FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

Introduction to Psychological Science (Online)
PSY 1100
Summer 2020
Number of Credit Hours: 3

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Office Hours:

OFFICIAL COURSE DESCRIPTION:
In this introductory course on the scientific study of behavior, you will learn about the historical roots of contemporary psychology and research methods of analyzing data. You will study the anatomy and physiology of the nervous system and factors which mobilize and direct behavior (e.g., motivation & emotion). Perception, learning, and cognition will be introduce ways in which knowledge is gained through the senses, organized and utilized. You will learn about personality and psychological disorders. The interpretation of social situations will explain how one's behavior is influenced by others.

COURSE GOALS AND LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Course Objectives

- Understand empirical reasoning and the scientific method.
- Appreciate how psychologists rely on statistics to interpret research findings.
- Learn about various methods of data collection.
- Identify structures of the brain and nervous system, and how they regulate behavior.
- Identify basic principles of classical and operant conditioning.
- Understand how information is encoded and retrieved from memory.
- Identify obstacles that need to be overcome in solving problems.
- Understand heuristics involved with decision making.
- Appreciate the reliability and validity of intelligence testing.
- Understand developmental stages of personality and cognition.
- Understand altered states of consciousness including sleep, drugs and hypnosis.
- Learn about symptoms, progression, and treatment of psychological disorders.
- Understand how behavior is influenced by the presence of other people.
- Develop critical thinking, problem-solving skills & communication skills.

INSTRUCTOR'S ATTENDANCE POLICY:

TEXTS:
Required Course Materials

- Connect Plus – which contain access to McGraw Hill's
    1) Connect online program
    2) Feldman's *Essentials of Understanding Psychology* 13th edition
- Access to Blackboard
- Fitchburg State Student Email Account (check daily & use this one to write to your professor)

ASSESSMENTS/COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Connect Assignments

80% of your grade will be determined by your scores for online tutorials, quizzes, and interactive activities. Check the Connect site daily to find out which activities have been assigned and when they
are due. Complete each assignment several days before it is due (not the day it is due) to avoid the possibility that you may not have access to the site (e.g., site disruption, inability to access the Internet,
power outage, computer "freezing" or other such problems) or have some other event (busy schedule or
illness) that makes it difficult to complete the assignment on time. There will be <u>no</u> excuse for not completing an assignment by its deadline. Once the deadline has passed, some assignments will be a
accepted with a reduction in points and other assignments will *not* be accepted and will earn 0 points.

Discussion Board Assignments

20% of your grade will be determined by your answers to critical thinking questions that will be presented on the Discussion Board on Blackboard. These are opportunities to integrate material from the textbook with material presented in the question -- to demonstrate that you are learning material from the class! So, before answering each question, read material in the book that pertains to the topic. In answering each question, you must back up your points with facts from the book.

FINAL PROJECT/EXAM DESCRIPTION:

COURSE OUTLINE:

Course Topics & Assigned Readings

Assignments & due dates are posted on the *Connect* Site

I   Introduction to Psychology – Research Methods   Chapter 1

A. Naturalistic Observation
B. Survey
C. Case Study
D. Correlational Research
E. Experimental Research

II   Neuroscience & Behavior   Chapter 2

A. Neurons & Neurotransmitters
B. Nervous System
C. Brain

III   Sensation & Perception   Chapter 3

A. Vision & Hearing
B. Constructing Our Perception

IV   States of Consciousness   Chapter 4

A. Sleep & Dreams
B. Hypnosis & Meditation
C. Drug Use

V   Learning   Chapter 5

A. Classical Conditioning
B. Operant Conditioning
C. Cognitive Approaches to Learning

VI   Memory   Chapter 6

A. Recalling Long-Term Memories
B. Forgetting: When Memory Fails

VII   Thinking, Language & Intelligence   Chapter 7

A. Thinking
B. Language
C. Intelligence
VIII   Motivation & Emotion   Chapter 8

        A. Human Needs & Motivation
        B. Understanding Emotional Experiences

IX   Development   Chapter 9

        A.   Infancy & Childhood
        B. Adolescence
        C. Adulthood

X   Personality   Chapter 10

        A. Psychodynamic Approach
        B. Trait & Other Approaches to Personality
        C. Assessing Personality

XI   Health & Stress   Chapter 11

        A. Stress & Coping
        B. Psychological Aspects of Illness & Stress
        C. Promoting Health & Wellness

XII   Psychological Disorders   Chapter 12

XIII   Treatments of Psychological Disorders   Chapter 13

XIV   Social Psychology   Chapter 14

        A. Social Influence
        B. Prejudice and Discrimination

FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY UNDERGRADUATE GRADING POLICY

Course Grading Policy

At the end of the semester, your Connect score will be converted to points out of 100 and your Discussion Board score will be converted to points out of 100. To determine your course grade, use the

following formula: (.80 x Semester Connect Score) + (.20 x Semester Discussion Board Score)

