

# College of San Mateo Course Outline

- New Course  
 Update/No change  
 Course Revision (Minor)  
 Course Revision (Major)

Date: 11.09.09

Department: Psych

Number: 675

Course Title: Honors Colloquium in Psychology Units: 1

Total Semester Hours: Lecture: 16 Lab: Homework: 36 By Arrangement:

Length of Course

- Semester-long  
 Short course (Number of weeks \_\_\_)  
 Open entry/Open exit

Grading

- Letter  
 Pass/No Pass  
 Grade Option (letter or Pass/No Pass)

1. Prerequisite (Attach Enrollment Limitation Validation Form.)

Completion of a college course in psychology.

2. Corequisite (Attach Enrollment Limitation Validation Form.)

3. Recommended Preparation (Attach Enrollment Validation Form.)

Read 400 or 405 with a C or better or concurrent enrollment in Read 400, 405 or 415 OR appropriate skill level as indicated by reading placement tests or other measures.

4. Catalog Description (Include prerequisites/corequisites/recommended preparation.)

Reading, discussion, and lectures covering selected advanced topics in psychology to be determined by the Psychology department and the Honors program.

5. Class Schedule Description (Include prerequisites/corequisites/recommended preparation.)

Selected advanced topics in General Psychology. Readings, discussion, and lectures. Course content determined by Psychology department and Honors program.

6. Student Learning Outcomes (Identify 1-6 expected learner outcomes using active verbs.)

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Define main problems and the main focus of study in psychology. Over the course you will explain and distinguish theoretical approaches to biological, cognitive, behavioral, and developmental psychology and relate them to the goals and methods of the physical, life, and social sciences. This will include an understanding of the history of psychology and the development of the neuroscience and psychobiology and other related disciplines as they relate to the primary independent and dependent variables of interest in Psychology.

2. Demonstrate understanding of strength and weakness of scientific and research methods in biological, physiological, and psychological sciences and how they relate to models of learning, perception, cognition and their application to contemporary medical and social problems. This will include an understanding of testing and measurement problems in psychological fields of study. We will also include detailed discussion on developmental aspects of change in thought and behavior over the lifespan.
3. To attain these goals you will be asked to locate relevant scientific papers related to research, theory, and information in the field and interpret this information and their sources verbally and in writing.
4. You will display understanding of how these items relate to science and the goals of science: characterize, predict, and change phenomena by being able to identify and formulate a testable hypothesis, examine the design, and examine ethical issues in the field.
5. These ideas will be placed in the appropriate theoretical contexts so conclusions can be addressed. These steps will be taken so that the role of psychology in addressing human problems by developing treatments both collectively and individually can be established in real-world situations.
6. You will be able to write in several ways: organizing relevant materials and writing overview statements, outlining, summary essays.
6. You will also be asked to verbally communicate your ideas both individually and in groups.
7. **Course Objectives** (Identify specific teaching objectives detailing course content and activities. *For some courses, the course objectives will be the same as the student learning outcomes. If this is the case, please simply indicate this in this section).*

Course objects are the same as SLOs.

8. **Course Content** (Brief but complete topical outline of the course that includes major subject areas [1-2 pages]. Should reflect all course objectives listed above. In addition, you may attach a sample course syllabus with a timeline.)

Topics:

1. Psychology as a science
  - a. Terminology
  - b. Experimental Method
  - c. Statistics
2. History of Psychology
3. Approaches to Psychology
4. Purpose of Psychology
5. Overview of Brain, Perception, Learning, Intelligence
6. Overview of Development from Darwin, through Freud to Piaget
7. Overview of Memory, Emotion, and Motivation
8. Applications to personality
9. Applications to social psychology
10. Applications to abnormal psychology, development, and personality
11. Systems and assumptions of psychotherapy.

9. **Representative Instructional Methods** (Describe instructor-initiated teaching strategies that will assist students in meeting course objectives. Include examples of out-of-class assignments, required reading and writing assignments, and methods for teaching critical thinking skills.) **If hours by arrangement are required by this course, indicate the additional instructional activity which will be provided during this time.**

Lecture/Discussion. Library and online research. Assignments on Selected readings. In class demonstration of mastery using multiple choice format tests.

10. **Representative Methods of Evaluation** (Describe measurement of student progress toward course objectives. Courses with required writing component and/or problem-solving emphasis must reflect critical thinking component. If skills class, then applied skills.)

Examinations and quizzes to assess mastery of concepts and methods in the class. Papers and generative methods may be used to assess student mastery of course material.

11. **Representative Text Materials** (With few exceptions, texts need to be current. Include publication dates.)

Zimbardo, Johnson, Weber, Psychology: Core Concepts, 6<sup>th</sup> edition (Allyn and Bacon/Longman, 2008)

Prepared by:

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Submission Date:

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