



**KENNEBEC VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
FAIRFIELD & HINCKLEY, MAINE**

Approval Date: 5/15/00

Rotation: Spring

Year: 2018

COURSE NUMBER: PSY101
COURSE TITLE: Introduction to Psychology
CREDIT HOURS: 3
CLOCK HOURS: 45

PREREQUISITES: None
CO-REQUISITES: None

INSTRUCTOR: Jamie Sylvain
VOICE MAIL: N/A
E-MAIL ADDRESS: jsylvain@kvcc.me.edu
OFFICE: N/A
OFFICE HOURS: By appointment

TEXTS & OTHER MATERIALS:

OpenStax College. (2014). *Psychology*. Houston, TX: OpenStax CNX.

Download this FREE online textbook at <https://openstax.org/details/psychology>.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is an introduction and overview of the study of human behaviors. Lectures and discussion topics will include motivation, perception, historical roots, biological basis of behavior, scientific methods, human development, psychopathology, and theory.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

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

1. define the study of psychology, its breadth of coverage and typical research methodologies.
2. express an understanding of him or herself in relation to their biological makeup, their developmental/life span experiences, their sensation and perception of the world, their social role, and their cognitive and emotional skills and deficits.
3. apply this greater understanding of their selves in the context of appreciating individual differences and diversity of others in society.
4. cite ways in which the study of psychology may have an impact on their career, their interactions with others, and their dedication to life-long learning and personal growth.

GENERAL EDUCATION OUTCOMES:

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

1. Communicate clearly, effectively, and persuasively in both the written and spoken word
2. Utilize resources and technology as lifelong learners in pursuit of both their personal and professional

- goals.
3. Solve problems and make decisions based upon logical thinking and analytical skills.
 4. Respect cultural, ethnic and intellectual diversity as involved members of their communities.

In order to demonstrate these outcomes:

- Students will demonstrate proficiency in written communication
 - Assessment: Special Assignment Research Paper
- Students will demonstrate proficiency in information literacy
 - Assessment: Special Assignment Research Paper
- Students will demonstrate proficiency in problem solving
 - Assessment: Special Assignment Problem Solving Assignment
- Students will demonstrate proficiency in quantitative literacy
 - Assessment: Special Assignment Quantitative Analysis Assignment

COURSE CONTENT:

Within the online course in Blackboard (Bb) you will find a highly detailed document called “Course Navigator.” This document provides additional detail related to all course activities for each week.

- Lesson ZERO (Blackboard Orientation)
- Lesson 1: Introduction to Psychology
- Lesson 2: Psychological Research
- Lesson 3: Biopsychology
- Lesson 4: States of Consciousness
- Lesson 5: Sensation and Perception
- Lesson 6: Learning
- Lesson 7: Thinking and Intelligence
- Lesson 8: Memory
- Lesson 9: Lifespan Development
- Lesson 10: Emotion and Motivation
- Lesson 11: Personality
- Lesson 12: Social Psychology
- Lesson 13: Industrial-Organizational Psychology
- Lesson 14: Stress, Lifestyle, and Health
- Lesson 15: Psychological Disorders
- Lesson 16: Therapy and Treatment

COURSE ACTIVITIES:

For each week in this class you will be assigned specific activities. These activities may include reading in the textbook, reading outside material, participation in discussions, quizzes on the text content, and reflection quizzes.

Lesson Plans

The entire course is divided into “Lessons” that cover specific topics and learning objectives in the class. The Lessons are listed in the Course Outline above. Each Lesson introduces you to specific subject matter and asks you to engage in a number of activities. These may include reading, exploring the web, researching, participating in class discussions, quizzes (multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions), and assignments, (written work submitted as an attached document in a “drop box”)

Each Lesson consists of:

- A Lesson Plan that outlines the content and provides detailed instructions as to any assignments
- Direct links to any Assignments, or Quizzes that go along with that Lesson.

All the Lessons are located in the “Lessons” folder. Click on the Lessons link in the course Menu.

Lesson ZERO

Lesson ZERO is a brief tutorial on how to navigate in Bb and on how to engage in the basic skills for participating in the online course materials. This Lesson can also be found under Student Resources on Bb.

Tutorials are provided on posting to a Discussion Board, completing an Online Quiz, and submitting an Online Assignment to a Drop Box.

Participation in this Lesson is MANDATORY for ALL students, even those who are not taking the class Online.

Chapter Quizzes

For each chapter in the book there will be a quiz that you will take online. Each quiz will consist of 10 multiple-choice questions that will be randomly selected from a database each time you take the quiz. You can take the quizzes as many times as you wish, but understand that each time you take the quiz you may get different questions. The HIGHEST of all your attempts will be the one that counts so there is no risk in taking the quiz over and over. The quizzes will be available from the beginning of the class but they must be completed by the end of the week in which the reading is assigned. Feel free to work ahead on these quizzes.

