

**Common Course Outline**  
**PSYC 251/WMST 251**  
**Psychology of Women**  
3 Semester Hours

**The Community College of Baltimore County**

**Description**

Psychology of Women

Examines the unique psychological and social issues confronting women today; critiques past and present theories regarding women's social development, sexuality, intellectual capacities, and psychology; analyzes social and cultural stresses particularly affecting women; presents skills and strategies for promoting constructive change.

Prerequisite: PSYC 101

**Overall Course Objectives**

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Exhibit an understanding of the difference between sex and gender
2. Analyze sex role expectancies; including etiology, and impact on present and future behavior
3. Develop a historical perspective on women in psychology
4. Demonstrate an understanding of both environmental and genetic contributions to sex role development
5. Evaluate the use of experimentation to determine the validity of contrasting theoretical approaches
6. Critically evaluate cultural aspects of sex role development
7. Apply the knowledge they acquire to foster gender equality
8. Recognize the contributions of women to modern society

**Major Topics**

1. The Women of Psychology and the Psychology of Women.
2. Psychology of Women: Perspectives on Research Methodologies.
3. Theories of Women's Personalities And Women's Mental Health.
4. Physical Development Across the Life Cycle.
5. Verbal and Nonverbal Communication By and About Women.
6. Women's Friendships and Romantic Relationships.
7. Women's Health Issues.
8. Career Psychology of Women.
9. Women's Sexuality, Reproductive Rights And Reproductive Health.
10. Violence against Women.
11. The Psychology of Women: To the Future. Introduction - historical perspective

**Course Requirements**

Evaluation and student feedback in this course may combine several of the following formats:

1. Tests/Quizzes
2. Research papers
3. Oral presentations
4. Cooperative learning group assignments

5. Classroom participation

**Other Course Information**

This course is an elective in the psychology department, and is a recommended course within the transfer pattern.

Lab and computer assignments may be included in the course content

Revised 06/15/00