Wharton County Junior College

WCJC Student Syllabus Cover Sheet

Revised June 2017

Semester and Year	Fall 2018
CRN	10786, 10836, 12181
Course Prefix, Num. and Title	General Psychology – Core 080 – PSYC 2301 – 107 General Psychology – Core 080 – PYSC 2301 – 103 General Psychology – Core 080 – PYSC 2301 – 101
Instructor	Jodie Hutchinson M.A., LPC
Telephone	(979) 532-6451
Email / Webpage	hutchinsonj@wcjc.edu; Faculty Web Page (opens in new window) URL: http://facultyweb.wcjc.edu/users/hutchinsonj/index.aspx
Office Hours / Location	Wharton Campus Office: Science 214 Monday, Wednesday, & Friday: 7:55 am – 8:55 am, 10:55 – 11:55 am Monday 12:55 pm – 2:15 pm Tuesday & Thursday 12:10 pm – 1:30 pm
Class Days / Time / Location	PSYC 2301 – 101 MWF 9:00 am – 9:50 am Administration Building 200 PSYC 2301 – 103 MWF 10:00 am – 10:50 am Science Building 103 PSYC 2301 – 107 TTH 9:25 am – 10:40 am Administration Building 200
Course Catalog Description	General Psychology is a survey of the major psychological topics, theories, and approaches to the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. Prerequisite: TSI satisfied in Reading and Writing
Instructor's Grading Formula	Class Activities = 100 points APA Assignment & Test = 100 points Best 3 of 4 Unit Exams = 300 points Final Exam = 100 points
Instructor's Grading Scale	600-540 = A 539 – 480 = B 479 – 420 = C 419 – 360 = D 359 or less = F
Instructor's Attendance Policy	Attendance is taken at the beginning of each class and students must be present when roll is called to be counted present. Students who are absent will ask a classmate for notes from the class period they missed. Mrs. Hutchinson **does not** provide notes to students who have missed class. Students are expected to attend every class, take notes on material covered, and **read the text**.
ADA Statement	The college will make reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities. Students wishing to receive accommodations must contact the Office of Disability Services, located in the Pioneer Student Center, Room 313, at the Wharton campus or by phone at (979) 532-6384. Students must request accommodations from the Office of Disability Services prior to each semester. Please note that accommodations provided are not retroactive. Additional information can be found on the web at the Office of Disability Services (opens in same window/tab). Link Address: http://wcjc.edu/About-Us/administration/offices/student-services/disability-services.aspx.
Misconduct Statement	Misconduct for which discipline may be administered at WCJC includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, or knowingly furnishing false information to the college (plagiarism and cheating refer to the use of unauthorized books, notes, or otherwise securing help in a test, copying tests, assignments, reports, or term papers).
Last Day to Drop with a "W"	Friday, November 16, 2018

PSYC 2301 Course Information

Prerequisites: TSI satisfied

Communication Policy:

WCJC student email is the official means of communication with your instructor. When emailing your instructor please identify yourself by including your first and last name and course name and meeting time within the text of the email. Example: Hello Mrs. Hutchinson. My name is Alec Smith from your 11:00 MWF Psychology 2301 class. Important course and campus announcements will be sent to students via their WCJC student email. It is a course requirement to check and utilize your WCJC student email. Mrs. Hutchinson will respond to student emails sent on week days within a 24-hour period and will respond to emails sent after 5:00 p.m. Friday by the end of the following Monday.

Additionally, Mrs. Hutchinson uses the texting platform, Remind. Students are strongly encouraged to sign up for the Remind text alert system to get reminders about deadlines and be informed of last minute class cancellations or adjustments. Remind is not a requirement for the course, but students find it helpful for personal management. Any information conveyed to students via Remind is also identified in the syllabus and/or faculty webpage (example: deadlines and important dates). Class cancellations will also be posted in the classroom and students will be given instructions and further information via email. Students can contact Mrs. Hutchinson in her office during office hours in person at Science 214 or via telephone: (979) 532-6451. If you leave a voicemail please slowly state your first and last name, class title and meeting time, and the phone number you can be reached at.

General Education Core Objectives:

Students successfully completing this course will demonstrate competence in the following Core Objectives:

1. Critical Thinking Skills: to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
2. Communication Skills: to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
3. Empirical & Quantitative Skills: to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
4. Social Responsibility: to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

Student Learner Outcomes:

1. Identify various research methods and their characteristics used in the scientific study of psychology.
2. Describe the historical influences and early schools of thought that shaped the field of psychology.
3. Describe some of the prominent perspectives and approaches used in the study of psychology.
4. Use terminology unique to the study of psychology.
5. Describe accepted approaches and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation.
6. Identify factors in physiological and psychological processes involved in human behavior.

Required Course Materials:

Textbook (bring to class each meeting), 882E Scantrons for scheduled exams, Two No. 2 pencils for examinations, Note taking materials for class (pens, notebook/binder, etc.).

Sanderson, C. and Huffman, K. (2017). Real world psychology. 2nd Edition, New Jersey: Wiley. ISBN: 9781119429265

Six Drop Rule:

Under section 51.907 of the Texas Education Code, “an institution of higher education may not permit a student to drop more than six courses, including any course a transfer student has dropped at another institution of higher education.” This statute was enacted by the State of Texas in spring 2007 and applies to students who enroll in a public institution of higher education as a first-time freshman in fall 2007 or later. There are many exceptions to this rule. Please refer to the current WCJC catalog for information.