Links to these quizzes are located in the corresponding Chapter Quizzes link.

Extensions on the due dates for Chapter Quizzes may be allowed with sufficient reason for extenuating circumstances, however, I reserve the judgment to not grant an extension. If you anticipate needing extra time it is best to get in touch with me PRIOR to the due date.

Attendance (Face-to-Face Classes)

Attendance is graded very simply in this class, either you are there (score = 100) or you are not (score = 0). I will be taking attendance each session we meet and I will simply average all these scores together to formulate this part of your grade.

Attendance in this class is critical as we will be going over Lesson material pertinent to you completing the Lesson Quizzes...we will also be doing in-class activities to help facilitate your learning of the material.

Please review the online document titled “Course Expectations and Policies”

Graded Online Discussions (Online/Hybrid Classes)

If you are taking your class in Online or Hybrid format you will be expected to participate in graded Online Discussions.

Each discussion will be posted in Bb with a prompt composed by your Instructor. You are required to post your own reply to that prompt and to reply to at least two of your peers’ posts for full credit on the discussion.

Specific expectations for these discussions will be included in the course.

It is very important for you to participate actively and fully in these discussions. These discussions will be graded and will be available for a specified amount of time (Monday morning until Sunday night on a given week in the course).

Special Assignments

The following assignments are those that have been incorporated into this class to not only teach you course content, but to also enable you to demonstrate learning associated with the KVCC General Education Outcomes. (See the section on General Education Outcomes at the beginning of this syllabus).

- Research Paper Project
- Quantitative Analysis Assignment
- Problem-Solving Assignment

It is critical that you review the information I have provided for each of these assignments in the course website. While the assignments are not particularly complicated, they are certainly complex, requiring planning and time management to complete them by their due dates.

GRADING:

Grading for the course will be accomplished in the following manner:

1. Attendance/Online Discussions	25%
2. Chapter Quizzes	25%
3. Special Assignments	15%
✓ Quantitative Analysis Assignment	
✓ Problem Solving Assignment	
4. Research Project	25%

GRADING SCALE:

Letter Grades---Based on a final grade scale of 0-100, the following letter grades will be assigned:

95-100	A
90-94	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
Below 73	F

Please note that I will not be giving grades below a C. The rationale to this is that students who do not master more than 72% of the material in this class are not prepared to meet the expectations of future classes or programs that require this course. It simply means that you have not learned enough material to really say that you have “passed” the class.

Late Work:

One of the key skills that one learns through their college career is task and time management. You have to learn to balance your life obligations and your school commitments. Each of us has only 24 hours a day to do what we need to do, so the difference between success and failure often comes down to how well you manage your time.

While you have to manage your time to get your work done, we, as instructors, need to manage our time in order to get your work graded and to provide timely feedback (where the REAL learning happens!). It is important that you submit your work by the due dates provided in the class so that your instructor can grade this work in a timely fashion.

If, for some reason, you are not able to get your work done, you must contact your instructor as soon as possible. This means you have to contact your instructor BEFORE the work is due, not after the due date. It is the sole discretion of the instructor as to if they will provide you any extra time to do any work. We are NEVER obligated, outside of official accommodations for disability, to provide extra time for you to get your work done, so do not consider this a “right” that you have under whatever circumstances you have encountered.

Hint: If you have unintentionally overlooked a due date for an assignment, your best course of action is to complete the assignment and send it to your instructor right away. Explain your circumstances and simply request that the instructor look at your work and provide feedback even if they are not going to award you any grade for the work. It is STILL the sole discretion of the instructor to award credit or not, but this method will demonstrate more commitment on your part and may influence that decision.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Please review the online document titled “Course Expectations and Policies”

Attendance in this class is crucial for you to pass this class. Attendance in this class is monitored by your completion of the assigned weekly activities and your attendance in class (face-to-face classes). If you fail to come to class and/or participate in the assigned activities for a given week you will receive an attendance warning, even if you have logged into the course. You are given credit for the WORK that you complete, not just logging in. Consistently missing class, discussions, and/or other assignments will devastate your grade.

Regardless if this is a face-to-face or online class, if you have inconsistent access to a computer or the Internet it is likely that taking this class is NOT a good idea. It is YOUR responsibility to assure that you have the computer, software, and Internet access to participate in the course. Keep this in mind...the vast majority of this class can be done from any public workstation...a library computer, a friend’s computer, etc. There really is no excuse for not accessing the class to complete assignments.

If you anticipate that you will have difficulty meeting these requirements due to vacations, weddings, childbirth, alien abduction, or any other reason, you should consider taking the class at another time.

