



SCHOOL OF ADULT AND CONTINUING EDUCATION
COURSE SYLLABUS

Course # and Title: PSY-281-FT : Introduction to Psychology
Semester/Year: Summer- 2011
Class Days, Times: Mondays, 6:00 to 10:00 pm
First Day of Class: June 6; Last Day of Class: July 25
Site: ACE- Fort Myers
Classroom: Fort Myers- Room 500-2
Instructor: Scott A Johnson, MA
Phone: (612) 269-3628
E-mail: sajohnson@mail.barry.edu or scott@forensicconsultation.org
Office Hours: ½ hour prior to class or by appointment
Office location: Classroom or adjunct office

Academic Information

Course Description: An introductory overview to the broad principles involved in the issues and topics of Psychology. Survey of findings in the major areas including the brain and mind, individual and group behavior, perception, intelligence, memory, learning, social interactions, personality and mental disorders.

Required Text: Wade, C., & Tavis, C. (2012). Invitation to Psychology, Fifth Edition. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson. ISBN: 978-0-13-175063-0.

Link to bookstore: <http://www.barry.edu/bookstore/>

Power Point lecture notes will be available on my website free of charge. It is recommended that you print-out these PowerPoint notes and use them in class to save on note taking. Also, much of the test is based on the PowerPoint notes. To print out the PowerPoint notes: go to print; under the *print what* tab select “**handouts**” and then how many slides per page (**6-8 recommended**); select “**black and white**” to save on ink! Go to www.forensicconsultation.org and go to the “books” tab, bottom of the page select Barry. ***The Power Points are optional!***

Barry University Mission Statement: Barry University is a Catholic institution of higher education founded in 1940 by the Adrian Dominican Sisters. Grounded in the liberal arts tradition, Barry University is a scholarly community committed to the highest academic standards in undergraduate, graduate and professional education. The entire Barry University Mission Statement, which includes the four tenets of the Core Commitments (*Knowledge and Truth, Inclusive Community, Social Justice and Collaborative Service*), can be accessed at: www.barry.edu/aboutbarry/mission.htm

Relationship of Course to the University Mission: Due to the nature of this course, all tenets of the Core Commitments of the university mission will be met. Students will gain a wealth of knowledge about Psychology (*Knowledge and Truth*); understanding

Psychology through personal experiences and the use of Psychological principals in the community around them (*Inclusive Community*); the impact of Psychology on lifestyles in relation to individual and group experience in decision making (*Social Justice*); and the availability of individual and community Psychological services (*Collaborative Service*). Read the Barry University mission statement at: www.barry.edu/aboutbarry/mission.htm

COURSE OUTCOMES AND ASSIGNMENTS

Course Outcome <i>The Student Will:</i>	Assignment	Weight, Assessment Tool
Develop a critical understanding of individual and group behavior through the concepts, theories, and methods of psychology.	Research Project & Paper (Embedded assessment assignment)	100 points ; Scoring will follow paper scoring rubric.
	Reading assignments	500 points; Exams (5x100pts)
Demonstrate written communicative competence in the fundamental concepts and ideas of psychology.	Embedded assessment assignment: See above.	Assessment tool: Rubric
Understand how social, demographic, and technological changes affect the areas of Psychology.	Scientific Method & Critical Thinking Paper	Worth 50 points. Assessment tool: rubric
Utilize critical thinking skills in analysis of Psychological information presented to the public.	See above two research projects & papers.	Assessment tool: Rubric

Learning methods: This course will utilize classroom lectures, classroom discussions, demonstration and activities, oral and written reports, and group projects. Video programs may be utilized. Written and online quizzes and examinations may be utilized.

Grading:	Point Scale	Letter Grade	GPA Numerical Value
	≥ 94	A	4.0
	90 - 93	A-	3.7
	87 - 89	B+	3.4
	84 - 86	B	3.0
	80 - 83	B-	2.7
	77 - 79	C+	2.4
	70 - 76	C	2.0
	60 - 69	D	1.0
	0 - 59	F	0.0

The professor reserves the right to award extra points for excellence, improvement, and academic success.

General Information

Learning Environment Policy: All students are expected to support the university's commitment to provide an effective learning environment. Any behaviors and/or events determined to be detrimental to success in any Barry University related academic pursuit, at a location where the Barry University learning process takes place, are prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, bringing unauthorized visitors, e.g., children, friends, or other family members to classrooms; and usage of cell phones, pagers, radios or radio headsets, especially in campus libraries, classroom, laboratories, computer labs or any location where the Barry University learning process takes place. Please refrain from text-messaging or Internet browsing during class. Portable devices should be turned off or set on silent mode before you enter class. No recording devices are permitted without explicit permission. Any violations of the Learning Environment Policy or accepted student conduct may result in being asked to leave the classroom. Final discretion for any and all portions of this policy rests with the professor.