Method of Instruction:

This face to face course utilizes textbook readings, classroom lecture & discussion, and use of videos and other media methods to meet student learning objectives. The instructor utilizes Faculty Web and Blackboard to enhance the learning experience and provide additional information to students.

Course Requirements

Course Exams:

Unit Exams: Students will take 4 Unit Exams, worth 100 points each. The best 3 of 4 Unit Exams will be utilized for the student's point total.

A reading schedule is as follows (please note order of chapters may change at instructor's discretion. Changes in chapter order will be announced in class):

Exam 1: Real World Psychology Ch.1, 2, 4, 5
Exam 2: Real World Psychology Ch. 6, 7, 8
Exam 3: Real World Psychology Ch. 9, 10, 3, 14
Exam 4: Real World Psychology Ch. 11, 12, 13

The Psychology Department Final Exam is comprehensive and must be taken on the date and time scheduled.

Final Exam Schedule:
PSYC 2301 – 104 MWF 9:00 am - 9:50 am Final Exam on Wednesday, December 12 from 8:00 am - 10:00 am
PSYC 2301 – 103 MWF 10:00 am - 10:50 am Final Exam on Monday, December 10 from 10:15 am - 12:15 pm
PSYC 2301 – 105 MWF 9:25 am - 10:40 pm Final Exam on Thursday, December 13 from 8:00 am - 10:00 am

Written Assignments:

APA Assignment: Students will select an approved research article from EBSCO and bring it to class by the designated deadline date and time for instructor approval. Students will conduct a thorough review of the article in order to identify important aspects of the study. Students will then take an essay test over a new research journal article over the APA material they have learned.

Students should be able to answer the following questions about the selected article: •What is the hypothesis? •What are the variables (both independent and dependent if experimental)? •Which research method was utilized in the study? •Who were the participants (population and sample)? •Explain the procedure(s) used •Summarize the conclusions of the results. •Identify limitations of the study •What social and cultural implications and/or impact does this study have on society?

Class Activities:

Class activities are worth a total of 100 points. Throughout the semester, students will be required to complete a variety of tasks/ assessments to strengthen course objectives and promote personal reflection. Class activities will include independent study as well as group work. Students are responsible for completing each task by its assigned deadline to receive credit. Students must be present during the "class activity" to receive credit for the class activity completed that day. Make-up class activity grades are not permitted. Students who miss a class activity due to an approved, documented WCJC activity will not be penalized for that missed grade. Some assignments will be graded for a letter grade and others will be completion. Tardiness and/or leaving early will negatively impact class activity points.

Course Evaluation

Grading Scale & Formula:

Assignments		**Grading Formula for Final Grade**
EXAM (100 points)	= _____	540 - 600 = A
EXAM (100 points)	= _____	480 - 539 = B
EXAM (100 points)	= _____	420 - 479 = C
APA (100 points)	= _____	360 - 419 = D
FINAL EXAM (100 points)	= _____	359 or less = F
CLASS ACTIVITIES (100 points)	= _____	

FINAL GRADE = _____

Late Work & Make-Up Policy:

Make up exams for students who miss a scheduled exam will be allowed if the student has documentation identifying the reason for absence. The make-up test will then be scheduled for the end of the semester at a mutually agreed upon location, date, and time that is feasible for both the student and Mrs. Hutchinson. Students who know they will be absent for a scheduled exam can make arrangements with Mrs. Hutchinson to take their exam early or turn in assignments early as needed. Students should provide at least 48 hours' notice of their request to take an exam early so that Mrs. Hutchinson can determine the feasibility of administering the test early. If a student will miss an exam because of an approved WCJC activity or sport, it is the student's responsibility to schedule their exam with the instructor prior to the exam date. Make-up APA assignments will only be allowed with documentable extenuating circumstances and at Mrs. Hutchinson's discretion. The make-up APA assignment will then be scheduled for the week before final exams at a mutually agreed upon time, date, and location.

Classroom Behavior Policy:

Students will be expected to engage in appropriate classroom behaviors. Students must be present when roll is taken each class to be counted as "present" for the day. Side conversation is not allowed. Repeated side discussion will result in an activities grade point deduction. Cell phones and electronic devices are to be silenced during class and out of students' view during testing. Text messaging and social networking in class is inappropriate and not allowed. Abuse of technology in the classroom will result in losing the privilege of utilizing technology in the classroom. Repeated non-instructional use of electronic devices in class will result in a class activities point deduction. Students who continue to be disruptive will be asked to leave class for the day. It is the student's responsibility to advise the instructor of any extenuating circumstances within a timely manner.

Academic Honesty Policy:

Academic honesty is expected and is the rule for written work and examinations. Academic dishonesty occurs when a student submits the work or record of someone else as his own or when a student has special information for use in an evaluation activity that is not available to other students in the same activity. Cheating in any form is not allowed. Asking other students what material/items were on the test is considered cheating by gaining an unfair advantage. Copying from others and/or using unauthorized aids/notes when taking tests is cheating. Students will not be allowed to have any electronic devices in their position during testing ore review of graded tests unless pre-approved by Mrs. Hutchinson.

Plagiarism on the APA assignment is cheating. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to: turning in an assignment written by someone else; using someone else's thoughts, words, or ideas without giving them credit through appropriate citations; copying and pasting information from the internet; buying a paper on-line and submitting it as your own work; using portions of another student's paper and passing it off as your own. **All APA assignments will be screened for plagiarism**. Any student caught cheating on an exam, attempting to cheat, or using plagiarism in a written assignment will receive a grade of zero for the assignment and may receive disciplinary actions from WCJC.