4.0	**A**	**95 – 100**
3.7	**A-**	**92 – 94**
3.5	**A-/B+.**	**89 - 91**
3.3	**B+**	**86 – 88**
3.0	**B**	**83 – 85**
2.7	**B-**	**80 – 82**
2.5	**B-/C+**	**77 – 79**
2.3	**C+**	**74 – 76**
2.0	**C**	**71 – 73**
1.7	**C-**	**69 – 70**
1.5	**C-/D+**	**67 – 68**
1.3	**D+**	**64 – 66**
1.0	**D**	**60 – 63**
0.0	**F**	**0 – 59**
-	**IN**	**Incomplete**
-	**IP**	**In Progress**
-	**W**	**Withdrawn**

CLASS POLICIES:

Conduct Code

Fitchburg State University expects students to act in a mature and responsible manner. Respect for the rights of others, openness to new and challenging ideas, civility and courtesy are examples of these expectations. They extend to the (online) classroom as students are expected to positively contribute to the teaching and learning environment by demonstrating appropriate classroom behavior. The Student Code   of Conduct establishes that obstruction or disruption of teaching, administration, disciplinary system, the   college or community or other college activities shall constitute a violation or code of conduct (Item 2.01). Please review the college policy for academic dishonesty presented in the Undergraduate Catalogue.   Any form of cheating or plagiarism will not be tolerated.

POLICY ON DISABILITY

Disability Services is the primary support system for students with disabilities taking classes in the day and evening divisions. The office is located on the third floor of the Hammond Building and can be reached at 978-665-4020 (voice/relay). If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a

disability, if you have emergency medication information, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment at the beginning of the course to talk with me. It is important that the issues relating to disabilities be discussed with me as soon as possible.

GRADE APPEAL
If you disagree with the evaluation of your work or believe an improper grade has been assigned, an appeal may be followed. Please discuss the matter with the instructor and refer to the Fitchburg State University Grade Appeal Policy in the university catalog.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY
The faculty in the Education Unit at Fitchburg State University that work submitted in fulfillment of course requirements will be solely that of the individual candidate and all other sources will be cited appropriately. University Academic Integrity Policy, as outlined in the University Catalogue, will be strictly adhered to.

Fitchburg State University encourages all Extended Campus students to take advantage of our online student services. We have created a "virtual student center" just for you. Here you will find access to Counseling Services, Career Services, The Student Activity Center, the university bookstore and many other helpful links. You can access our student center by going to the university homepage at http://www.fitchburgstate.edu and clicking on Offices and Services. Scroll down and click on Extended Campus Center. You will find links to Library Services, our Virtual Student Center and other important information.

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FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY
DISTANCE LEARNING & EXTENDED CAMPUS LIBRARY SERVICES

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The Gallucci-Cirio Library at Fitchburg State University provides a full range of library services including borrowing privileges; document delivery (books and articles mailed to your home); Interlibrary Loan; reference assistance via: phone, email, IM, Blackboard's Collaboration and Elluminate tools, Skype and in-person; library instruction; research help and more. Any questions relating to library services should be directed to the Linda LeBlanc, Access Services Librarian, at 978-665-3062 or dllibrary@fitchburgstate.edu. There is also a special section for Distance Learning and Extended Campus Services at http://fitchburgstate.libguides.com/dlservices outlining the wide range of services available to you and how to access them.

Students who are currently registered with the university may access any of the library's subscription databases, including an increasing number with full-text, by visiting the Gallucci-Cirio Library's homepage at http://www.fitchburgstate.edu/academics/library and clicking on the Research Databases button in the center of the page. Select the resource you want to access from the alphabetical or subject listing. Once you click on the database title you will be prompted for your Falcon Key logon information; this is the same logon you will use for your Fitchburg State email account and if you have any online Blackboard courses. If you do not know your Falcon Key username and password or if you have any problems logging in, contact the university's Technology Help Desk at 978-665-4500 or helpdesk@fitchburgstate.edu. The Library can issue you a temporary guest Falcon Key to use while the Technology Department is setting up your account: contact us at 978-665-3062 or dllibrary@fitchburgstate.edu

All registered Fitchburg State University students are eligible for a Fitchburg State University OneCard ID which also serves as his/her library card. If you have not received your OneCard yet, you can still access all of our online services as long as you have activated your library account. Activate your library account online at http://fitchburgstate.libguides.com/dlservices or in person at the Circulation Desk. After activation by the Gallucci-Cirio Library and receipt of your OneCard, students may also use any Massachusetts State College/University Library as well as participating libraries in the Academic and Research Collaborative (ARC) during the current semester. OneCards are available on campus all year round. Students wanting a OneCard must either complete the online Extended Campus OneCard request form http://www.fitchburgstate.edu/offices/technology/onecard/ or present a course registration confirmation at the OneCard Office in the Anthony Building, main campus. Please call 978-665-3039 for available times or if you have any questions about your OneCard.