

## Dakota College at Bottineau Course Syllabus

Course Prefix/Number/Title: PSYCH 111 Introduction to Psychology

Number of Credits: 3 semester hour credits

Course Description: This course involves the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. It is a basic prerequisite to most other psychology classes.

Pre-/Co-requisite(s): none

Course Objectives: It is expected that students will be able to:

- Identify theoretical perspectives and research methods.
- Identify the parts of the brain and nervous system and their functions.
- Outline the different types of learning.
- Summarize current theories about memory and forgetting.
- Discuss key concepts regarding intelligence and psychological testing.
- Describe the psychological changes humans undergo during childhood, adolescence, and adulthood.
- Define the different types of psychological disorders and outline the methods used to treat them.
- Recognize the factors that influence how humans behave toward one another in social situations.

Instructor: Amy Lopez

Office: Online. You may post questions in the Virtual Office in the online classroom. These will be visible to all students. Use the eMail tool within the online course to communicate with the instructor privately.

Office Hours: Course eMail messages will be checked daily, Monday through Friday. If you have a technical problem, contact the Distance Education office by calling 1-701-228-5623 or 1-888-918-5623 (toll-free).

Phone: (407)-744-6286

Email: amy.lopez@dakotacollege.edu

Class Schedule: Online

Textbook: Weiten, Wayne. Psychology: Themes & Variations. 9<sup>th</sup> ed.

Course Requirements:

There are weekly deadlines for completing assignments.

Discussion Forums: Each week, you will have one or more discussion forums (one for each chapter.) For each forum, you will need to post one answer to a question, two replies to other students' answers, and two replies to students who have replied to you. Forums will close on Sunday nights at 11:45 p.m. Central Time. If you wait until Sunday night to post your answer, other students will not have time to reply to you, and you will not have time to reply to them, resulting in a loss of points for you. So please, make the discussion forums your first priority each week.

Homework Assignments: Weekly 1 page papers will cover the material discussed in that week. These papers are to be submitted in the drop box for that week. The deadline for submitting this homework to the drop box is 11:45 p.m. Central Time Sunday nights.

Paper: A 3 to 5 page paper on a topic from our textbook of your choosing is due at the end of the course. The topic for your paper is due the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of the term and must be approved by your instructor.

The quality of the paper determines the total number of points, with a maximum of 50 points. The paper should be in American Psychological Association (APA) style.

Tests: There will be four tests given during the semester. The questions will be multiple choice in nature. Each test consists of 30 questions, will be available for one week and will close at 11:45 p.m. Central Time Sunday nights. Each test will be worth 30 points, so a total of 120 points can be earned.

Relationship to Campus Theme: This course develops a background in psychology that can be used to understand people in family, social, professional, and community settings.

Tentative Course Outline:

Week 1: Chapter 1

Week 2: Chapter 2

Week 3: Chapter 3

Week 4: Test 1

Week 5: Chapter 6

Week 6: Chapter 7

Week 7 Chapter 8

Week 8: Test 2

Week 9 Chapter 11

Week 10: Chapter 12

Week 11: Test 3

Week 12: Chapter 15

Week 13: Chapter 16

Week 14: Chapter 13

Week 15: Test 4

Week 16: Final paper due

Classroom Policies:

- Regular participation is expected.
- All tests can be taken on any computer with Internet access.
- Students need to set up or select an environment conducive for testing (e.g. distraction-free area at home, a computer lab at a library, etc.)
- Students can take the tests at any time between the given dates and times.
- A discussion is only a discussion if everyone is participating together.  
Therefore, no points will be given for forum posts once the week is over.

- Homework assignments and the paper will lose 10% for each day they are late, and will not be accepted more than one week after the due date.

#### Student Email Policy:

Dakota College at Bottineau is increasingly dependent upon email as an official form of communication. A student's campus assigned email address will be the only one recognized by the campus for official mailings. The liability for missing or not acting upon important information conveyed via campus email rests with the student.

#### Evaluation:

Grades are based on total points earned.

Discussion Forums (10 pts ea)

Drop Box Homework (15 pts ea)

Paper 50

Tests (30 pts ea)

A--90-100% B--80-89% C--70-79% D--60-69% F--59% or lower

#### Academic Integrity:

The academic community is operated on the basis of honesty, integrity and fair play. It is the expectation that all students, as members of the college community, adhere to the highest levels of academic integrity. This means that:

- Students are responsible for submitting their own work. Student work must not be plagiarized.
- Students must not cooperate on oral or written examinations or work together on evaluated assignments without authorization.

If you have a disability for which you need accommodation, contact the Learning Center to request disability support services: phone 701-228-5477 or toll-free 1-888-918-5623.