

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
Course Syllabus

Course No.: PSYC 220 Title: Introduction to Psychology Cr. Hrs. 3
Term & Term Dates: Winter 1, October 18- December 18, 2004.
Instructor: Robert Fels, Psy.D., Adjunct Assistant Professor
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Instructor availability: M-F, 11AM – 7PM

COURSE DESCRIPTION: A survey of the biopsychosocial continuum and the intrapsychic, interpersonal, and organizational factors affecting human behavior. The primary feature of the course is its focus on the scientific method as the route to psychological knowledge. Students study the rationalist, empiricist and experimental foundations of the scientific method and how these foundations can be critiqued. Topics include sensation, perception, learning, memory, personality, psychopathology, physiological psychology and social process. Emphasis is placed on the application of the basic principles of psychology to engineering, aviation, public policy and business.

GOALS : This course will introduce the student to the many factors influencing human behavior. This will help the student develop an understanding of the terminology used; develop an appreciation of the historical growth; develop an understanding of the basic theories applicable to the field of psychology; and develop an ability to apply the basic theories of psychology to practical life situations.

LEARNING OUTCOMES : Upon course completion the student will be able to:

1. Define psychology, describe its goals and methods, and distinguish it from other sciences which study human behavior.
2. Describe five major perspectives of psychology.
3. Describe the divisions and structures of the brain and explain the role of each in the central nervous system.
4. Discuss the principles of perceptual organization.
5. Describe the stages of sleep and understand dreaming.
6. Describe the functions of the memory systems.
7. Identify the characteristics of intelligence as described by both layman and psychologists.
8. Describe the effects of stress (psychological and physiological).

9. Summarize the important physiological and psychological changes that occur during adolescence.
10. Define personality and distinguish among the major theoretical orientations.
11. Describe the basic principles of motivation and emotion.
12. Define social psychology. Explain how social influences affect our attitudes, behavior, and the emotions.

REQUIRED TEXT: Santrock, J. W. (2003). *Psychology*. (7th ed.). Boston: McGraw-Hill.

Students are responsible for the content of all assigned articles.

RECOMMENDED READING: American Psychological Association. (2001). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (5th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

Wiggins, M. W., & Stevens, C. (1999) *Aviation social science: Research methods in practice*. Burlington, VT: Ashgate Publishing Company.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Date	Chapter		Topic
10/20/04	1, 2		Introduction to Course/What is Psychology? Psychology's Scientific Methods
10/27/04	3, 4	Quiz	The Biological Foundations of Behavior Human Development
11/03/04	5, 6		Sensation and Perception, States of Consciousness
11/10/04	7, 8	Quiz	Learning, Memory Review for Midterm Exam
11/17/04	9, 10		Midterm Exam, Thinking and Language, Intelligence
11/24/04	11, 12		Motivation and Emotion, Personality
12/01/04	13, 14	Quiz	Abnormal Psychology, Therapies
12/08/04	15, 16		Health Psychology, Social Psychology Review for Final Exam
12/15/04			Final Exam

PAPER/PRESENTATION: Students are required to submit a review and critical reading of five peer reviewed research articles that examine a Psychology research topic. Examples might be applied in nature and drawn from practical experience (i.e., pilot screening, intervention for the impaired pilot, memory and flight deck checklists). Address theoretical and empirical issues in your paper. The paper should be congruent with the style and format described in the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*. Articles are to be current and within the last five years.

ORGANIZATION OF PAPER: Title page (title, author, course, semester)
Abstract (short summary of the paper)
Body of Paper (introduction, subsections, discussion)
References (References cited in paper are included. Exclude references not cited).

INFORMATION ON PAPER: Choose a topic that interests you. The textbook, recommended readings and references from shared articles are good places to begin. *Aviation, Space and Environmental Medicine* and *The International Journal of Aviation Psychology* contain articles relevant to this course. Read those articles and then those referenced in the article. The library is essential for accessing helpful journal articles.

Submit copies of the articles with your completed paper. It is due on 12/01/04. No paper will be accepted beyond that date. Any paper that has been plagiarized from a published or non-published source will not only receive a grade of zero, but also all University policies will apply. Keep a back up copy of any materials that you present.

GRADING POLICY: Your grade will be determined in the following manner.

Quizzes	45 points each
Paper	90 points
Midterm	90 points
Final	90 points
Participation	40 points

A = 360-400 points
B = 320-359 points
C = 280-319 points
F = <280 points

Note: You will be allowed to drop your lowest quiz grade.

Course Policies

ATTENDANCE: Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes and are responsible for all covered class material. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain material if absent.

- REQUIRED READING:** Students are expected to read assigned chapters as indicated above. Copies of additional articles will be provided as a supplement to the required readings.
- EXAMINATIONS:** All students are expected to take exams on the day they are scheduled. Students must contact the instructor for a make up exam prior to the exam. Contents of the exam include required reading and lecture material. The format may include multiple choice, fill-in-the-blanks, and essay.
- QUIZZES :** Each quiz is worth 50 points. Short quizzes will be given at the beginning of class on designated dates. They will cover the material assigned to date in the class. The lowest quiz grade may be dropped. If you are absent for a quiz, that grade will be dropped. There are no make-up quizzes.
- STUDY QUESTIONS:** Study questions will be provided and are to be handed in prior to the quiz.