



COURSE OUTLINE

Course Name: Psychology 1

Course Number: PSYC 1100

Number of Credits: 3.0

Effective Date: July 2018

Course Description:

This course introduces students to the discipline of psychology and provides an overview of the major areas and perspectives in the field. It is an overview of the history, systems and theories, research methods, evolution and genes, the brain and nervous system, body rhythms and states of consciousness, sensation and perception, learning theory, and behaviour.

Psychology 1 and 2 can be taken concurrently or in either order.

School or Centre:

School of Arts and Sciences

Year of Study:

1st Year Post-secondary

Course History:

Revised Course

Name of Replacing Course (if applicable):

Course Pre-requisites (if applicable):

Course Co-requisites (if applicable):

PLAR (Prior Learning Assessment & Recognition)

No Yes (details below):

Instructional Strategies:

The course uses a combination of lectures, demonstrations, video, group work, class discussion and library research.

Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Define psychology as a natural science.
- Summarize the early history and development of psychology.
- Define basic concepts, perspectives and major issues in contemporary psychology.
- Identify, observe and describe specific psychological processes and principles.
- List and describe the components and functions of the central and peripheral nervous systems.
- Examine and understand the mind body connection.
- Distinguish between sensation and perception.
- Explain the various models of learning.
- Describe and assess the biological, psychological, cultural, and social influences on behaviour.
- Critically analyze information about humans and their diversity.
- Discuss the connection and differences between culture, gender and biology.
- Utilize the eight guidelines (as presented in the textbook) of critical thinking in the study of psychology.
- Use the concepts covered in the course and apply it to their personal and social lives.
- Use the scientific method in observing and analyzing human behaviour.
- Research and critically analyze current peer reviewed research.
- Use APA style when documenting sources.

Program Learning Outcomes:

If this course is taken as a requirement or an elective in the following first year, University Transfer Certificate programs, the learning outcomes are found in the relevant Program Content Guides available at the Counseling and Advising Service areas.

University Transfer Arts Certificate

University Transfer Pathway to Health Sciences Certificate

University Transfer Science Certificate

University Transfer First-year Engineering Certificate

University Transfer Computing Science and Software Systems Certificate

Evaluation/Grading System

Grading System	Specify if 'Other':	Specify Passing Grade:
Letter Grades		D

Components and Weighting of the Assessment/Evaluation Plan:

Type	Percentage	Evaluation Plan (provide a brief explanation for each component especially if value exceeds 35%):
Assignments	40	written reports, library research and group work
Midterm Exam	40	2 exams at 20% each
Final Exam	20	
Total		100

Learning Environment/Type

Instruction Type	Hours Per Instruction Type	Comments
L - Classroom	60	
Total		60

Resource Material(s):

Resources are items in addition to tuition that the student is responsible for purchasing. Course resource information will be supplied by the department/instructor.

Course Topics:

- What can psychology teach us?: Overview and introduction.
- How psychologists do research: The scientific method, conducting research, ethics.
- Evolution and genetics: our commonalities and our differences.
- The human brain: basic anatomy and physiology.
- Biological rhythms.
- Consciousness and altered states of consciousness
- Sensation and perception.
- Learning theory.
- Social and cultural influences on behavior.

VCC Education and Education Support Policies

There are a number of **Education** and **Education Support** policies that govern your educational experience at VCC, please familiarize yourself with them.

The policies are located on the VCC web site at:

<http://www.vcc.ca/about/governance--policies/policies/>

To find out how this course transfers, visit the BC Transfer Guide at www.bctransferguide.ca.

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Approved by Curriculum Committee:		Approved by Education Council:	
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