

APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY: PSY1160 AA01
SPRING 2010

Mineral Area College, Social Science Department

INSTRUCTOR: Fred Nute, Ph.D.

OFFICE: Arts and Sciences #9

OFFICE HOURS: MWF: 10-10:50 AM; TR 9:30-10:30 AM

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DEPARTMENT NUTE: Fred Nute

REQUIRED TEXT: Weiten, Lloyd, Dunn, Hammer, (2009), Psychology Applied to Modern Life, 9th edition. Cengage Publishing.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Application of psychological principles and theory to modern day settings and everyday life with emphasis on personal adjustment, stress and health, development, social influences, interpersonal communication, intimate relationships, careers and work.

COURSE COMPETENCIES:

1. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the major concepts, principles, values, and theoretical perspectives that characterized the field of Applied Psychology
2. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the methods psychologists use to explore human behavior, including observation, hypothesis development, data collection, correlation, experimentation, survey, and the role of evidence in research.
3. Students will demonstrate an understanding of individual differences in human behavior and recognize the complexities of how people vary in psychological, developmental, and sociocultural domains.
4. Students will demonstrate knowledge and understanding of interpersonal communication and intimate relationships in everyday life
5. Students will develop critical thinking skills by applying psychological concepts, principles, and theory to personal, social, and work related situations through collaborative work in small groups.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS:

Teaching procedure will include a combination of lecture, class discussions, practical application activities, group work, and the use of multi-media resources when applicable.

CLASS EXPECTATIONS:

Participation is important and means that you contribute pertinent information to discussions and listen attentively when other people are talking. Also, when you are assigned group work in class, you are to be an active, contributing member of the group. You are expected to attend all classes, to be on time, and stay until the end of the class session. Leaving class early without any justifiable advance notice will count as an absence. TURN OFF BEEPERS & CELL PHONES during class.

You are responsible for all information presented in class, even if it is not contained in the textbook. It will be your responsibility to find out what happened in missed classes, including any announcements or schedule changes. You should come to class with a general understanding of the topics being covered by pre-reading the assigned text material so that you are adequately prepared to participate in class discussion and related activities.

PLEASE NOTE:

If you are having trouble in the course, do something about it early. Some of your options include the use of the Learning Resource Center, Tutoring through the Excel Student Support Program, Career and Access Services, or consulting with the instructor. Also, become familiar with the college's Calendar Dates and Policies pertaining to withdrawal from class without penalties such as financial aid, insurance policies, Mid-Term Grade availability, receiving an F grade in class, etc.

COURSE OUTLINE

The schedule below shows the sequence of topics to be covered for this class. You will receive an additional schedule which provides the specific dates for topics, exams, and paper assignments.

Chapter 1	Adjusting to Modern Life
Chapter 2	Theories of Personality
Chapter 3	Stress and Health

FIRST EXAM**Chapters 1, 2, and 3**

Chapter 4	Coping Processes
Chapter 5	The Self
Chapter 6	Social Thinking and Social Influence

SECOND EXAM**Chapters 4, 5, and 6**

Chapter 7	Interpersonal Communication
Chapter 8	Friendship and Love
Chapter 9	Marriage and Intimate Relationships

THIRD EXAM**Chapters 7, 8, and 9**

Chapter 10	Gender and Behavior
Chapter 11	Development in Adolescence and Adulthood
Chapter 12	Careers and Work
Chapter 13	Development and Expression of Sexuality

FOURTH EXAM**Chapters 10, 11, 12, and 13**

Chapter 14	Psychology and Physical Health
Chapter 15	Psychological Disorders
Chapter 16	Psychotherapy

FIFTH EXAM**Chapters 14, 15, and 16**

COURSE REQUIREMENTS, ACTIVITIES, AND ASSIGNMENTS

- 1. Class Exams.** Students will have five scheduled in-class exams during the semester. The five exams are each worth 50 points and will include a combination of true-false multiple-choice questions, and short-answer essay. All exams count toward the student's course grade. The Fifth exam is the final exam and will not be comprehensive. PLEASE NOTE: You will have the option of taking the five scheduled exams in tandem or individually. A one page crib sheet of notes (front & back) may be used for all the in-class exams. **All exams must be taken. No grades are dropped.**
- 2. Group Work and Participation.** Small group work is an integral part of this class. The group activities are designed to provide the student with an opportunity for self-expression, application of the concepts, principles, and theories of applied psychology, and to promote critical thinking skills. Group work and participation will be worth up to 50 points. Students' participation grade will be based on the quality and quantity of students' verbal participation in group work and class discussions. Class Attendance will also be included in the course grade and will worth up to 50 points.
- 3. TEST REVIEWS:** Students will receive a test review sheet for each of the scheduled exams to facilitate learning and preparation outside of class. The review sheets list the specific learning competencies for the course content. A formal in-class review will take place prior to each exam to provide students with an opportunity to ask questions and clarify any concerns regarding the about the specific learning competencies and testing procedure.