Attendance Policy: Students are expected to attend classes. You are expected to be present at every class session (*see College Catalog*). You are responsible for notifying me *directly*, by *phone or email* if you intend to miss a class *prior* to missing the class! Otherwise it will be an unexcused absence. If you miss and are recorded as absent more than one class for ANY REASON, your grade may be adversely affected (how it will be affected will be determined by the professor, e.g., including but not limited to the following: lowering a borderline average to the next lowest grade or not raising a borderline average to the next highest grade; dropping a grade by one letter; an F in the course; removing a student from class). Excused absences are those in which a situation occurred that prevented a student from attending a class, and generally involves a genuine emergency. The professor has the right to determine whether an absence is excused or not excused. However, excessive absences will adversely affect the final grade. The College policy on attendance is in the Catalog, and defers to the professor.

Withdrawals: To withdraw from a course after the first week of classes, students must complete a withdrawal form or notify, in writing, their academic advisor before April 18, 2011. Not doing so will result in a final grade of "F". There is no refund after withdrawing from a course.

Incompletes: An incomplete grade may be given only to a student who has been attending classes on a regular basis and submitting assignments and tests promptly. The request to complete required coursework must be made by the student and agreed to by the faculty member. An incomplete grade must be made up within the session following its receipt. It is the student's responsibility to arrange with the instructor for satisfactory completion of course requirements.

Make-ups and Late Work: All assignments and exams must be completed when scheduled or when the professor gives a due date. Late assignments will receive a lower grade. However, late assignments must be turned in within one class from the due date or by the date the professor indicates or that assignment will be scored zero. Late assignments may or may not be accepted for an assignment and the professor has the final decision.

Class Cancellation Policy: In the event that a class will be cancelled, the professor will send an email to the students as soon as possible. In lieu of the in-person class, the student will be expected to read the assigned Power Point and complete a written assignment to demonstrate an understanding of the material. This will count as a class. It is the responsibility of the student to check their email regularly.

Academic Dishonesty Policy: Cheating is defined as the attempt, successful or not, to give or obtain aid and /or information by illicit means in meeting any academic requirements, including examinations. Plagiarism is defined as the use, without proper acknowledgement, of the ideas, phrases, sentences, or larger units of discourse from another writer or speaker, including information found through the Internet. Typical penalties include: resubmitting the assignment or taking a new examination; a failing grade on the assignment or examination; or a failing grade for the course.

Inclusive Community: Embracing a global world view, the University nurtures and values cultural, social and intellectual diversity, and welcomes faculty, staff, and students of all faith traditions.

Disability Statement: The Office of Disability Services provides information, advocacy, and academic accommodations to students with documented disabilities. To register, call 305-899-3488.

CELL PHONES, ETC: Cell phones, PDA's and iPODS, blackberries, iPhones and similar devices must be **turned off and out of sight** during class or you could be asked leave the class. Laptops may be used for note taking or to review the power point

presentation. However, if you are browsing the Internet, texting, emailing, etc., you will be asked to leave the class and that class will be counted as an unexcused absence.

EXAMS: YOU MUST BE ONTIME FOR EXAMS; ANYONE MORE THAN 5 MINUTES LATE FOR A SCHEDULED EXAM MAY RECEIVE A “ZERO” FOR THAT EXAM or be required to take an alternate exam at the discretion of the professor. It is not fair to the students who are on time and taking an exam to be interrupted by late students. It is not fair to those who are on-time to be interrupted by those who are late! If you are late for an exam and the professor allows you to take that exam, you will need to finish the exam in the time frame allowed by the professor. Your final grade will be determined in part by your performance on *five 100-point exams*. Each exam is composed of items drawn from the test-item file, which accompanies the text (see text website for practice questions), plus other items in multiple choice and other formats. Tests can cover all information including classes, videos, and other course materials. *Make-up exams* will be given ONLY for legitimate reasons and with appropriate documentation for missing the exam. The professor retains the right to determine what is and is not a legitimate reason and what is and is not appropriate documentation. ***YOU MUST HAVE CONTACTED THE INSTRUCTOR PRIOR TO MISSING THE EXAM EXCEPT UNDER EMERGENCY SITUATIONS (e.g., in car accident or emergency room).*** You will have only *one chance* to make up an exam (a missed appointment for a make up exam can not be rescheduled and you will receive a 0 for that exam). Make up exams can be different from regularly scheduled exams. Any authorized make up exam must be completed within 2-7 days, at the discretion of the instructor. If it is not made up prior to that time, you will receive a 0 for the missed exam. It is your responsibility to keep up with any missed exams, provide legitimate documentation, and make appropriate arrangements within the stated time-frame.

