PSY 250 – Introduction to Psychology  
Course Outline and Syllabus  
Fall, 2017

Section 250.004: Tuesdays/Thursdays 10:45 – 12:00  
Room: Stevenson 1002  
Instructor: Suzanne Maggio-Hucek, MSW, LCSW  
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Office Hours: Thursdays 10:00 -12:00 and by appointment

Catalogue Description
This course covers the theories, research, and applications that constitute psychology. An important goal is to help students become informed consumers of psychological knowledge. The role of culture is emphasized.

Course Summary
Psychology is an exciting field that opens the door to a rich and deep understanding of people and relationships. Learning various psychological perspectives allows us to understand ourselves and others better. This class will be an opportunity for you to learn various psychological theories, explore different approaches to understanding human behavior and apply that information to your own life experience.

Department Learning Goals:
• Be familiar with the major concepts, theories, and perspectives in psychology;  
• Be able to apply psychological theories, concepts and principles to individual experience as well as to broader social issues and social systems;  
• Be able to reflect on personal experience in the light of psychological knowledge;  
• Be able to recognize and understand the complexity of cultural diversity, in light of psychological knowledge;  
• Be able to understand and apply basic research methods in psychology and the social sciences;  
• Be able to demonstrate skills that promote behavioral change at the individual, organizational, and community levels.

Expectations:
Throughout this course, we will operate as members of a community of learners. It is critical that we treat each other with respect and support on this journey of discovery. As such, the following expectations apply:
• Arrive for class on time. Late arrivals are disruptive and disrespectful to the instructor and your classmates.

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Maggio-Hucek
• Assignments must be turned in on time. Should you have a situation that necessitates your need for an extension, you must speak to me in advance of the due date to make special arrangements. I will not accept any late assignments without advance discussion.

• Participate actively. In a community we are all responsible for each other. Come to class prepared. Share your thoughts and ideas and the class will be richer for all involved.

• Be a conscious community member. Do not use vulgarity, racial slurs, discriminatory remarks or other communication that shows disrespect to your community.

• There is no use of electronic devices such as cell phones, ipods, or mp3 players. Cell phones must be turned off or set to vibrate. If you would like to take notes on your laptop, please discuss this with me in advance. Refrain from distracting activities (e.g. sleeping, whispering, talking when someone else is talking, working on other coursework, texting, online shopping, responding to email, etc.)

• Do your own work. Cheating or plagiarizing on papers or exams is against school policy and appropriate action will be taken if it is determined that you have done so.

• Ask questions. I have an open door policy. If you have a problem, come speak to me. My goal is to support your learning experience.

Attendance and Participation
Your full attendance and participation are required. Attendance and participation are indicators that you are an active and committed participant in your education.

Be on time. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of class. If you are more than 5 minutes late, you will be considered tardy. If you are late twice, it will be seen as an absence. After three absences, the instructor has the option to drop you from the class.

Students with Special Needs
Students with special needs can receive services through the Disability Services for Students (DSS) located in Salazar, Suite 1049. If you are in need of accommodations, please contact me as soon as possible to make arrangements.
Textbook


Assignments

- Mid Term Exam (80 points) Multiple choice exam covering chapters (1 – 6 & 9) in the Morris book as well as in-class discussion.
- Final Exam (50 points) Multiple choice and short essay exam covering chapters (7, 8, 10-14) in the Morris book as well as in-class discussion.
- Class Blog (5 points each entry) Weekly, you will be asked to submit a response to the posting on the class blog.
- In class quizzes (25 points each) There will be two in class quizzes during the semester.
- Thesis Statement and Annotated Lit Review (60 points) - You will submit a written thesis statement and a preliminary review of the literature you will use to write your paper. Instructions are available on Moodle.

Grading

Your grade is determined through the accumulation of points earned by completing exams, on-line quizzes, assignments and the journal. Additional points will be given for participation.

Midterm (80 points) Final exam (50 points) 130 points
Class Blog @ 5 points each entry 65 points
Quizzes 2 @ 25 points each 50 points
Thesis Statement and Annotated Lit Review 60 points
Class Participation /Attendance @ 5 points each class 75 points
Total Points available 380 points

A (90%) = 342 - 380 points
B (80%)= 304 - 341 points
C (70%)= 266 – 303 points
D (60%)= 228 - 265 points
F (59% and below)= 228 points or less

Schedule of Readings, Assignments, Exams available on Moodle.