COURSE EVALUATION

	<u>Maximum Points</u>	<u>Minimum Points Required</u>			
		A	B	C	D
Tests	250	225	200	175	150
Group Work & Participation	50	45	40	35	30
Attendance	50	45	40	35	30
	Totals:	315	280	245	210

ADDITIONAL CREDIT OPTION

Students may earn up to 35 points by completing a paper on a topic from the American Psychological Association Website. Go to www.apa.org and click on the TOPICS LINK at the top of the page and then use the drop-down menu to explore the different topics from A to Z. Once you have selected a topic, you will need to obtain information on the topic from several sources on the website: Press Releases, Psychology News, Monitor on Psychology, Journal, and Internal APA Resources. Your objective is as follows: 1) gather information on your topic from some of the different sources 2) provide a summary of the topic based on the information obtained 3) provide your own personal conclusions on the topic. Paper must be a minimum of 3 pages of text (double-spaced) and include a reference page of the sources you used.

TANDEM TESTING OPTION

You will have the option of taking all five exams on an individual basis or in tandem with one other student as a test partner. The tandem option is a form of cooperative learning/assessment in which two students work together in answering the test questions. You hand in just one answer sheet with both your names on it and receive the same grade. Testing partners are formed by students and no more than two students will be allowed to test together. If you feel a partner is not working out, you can opt to find a new partner or take the remaining exams on your own.

COURSE POLICY

ATTENDANCE: Attendance is expected. There are no unexcused absences. If a student is absent, he/she is simply absent. Three consecutive absences will result in an automatic drop from the course. A total of six absences during the semester will also result in an automatic drop from the course. Students are expected to be on time and to keep cell phones/pagers turned. No eating will be allowed during class.

Students are responsible for all information that is presented in class, regardless attendance. You should obtain any missed lecture notes and announcements made in class from other students.

It is the student's responsibility to withdraw from a course they do not wish to Take. If you simply stop coming to the class and do not officially withdraw from the course, then you will receive a grade that will be based on completed work.

PARTICIPATION: This class is intended to be interactive; therefore, I expect Students to come to class prepared. That is, all assigned reading should be completed before class, as well as any outside assignment. You should be prepared to participate in class discussions and group work.

ACADEMIC HONESTY: Cheating and plagiarism are not acceptable academic behavior and will result in an automatic F for this course. This would include looking on someone else's answer sheet during testing or using some else's ideas or words in a paper assignment without providing appropriate source documentation and quotes. The Academic Dean will be notified of all student transgressions, as well as the action taken by the instructor.

EXAM MAKE-UPS: I expect your attendance on all scheduled exam dates and to arrive to class on time for exams. Students who arrive late to an exam will only be permitted to complete the exam in the remaining portion of the allotted time devoted to the exam. The allotted time ends when the regularly scheduled time ends. There are no exceptions to this policy. For tandem testing, I expect both partners to be present at the same time when the exam is administered by the instructor and to start the exam together. Should one or both testing partners be late, the exam will have to be taken individually.

IMPORTANT---If you need to miss a regularly scheduled exam due to a valid, unavoidable circumstance, you must let me know by providing written documentation within 24 hours of the regularly scheduled exam. If you or a personal representative do not contact me within 24 hours of the scheduled exam, you will receive a ZERO on that exam. Do not ask to be excused from the regular exam times unless you are hospitalized, contract a major illness, or experience some equally traumatic event for which you can provide appropriate documentation. If such an instance is not appropriately documented and subsequently approved by the professor, the student will receive a zero for that exam. The instructor will make the determination of whether a reason for missing an exam is to be considered valid and excused. No make-ups will be given for the final exam. Family vacations, relationships break-ups, oversleeping, for example, are not considered valid reasons.

SPECIAL NEEDS: Mineral Area College complies with guidelines set forth by the American with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you need special assistance or support due to special circumstances such as a physical and/or learning disability, please contact me as soon as possible to discuss appropriate and reasonable accommodations.