Your grade will be based in part on the average of those five exams and two written assignments. Each exam is worth 100 points each, one paper is worth 50 points and the other 100 points, for a total of 650 possible points. There may be additional required assignments (short essays, e.g.). Failure to complete any and all required assignments (including the paper assignment and research requirement) may result in a lower grade up to receiving an F-grade for the course. If you are taking the class pass/fail, you must complete all assignments and have a passing average in order to earn a passing grade. ***You must take all exams- if you miss an exam, in addition to receiving a zero for the missed exam your final grade may be lowered one full grade.***

REQUIREMENTS:

1. **Exams.** There will be *five* exams. Each is worth **100 points; 500 points possible**.
2. **Quizzes.** There will be *online chapter quizzes on the textbook website*. Taking the quizzes is optional and there are no points for taking the quizzes. However these are open book quizzes that will test your comprehension of the chapter material and help prepare you the each exam.
3. **Research Projects & Papers (150 points possible).** There are two written assignments described below. Both are required.

Paper 1: You will define and explain in detail both *scientific method* and *critical thinking*. You will provide clear examples of each and demonstrate your understanding of each term, using your own words to explain. You will then explore one topic related to psychology applying scientific method and critical thinking to support the topic/concept/theory as well as to defend your position on the topic. The paper must be 3-5 pages typed, single-spaced pages of text, *excluding* title page and reference page (in a suitable font size – no larger than 12pt). **This is worth 50 points.**

Paper 2: You will be assigned into groups of 2 and will choose a topic in which you will become the “expert”. **This is worth 100 points.** All topics are to be approved by the professor. You will research the topic and will synthesize the information; and present to their findings to the class (5-10 minute presentation). *A paper of 8-10 pages will be handed in as specified in the course schedule and will be due in class. The paper is worth 100 points.* The chosen topic will cover all of the major terms, concepts, and important aspects of the topic). **No late work will be accepted.** All papers are due in class and no emailed papers will be accepted. Any group member who does not actively participate and contribute to the completion of the project will receive fewer points up to receiving a zero for this assignment. The paper will be graded per the *Paper Grading Criteria* outline provided.

Both papers must be well organized (with a clear introduction to the topic, well-developed discussion, and an appropriate conclusion) and clearly written. When referencing sources (including the text), appropriate *APA-style referencing & citation* must be used (for ideas about this format, look at the bibliography in the back of the text). Papers consisting of the overuse of citations or improperly cited materials may be docked points up to receiving zero points. Due dates for the presentations and papers will be discussed in class. *While advice will gladly be given about paper topics and general organizational and stylistic issues, papers will be turned in only once, i.e., no "rough drafts" will be considered.* You are encouraged to utilize resources including the library and writing labs, the OWL at Purdue for APA referencing, and you may request assistance from your professor as a last resort. *You must complete all papers- if you do not complete a paper you will receive a zero for the paper and your final grade may be lowered one full grade.*

- 4. Class Participation:** You do not earn participation points; however, your final grade on the paper or final class grade may be lowered if you fail to actively participate in class or make an adequate presentation of your group project. You are expected to attend all classes. It is your responsibility to sign-in every class. Failure to sign-in results in an absence- no exceptions! *More than 1 absence may result in a lowered grade. Being late for class will count as an unexcused absence.* See attendance policy. To receive full credit for classroom participation, you will need to demonstrate active listening, ask questions, and participate fully in all in/out of

classroom activities. Anyone dozing-off during class, not paying attention, or engaging in distracting behavior will lose participation points and may be asked to leave the class. Group exercises may occur at any time and you are expected to actively participate. This requires that you keep current with the required reading (book chapter and power point notes). ***Presentations for the group paper are included under participation points.***

Failure to check your email does not excuse you from notices, changes in assignments or class expectations, etc. It is your responsibility to have an accurate email address on file with the college.

