

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE

PSYCHOLOGY 260

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Sean O'Connell
OFFICE: D325
PHONE: 539-2994
OFFICE HOURS: TBA

TEXTS: Wortman, C., and Loftus, E., Psychology. New York: Alfred Knopf, 1981
Dunn, W., Student Study Guide to Accompany Psychology

OBJECTIVES:

1. To understand and appreciate the tools and methods used in studying human behavior.
2. To be familiar with major psychological concepts, perspectives, and terms.
3. To be aware of practical applications for (2). Essentially, this course is a vocabulary builder. When you have completed it (and its counterpart) you should be sufficiently conversant with the major psychological disciplines to be able to direct yourself intelligently to more advanced and specialized study in the field. If you choose to pursue no further studies beyond this introductory survey, you should be able to integrate what you have learned with your chosen field and with everyday living.

Minimally, what you need to do in order to successfully complete this course is (1) read the assigned text material and remember most of it, and (2) attend classes and remember most of the lecture material.

PERSPECTIVE:

This course will be a comprehensive survey of basic processes, theories, and findings in psychology. It will not be taught from any particular point of view, such as humanistic, behavioral, cognitive, or physiological. It will concentrate almost exclusively on content, resorting only occasionally to "experiential" learning modes. The course is not intended as a vehicle for solving personal psychological problems; any "personal development" will be a result of intellectual understanding and a grasp of factual or theoretical content. If you wish to pursue personal applications of course material, please consult with the instructor during office hours.

Although lectures will adhere to the text's format, they cannot be a substitute for diligent reading and study. The lectures are intended to illuminate and augment the contents of the text, and in no way will they be simple repetitions of it.

GRADING:

The final grade will be calculated on the basis of four quizzes, a mid-term exam and a final exam. Weighting and content will be apportioned as follows:

Quiz One	(25 multiple-choice items)	6.25%	(Chapters 1, 2)
Quiz Two	(25 multiple-choice items)	6.25%	(Chapters 3, 4)
Quiz Three	(25 multiple-choice items)	6.25%	(Chapters 5, 6)
Quiz Four	(25 multiple-choice items)	6.25%	(Chapters 7, 8)
Midterm	(25 multiple-choice items; 15 blank answers; 10 short answers)	25.00%	(Chapters 1-4)
Final	(50 multiple-choice items; 30 blank answers; 20 short answers)	50.00%	(Chapters 1-9)
		100%	

NOTE: Most questions will be based on material in the text, some on lecture material, and some will be taken from the study guide.

GRADING SYSTEM:

GRADE	INTERPRETATION	PERCENTAGE EQUIVALENT
9	Excellent; 1st Class Standing	90-100
8		80- 89
7	Good; 2nd Class Standing	73- 79
6		65- 72
5	Pass	58- 64
4		50- 57
*3	Conditional Pass	46- 49
2	Failure	30- 45
1		1- 29

* See Calendar, p. 17

EXAMINATION DATES:

Quizzes: last hour of the weeks ending September 24th, October 8th, November 5th, November 19th.
 Midterm: last class in the week ending October 22nd.
 Final: TBA (week of December 13-17)
 No exceptions to these dates are permitted. Exams cannot be written at any other time.
 Students who miss classes are responsible for finding out what occurred in their absence and for getting any missed announcements. Remember that your instructor is here to assist you in learning psychology, and not to make things hard for you. Use the office hours for consultation whenever you feel you need to. Best wishes.