

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE

PSYCHOLOGY 260

BASIC PSYCHOLOGICAL PROCESSES

1991-92 (T-TH)

INSTRUCTOR: L. R. ANDREOTTI

OFFICE NUMBER: C403

PHONE NUMBER: 539-2994

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course, in combination with Psychology 261, is intended to provide a general introductory survey of the field of psychology. Specific topics examined in this course include: methodological techniques and problems, basic principles of conditioning and learning, thinking and problem solving, memory, developmental psychology, sensation and perception, the physiological basis of behavior, emotion and motivation.

The course is not primarily designed as a course in applied psychology. Instead, it is intended to familiarize the student with the terminology employed by psychologists, to develop the student's tolerance for ambiguity (e.g., an appreciation for why psychologists disagree), and to develop an understanding of basic psychological concepts and processes.

To facilitate teaching the student what the discipline of psychology is, there will be a greater emphasis upon examining how psychologists "do psychology" and slightly less of an emphasis upon learning the "known facts."

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The successful student should demonstrate an understanding of the relevant concepts, terminology and theoretical assumptions which will be examined. The student should also be able to demonstrate a basic familiarity with, and an understanding of, the relevant experimental procedures and the results of our more significant psychological studies.

TEXTS:

1. Psychology today: An introduction (7th Edition), 1991, McGraw-Hill (publisher).
2. Annual Editions: Psychology 91/92 (21st Edition), 1991, Dushkin Publishing Group.
3. Study guide for psychology today (7th Edition), 1991, McGraw-Hill (publisher). Not required, but recommended.

A tentative timetable for the course is provided below. Various changes in the timetable may be announced in class.

<u>DATES</u>	<u>TEXT</u>	<u>ANNUAL EDITIONS</u>
Sept. 5 - 12	Chapter 1	
Sept. 17 - 19	Chapter 2 & Appendix	
Sept. 24 - 26	Chapter 3	#2-Heller, #7-Hopson
Oct. 1 - 3	Chapter 7	
Oct. 8 - 15	Chapters 8 & 9	#17-Searle
OCTOBER 17	<u>EXAM</u>	
Oct. 22 - 24	Chapter 15	
Oct. 29 - 31	Chapter 16	
Nov. 5 - 7	Chapter 10	
Nov. 12 - 14	Chapters 4 & 5	
Nov. 19 - 21	Chapter 6	#9-Krueger, #10-Dolnick
Nov. 26 - 28	Chapter 12	#20-Maranto, #21- Hall, #22-Dixon
Dec. 2 - 10	Chapter 13	

GRADING SYSTEM

SCALE EQUIVALENT	TRANSLATION	APPROXIMATE %
9		90 - 100
8	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>80 - 89</u>
7		72 - 79
6	<u>Good</u>	<u>65 - 71</u>
5		57 - 64
4	<u>Pass</u>	<u>50 - 56</u>
3	<u>Failure</u>	<u>45 - 49</u>
2	<u>Failure</u>	<u>26 - 44</u>
1		0 - 25

Marks in the course will be weighted as follows:

October 17th exam	25%
Final exam (Date announced by the Registrar's office)	35%
Quiz average	20%
Readings	10%
Subjective evaluation ¹	<u>10%</u>
	100%

Marks for in-class discussion of the readings will be based primarily upon student participation. Grades for each discussion will be assigned as follows:

<u>Quality/involvement</u>	<u>Grade assigned</u>
Excellent/well prepared/good participation	100%
Moderate	85%
Present/unprepared/ inadequate participation	50%
Unexcused absence	0%

¹As explained in class, no student will receive a mark for subjective evaluation that is lower than the student's weighted quiz/exam/readings average.

It should be noted that students will be held accountable for lectures delivered in addition to any announcements that will be made in class. If any student is unable to attend a particular class, it will be his/her responsibility to find out what was missed.

If it becomes apparent to a student that s/he will be unable to write an exam/quiz/reading discussion at a scheduled time, the student should notify the instructor immediately². In the event that the student cannot reach the instructor in person, s/he should leave a message for the instructor with the College switchboard (539-2994). If the student is unable to write the final exam at the scheduled time³, he/she should notify the instructor in advance and submit an application to the Registrar's office for permission to write a deferred exam (see the College calendar re: deferred exams).

The exam dates listed on this handout are tentative and are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances. Students should not make plans for travel, holidays, employment, etc., which would interfere with their writing exams during any scheduled class time. As well, students should not make plans that would conflict with their writing final exams during the scheduled times (times to be announced by the Registrar's office)

Since the information recorded on this sheet will be required by the student throughout the semester, I recommend that precautions be taken to insure that it is not lost.

Students are strongly encouraged to see me after class or in my office (C403) if they are having difficulty in the course or simply wish a further discussion of the material.

STUDENT RECORD OF MARKS ON QUIZZES AND EXAMS:

- Quiz #1-----
- Quiz #2-----
- Quiz #3-----
- Quiz #4-----
- Oct. exam-----
- Final exam-----

²For a student to receive an excused absence from a quiz, exam, or in-class discussion of readings; it is essential that the student notify the instructor prior to the time that the exam/quiz/reading exercise is to be held.

³It should be noted that the final examination timetable will be announced by the Registrar's office.