The “No Excuse” Policy

While I am deeply dedicated to your success as a student and as a person, and I understand that “life” can get in the way of your goals, I am also deeply committed to ensuring that my grading and interactions with you are fair and equitable. To this end, I have developed a policy that I call my “No Excuse” policy. Portions of this class, whether conducted online (mainly discussions) or in class (attendance) simply cannot be “made up” in any way. As adults, you entered into a “contract” to take this course understanding the demands that it will make on your time and external commitments.

Therefore, I do not incorporate any process of “make up” for specific aspects of this class that require your “presence” (such as online discussions and class attendance). If you miss class or miss participating in any

graded online discussions, you simply cannot make it up regardless of the reason why you missed them. It is not for me to judge the decision you made to not attend or participate therefore I do not place myself as a judge in these circumstances: determining which “excuses” are valid or not.

Consider this course as you would a “part-time, hourly job”. You get “paid” when you are “here” and you would certainly not expect to get paid if you were not “there”.

This includes medical and disability issues related to your ability to take this class. Accommodations for medical and disability-related conditions need to be verified through the Dean of Students (see below) but apply only to “non-essential” aspects of the course. Attending class and participating in online discussions are considered essential aspects of the course and are not subject to accommodation.

For example:

Let’s say you broke a leg while skydiving in Peru and you didn’t get back home in time to participate in class. If you missed a live class or missed online discussions during that absence, you could not make that up (because participation in these aspects of the course are time dependent and essential to the class).

However, if you missed an online test during that time, I might be able to make accommodations for you to take the test at another time (since being available during a specific time period is NOT essential to taking the test---though an alternative test may be created to ensure that you don’t benefit from others having already taken the test!)

If circumstances arise that impact your ability to meet the ESSENTIAL aspects of this course (class attendance, participation in online discussions, lack of access to the internet), you need to contact me immediately so that we can do what we can to find the best solution for your circumstances.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Please review the online document titled “Course Expectations and Policies”

In addition to the regular course outcomes, this course engages students to demonstrate their competence in a number of areas related to General Education Learning Outcomes. Specific assignments in the class are designed to not only teach about the course topics, but to demonstrate this general learning.

The following is an outline of these outcomes and their corresponding assignments:

- Students will demonstrate proficiency in information literacy
 - o Assessment: Research in Psychology
- Students will demonstrate proficiency in problem solving
 - o Assessment: Personal Behavior Plan
- Students will demonstrate proficiency in quantitative literacy
 - o Assessment: Calculating a Correlation

INSTRUCTORS POLICIES:

Please review the online document entitled “Course Expectations and Policies

This document is subject to change.

Extra Guidance or Tutoring Services:

When you’re feeling like you need extra guidance, KVCC has many resources for you to access, almost all of which can be found in the Learning Commons on each campus.

The Learning Commons includes the following services all in one location:

Library services
Academic coaching
Tutoring services
Writing Center
Tech Stop for technology help
JMG college specialist
Disability services
And more...

It's also a great spot to work in between classes or to meet with study groups. The Learning Commons is located in the Averill building at the Alford campus and in the Lunder building on the Fairfield campus. Check your email for information about services and hours!

Learning Commons Staff:

Christy Johnson, Director of Learning Commons – cjohnson2@kvcc.me.edu

Barbara Bartley, Librarian – bbartley@kvcc.me.edu

Jessica Rodrigue, JMG College & Career Transition Specialist – jrodrigue@kvcc.me.edu

Stephen LaRoche, Director of Library Services – slarochelle@kvcc.me.edu

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES (2016/2017)

Kennebec Valley Community College welcomes students with disabilities, and in accordance with state and federal laws, KVCC is committed to assisting students with disabilities to achieve their educational goals.

In order to receive reasonable accommodations for this course:

- Students must contact the Director of Learning Commons at 453.5084 or cjohnson2@kvcc.me.edu
- Students must provide current, appropriate documentation of their disability
- Students must make a timely request for accommodation to the Director of Learning Commons
- Accommodations will not be provided until the faculty member receives a letter requesting accommodations. This letter is created with the director of learning commons and is supported by the documentation of stated disability
- Requests for accommodation(s) must be renewed each semester for each course

To begin this process, please contact Christy Johnson, Director of Learning Commons at cjohnson2@kvcc.me.edu or 207.453.5084

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION (2017):

Kennebec Valley Community College is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution and employer. KVCC does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission to, access to, or operation of its programs, services or activities. Students requesting classroom accommodation should be forwarded to the Director of the Learning Commons, Lunder Library, phone: 453-5084

Complaints about College decisions related to disability accommodations or discrimination must be forwarded to the Dean of Student Affairs, Enrollment Services Center, 92 Western Avenue, Fairfield, ME 04937, phone: 453-5822.