand the human psyche. The final part of this course will look at psychotherapy, psychoanalysis, and clinical examples to show how psychology works in one domain.

II. Course Objectives

- Self-understanding & the understanding of others
- Analyze & synthesize issues in a psychological context
- To become familiar with a number of basic concepts, theories and findings in psychology To gain an appreciation of the intersection between psychology and fundamental aspects of human experience.
- To understand the significance of culture in framing basic psychological experiences and the discipline of psychology itself.

III. Evaluation Procedure & Grading Policies

- There will be four exams. The average of these exams is 75% of your grade.
- Participation and students presentations are worth 25% of your grade. Includes any in-class assignments and miscellaneous projects If a short paper or presentation is weighted more than other activities, I will note that. You are judged on body (being in class) and spirit (keeping up with reading, being committed, speaking in class on relevant topics).. If you miss more than five classes, your grade in participation with be zero. *There are no excuses.*

IV. Required Texts

Westen, Drew. (2002). Psychology: Mind Brain & Culture. Third Edition, New York: John Wiley & Sons.
Freud, S. (1966/1920). Introductory Lectures on Psychoanalysis. New York: Norton.

Throughout the class, there will be readings from leading psychologists that focus on particular issues. These are available in a packet.

V. Learning Objectives

- To grasp the information and approaches within selected sub-disciplines of psychology. Understanding will be measured by series of objective exams
- To get a sense of the methodology of psychology: Design and execute mock experiments
- To have insight into psychotherapeutic process and psychological transformation as is related to questions of human subjectivity
- To be exposed to original authors in the field in controversial areas: Specialized readings and essay exams

VI. Course Schedule

The “Trunk” of Psychology: Grand Theories & Overview

First Week: Jan 9: Topic: Review Syllabus

Expectations & Questions

Reading: None

Introduction to the field

Reading: Westen, 1-26.

Second Week: Jan 16

Monday is no class

Topic: Psychology and its paradigms

Reading: From Putting Psychology in Its Place, pages 45-100 chapters, 4-7.

Third Week, Jan. 23

Topic: Research,

Reading: Westen, Chp. 2: 29 to page 55

- **Designing an Experiment**
- **Doing An Experiment: Personal Space**

Turn in Design and Report on Experiment

Video on poor experimental Design

Fourth Week: Jan. 30

Review

Exam

The Branches of Psychology: Some Primary Elements

Fifth Week: Feb 6

Topic: Learning, 163-198

Reading: Westen, Chp. 5; article by Skinner: Skinner, B.F. 1990. Can Psychology be a Science of Mind? *American Psychologist*, November 1990

Video: clip of BF Skinner

Home Assignment: Train a roommate and write a report on success –two weeks

Sixth Week: Feb 13

Topics: Memory, 199-238.

Reading: Westen, chp. 6, 193-229.

Memory Experiments in class

MONDAY NIGHT PIZZA & MOVIE: COMPLAINTS OF A DUTIFUL DAUGHTER

Sixth Week: Feb 20

Topic: Thought and Language,

Readings: Westen, Chp. 7; 233-274

Article on artificial intelligence Searle, J. 1990. Is the Brain's Mind a Computer Program? *Scientific America*, 262(1), pp. 26-31. Churchland, P.M. & P.S. Churchland. 1990. Could a Machine Think? *Scientific America*, 262(1), pp.. 32-37

Seventh Week :Feb 27

VIDEO: On Language Acquisition

Topic: Faith, Happiness and Psychology

Readings: Soskis, B. 2001. Act of Faith: What religion cannot do. *The New Republic*, February 26, 2001. pp. 20-23. Steven Reiss, Secrets of Happiness. Article 33 in Annual Editions 151-153. Psychology Destroys Pastoral Counseling in *Psychiatry: Destroying* 18-26. Spirituality & mental Health: Monitor, December 2003, pages 46-53. Gertner, J. 2003. The Futile Pursuit of Happiness. *New York Times*, September 7, 2003.: Anderssen et al. Outcomes for children with gay & lesbian parents in *Scandinavian Journal of Psychology*, 43- pp. 335-351.

Eighth Week March 6

Review

Exam

Ninth Week, Mar. 13

Topic: Social Development,

Reading: Westen, Chp. 14, 473-514

Topic : Personality,

Reading: Westen, Chp. 12, 402-438.

Monday Night Pizza & Movie: The Wild Child

Tenth Week, Mar. 20

SPRING BREAK

Eleventh Week , March 27

Topic: Social Psychology

Reading: Westen, pp. 603- 616 & 627-635; 639-655.

Twelfth Week, April 3

Social Psychology: Video: The Milgram Experiment

Exam

Thirteenth Week: April 10

Topic: Freud: Introductory Lectures pp: 101-298.

Keep a dream journal

Monday Night PIZZA & MOVIE:: David & Lisa

Fourteenth Week: April 17

Topic: Abnormal Psychology & Psychotherapy

Reading: Westen, pp. 515-555

Fifteenth Week: April 24

Topic: Abnormal Psychology & Psychotherapy

Reading: Westen, 555-577 and 584-589.

Week Sixteen: May 1

Topic: Abnormal Psychology & Psychotherapy

Reading: Excerpts from Deborah Leupnitz's Schopenhauer's Porcupines, pp. 1-102.

Final Exam is TBA.

We will schedule a study group review for the final exam.