POLICY ON TIMELY SUBMISSION OF ASSIGNMENTS: Unless prior approval from the instructor is obtained, no late assignments will be accepted.

Library link: <http://bucwis.barry.edu.ezproxy.barry.edu/libraryservices/>

Class Schedule

Date	Chapter	Lecture/Topic
June 6	Chapters 1 & 4	Syllabus Overview; <i>What is Psychology; Neurons, Hormones, & the Brain</i>
June 13	<i>Exam 1</i> ; Chapter 9	EXAM 1; <i>Learning</i>
June 20	Chapters 8 & 7	<i>Memory; Thinking & Intelligence</i> <i>PAPER 1 DUE</i>
June 27	<i>Exam 2</i> ; Chapter 3	EXAM 2 ; <i>Development 1 & 2</i>
July 4	<i>Exam 3</i> ; Chapter 14	EXAM 3 ; <i>The Major Motives of Life</i>
July 11	Chapters 10 & 13	<i>Behavior in Social & Cultural Context; Emotion, Stress, & Health</i>
July 18	<i>Exam 4</i> ; Chapters 2 & 11	EXAM 4 ; <i>Theories of Personality; Psychological Disorders</i> <i>PAPER 2 DUE</i>
July 25	Chapter 12; EXAM 5	Approaches to Treatment and Therapy; EXAM 5

DISTRIBUTION/GENERAL EDUCATION ASSESSMENT CHART

Course: **PSY-281 Introduction to Psychology**

Behavioral and Social Sciences Learning Goals	All courses which satisfy the University Distribution/General Education requirement in the Social and Behavioral Sciences meet the following learning goals: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To develop a critical understanding of individual and social behavior through the concepts, theories, and methods of the social and behavioral sciences.2. To demonstrate oral and written communicative competence in the fundamental concepts and ideas of the social and behavioral sciences.3. To identify and define the principles and strategies that can create more compassionate interpersonal relationships and social institutions based on equity and social justice.
Outcome(s)/Assignment	To assess these goals, students will complete a multi-task writing assignment. Satisfactory demonstration of this outcome will be indicated by a score of 3 or higher on the assignment grading rubric.
Rubric	The rubric for this assignment is attached.

Distribution Assignment – Written Topic Assignment (Grading Rubric Below)

The student will complete a multi-task writing assignment. The assignment will be a series of tasks, which lead up to the submission of a short paper based on a Psychological concept or topic that is of interest to the student. The student will be required to identify resources, review available literature, and analyze and synthesize that material in a short paper. These topics may be selected from any area of Psychology. All topics must be selected and approved by the second week of class. The format for the written material will follow APA style.

GRADING RUBRIC FOR PSY 281 Written Topic Assignment

Criterion	5	4	3	2	1	SCORE
Written Communication: Organization	Writing is well organized. Paragraphs are clear, and follow each other logically and conceptually. Sections clearly focused on their purpose in proposal.		Writing is somewhat organized although not well focused. Paragraphs are somewhat coherent, somewhat logically or conceptually focused. Sections are only partially focused on their role in proposal.		Writing is rambling and unfocused. Paragraphs are not coherent and not connected logically or conceptually. Sections fail to meet stated purpose.	SCORE _____
Written Communication: Use of English Language	Words are used appropriately in English vernacular. Spelling, grammar and punctuation are near perfect.		Words are not always used appropriately in English. Spelling, grammar, and punctuation are inappropriate sometimes.		Writing is poor, and words are not used appropriately in Standard English. Spelling, grammar, and punctuation are often poor.	SCORE _____
References and Citation System	References are cited consistently and correctly using the APA Style Format. All references cited.		References are sometimes not consistently and correctly cited using the APA Style Format. Some references cited.		References are frequently not cited correctly, nor used consistently in the APA Style Format. Few or no references cited.	SCORE _____
Format	Organization and format of paper page layout used according to guide in syllabus. Maximum 4 pages of text met.		Organization and format of paper page layout only sometimes used according to guide in syllabus. 5 to 7 pages of text given.		Organization and format of paper page layout seldom used according to guide in syllabus. More than 7 pages of text given.	SCORE _____
Critical Thinking and Analysis	Concepts, terms, analyses, and conclusions clearly, logically, and thoroughly presented.		Concepts, terms, analyses, and conclusions only sometimes clearly, and logically presented.		Concepts, terms, analyses, and conclusions not at all clearly, or logically, or thoroughly presented.	SCORE _____
Application of Theory	Written Assignment concepts are presented with good understanding and answered sections appropriately.		Written Assignment concepts are presented with some understanding and not always answering sections appropriately.		Written Assignment concepts are presented with limited or no understanding and not answering sections appropriately.	SCORE _____
						Total score=
						Rubric Score= (total/6)

