

# Dakota County Technical College

## PSYC 1100: General Psychology

### A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: \*.\*

OJT Hours/Week: \*.\*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

This general psychology course is an introduction and overview of the scientific study of behavior and experience. It includes topics like perception, learning, human development, intelligence, motivation, psychological disorders, social perception and group behavior.

Meets MnTC Goal 5

**B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES:** 04/13/1999 - Present

**C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS**

#### **D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)**

1. identify major philosophical issues in psychology and fields of psychological study, and demonstrate an understanding of the evolution of the major perspectives of psychology
2. identify important components of critical thinking, including the utilization of critical thinking skills in making predictions, goal setting, making decisions and judgments about behavior and identifying and seeking expert advice
3. demonstrate an understanding of how the scientific method relates to psychological research, theory and critical thinking skills in the workplace
4. identify the major aspects of the central and peripheral nervous system and the function of a neuron
5. demonstrate an understanding of how evidence is evaluated by psychologists and ethical considerations in the treatment of human and animal research participants has evolved over the years
6. identify the various ways humans and animals utilize sensation and perceptions, including a basic understanding of the evolution of sensation and perception
7. demonstrate and understand the various states of consciousness including sleep and dreams, ways of inducing hypnosis and its effect, drugs and their effects and sleep abnormalities
8. demonstrate an understanding of the way humans and animals learn, the development of behaviorism as a theoretical perspective in psychology and identify the difference between operant and classical conditioning and how they are utilized for teaching and learning
9. identify types of memory and distinguish between long-term and short-term memory, memory retrieval and some of the ways memory is affected by interference and the aging process
10. demonstrate a basic understanding of the development of language in humans
11. identify methods of measuring intelligence, problems with test, measurement bias and its relationship to types of intelligence, and gender and cultural differences in intelligence scores
12. identify the basic assumptions of the lifespan perspective of human development; types of development, including social, emotional and cognitive development; and gender and ethnic differences in child rearing and adult development
13. identify the general principles of motivational theory and the interplay between physiological and psychological aspects of motivation
14. demonstrate an understanding of the interplay between stress, coping and health
15. identify the major contributors to personality theory and demonstrate an understanding of the difference between trait, state and stage theories of personality
16. identify and give examples of the utilization of strategies of persuasion, define social perception, cognitive dissonance and identify the influences on attitude
17. demonstrate an understanding of the history and evolution of the treatment of persons with mental health problems, the impact of social and cultural norms on the definition of abnormal behavior
18. identify common mental disorders facing society and the current methods of diagnosis and approaches to treatment

#### **E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies**

Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

1. Employ the methods and data that historians and social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.
2. Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.
3. Use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.

#### **F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT**

As noted on course syllabus

**G. SPECIAL INFORMATION**

None noted