

Common Course Outline
PSYC 101
Introduction to Psychology
3 Credits

Community College of Baltimore County

Description

PSYC 101 – Introduction to Psychology is a survey of the science of psychology. Topics addressed include research methods, biological bases of behavior, sensation and perception, states of consciousness, learning, memory, motivation and emotion, language, lifespan development, intelligence, stress and health, social behavior, personality, abnormal behavior and its treatment. Applications of psychology in a culturally diverse world are discussed.

3 Credits:

Prerequisites: (ENGL 052 and RDNG 052) or ACLT 052

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

1. define the fundamental concepts associated with each of the course's major topics;
2. identify the advantages and disadvantages of the various research methods used to study animal and human behavior and mental processes;
3. apply methods of quantitative data used in research;
4. apply major theoretical perspectives with data derived from psychological research to maximize self-management and self-improvement, and to resolve personal, relational, social and/or workplace situations;
5. evaluate the authenticity, timeliness, relevance and validity of psychological information found in print, online resources, film, television, radio, and other resources;
6. explain the ethical considerations that govern psychological research with humans and animals;
7. find, evaluate, use and cite research pertaining to psychology topics;
8. explain how psychological data and theories have continually evolved and why study of these topics requires lifelong learning;
9. evaluate the role of religion, race, class, gender, and ethnicity in the formation of behaviors, attitudes, and perceptions; and
10. analyze one's strengths and weaknesses as a learner.

Major Topics

- I. The evolution of modern psychology
- II. Research methods and ethical issues in psychology
- III. The sub-fields of psychology

- IV. Biological bases of behavior and mental processes
- V. Sensation and perception
- VI. States of consciousness
- VII. Basic principles of learning
- VIII. Memory
- IX. Cognition, language, and intelligence
- X. Human development
- XI. Motivation and emotion
- XII. Personality theories and assessment
- XIII. Stress: its causes, effects, and control
- XIV. Psychological disorders: their nature and causes
- XV. Prevention and treatment of mental disorders
- XVI. Social psychology
- XVII. The nature of cultural and gender diversity in the human experience

Course Requirements

Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include the following:

Grading/exams

- a minimum of three exams with four or more recommended;
- multiple assignments (including, at least 1000 word minimum on a topic in Introduction to Psychology) will infuse CCBC General Education Program objectives; at least one assignment worth a minimum of 10% of the total course grade will allow students to demonstrate at least 5 of the 7 General Education Program outcomes. Students are required to utilize appropriate academic resources;
- at least one class presentation;
- at least one collaborative learning assignment;
- completion of a learning styles and/or study skills activities to provide students insight into their strengths and weaknesses as learners.

Written Assignments: Students are required to use appropriate academic resources.

Other Course Information

This course is an approved General Education course in the Social and Behavioral Sciences category.

Date Revised: [04/18/2017]