Topic Paper Grading Criteria- PAPER 2	Points Earned	
I. MAIN PAPER BODY & CONTENT (70%)		
<p>Identified & addressed the key elements in a substantive way. (<u>35 points possible</u>)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clearly explained <i>critical thinking</i> and <i>scientific method</i>, including why they are important. 2. Clearly identified and explained in depth the major aspects and concepts of the topic. 3. Clearly demonstrated an understanding of the material (<i>e.g., used your own words, paraphrasing</i>). 4. Identified the major terms and concepts for the topic. 5. The information is presented and organized in a logical manner. 6. Major points are clearly stated and are supported by specific facts and data. 7. Utilized at least three sources (two additional sources other than the class text; <i>websites do not count!</i>). 		
<p>The content is comprehensive (at least 3 sources/articles reviewed), accurate, and/or persuasive. (<u>5 points possible</u>)</p>		
<p>The paper follow APA format for all citations and references (<u>25 points possible</u>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citations follow APA format (10 points) • References follow APA format (10 points) • Title and page headings follow APA format (5 points) 		
<p>The introduction provides sufficient background on the topic and previews the major points. (<u>5 points possible</u>)</p>		
<p>The conclusion is logical, flows from the body of the paper, and reviews the major points. (<u>5 points possible</u>)</p>		
<p>TOTAL: 75 points possible</p>		
<p>READABILITY & STYLE (10%); 2 points possible per item</p>		
<p>Paragraph transitions are present and logical and maintain the flow throughout the paper.</p>		
<p>The tone is appropriate to the content and assignment.</p>		
<p>Sentences are complete, clear, and concise.</p>		
<p>Sentences are well constructed, with consistently strong, varied sentences.</p>		
<p>Sentence transitions are present and maintain flow of thought.</p>		
<p>TOTAL: 10 points possible</p>		
<p>MECHANICS 15%; 3 points per item</p>		
<p>The paper, including the title page, reference page, tables, and appendices, follow APA guidelines for format.</p>		
<p>Citations of original works within the body of the paper follow APA guidelines.</p>		
<p>The paper utilizes clear headings, font styles, and white space.</p>		
<p>Rules of grammar, usage, and punctuation are followed.</p>		
<p>Spelling is correct.</p>		
<p>TOTAL: 15 points possible</p>		
<p>TOTAL FOR PAPER (100 points possible)</p>		

Scientific Method & Critical Thinking Paper- Grading Criteria	Points Earned	
I. MAIN PAPER BODY & CONTENT (70%)		
<p>Identified & addressed the key elements in a substantive way. (25 points possible)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Clearly described and explained <i>scientific method</i>. 9. Clearly described and explained <i>critical thinking</i>. 10. Clearly demonstrated an understanding of the material (e.g., <i>used your own words, paraphrasing</i>). 11. Clearly applied the concepts of <i>scientific method</i> and <i>critical thinking</i> to your topic to demonstrate the importance of each. 12. The information is presented and organized in a logical manner. 		
<p>The content is comprehensive (at least 3 sources/articles reviewed- websites do not count!), accurate, and/or persuasive. (5 points possible)</p>		
<p>The paper follow APA format for all citations and references (10 points possible)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citations follow APA format (10 points) • References follow APA format (10 points) 		
TOTAL: 40 points possible		
READABILITY & STYLE (10%); 1 points possible per item		
<p>Paragraph transitions are present and logical and maintain the flow throughout the paper.</p>		
<p>The tone is appropriate to the content and assignment.</p>		
<p>Sentences are complete, clear, and concise.</p>		
<p>Sentences are well constructed, with consistently strong, varied sentences.</p>		
<p>Sentence transitions are present and maintain flow of thought.</p>		
TOTAL: 5 points possible		
MECHANICS 15%; 1 points per item		
<p>The paper, including the title page, reference page, tables, and appendices, follow APA guidelines for format.</p>		
<p>Citations of original works within the body of the paper follow APA guidelines.</p>		
<p>The paper utilizes clear headings, font styles, and white space.</p>		
<p>Rules of grammar, usage, and punctuation are followed.</p>		
<p>Spelling is correct.</p>		
TOTAL: 5 points possible		
TOTAL FOR PAPER (50 points possible)		