

Psychology as a Discipline and a Profession

Fall 2016

Dr. Mary E. McKemy

(pronounced Mc-KAY-me, but feel free to call me Mary)

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Office Hours: Mondays 1:00 – 3:30
Feel free to just stop by or make an appointment.

Scheduled Dates: Class begins Monday, August 29 and ends Monday, December 5
Class meets in Owens G01

Psyc 198-001 Psychology as a Discipline and a Profession (1 credit hour)

Introduction to Psychology as a discipline and profession, intended for psychology majors and those considering psychology as a career choice.

Important Rule #1: Unless I specifically say that I am changing this syllabus, follow what is written.

Important Rule #2: You are responsible for everything said in class - including any and all instances where I change this syllabus - regardless of attendance or absence!

Important Rule #3: Early assignments are always welcomed. Late assignments, however, are not. Ten percent (10%) of the assignment's points will be deducted on all late assignments for each day late (weekends are included).

Important Rule #4: You are free to agree and disagree with me, but make sure that all contact with me is done in a respectful manner.

Important Rule #5: Grammar counts in everything done outside of class.

The purpose of this course:

- to explore the nature of psychology as a discipline and a profession

STUDENT OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, students should be:

- Familiar with a wide variety of areas within psychology
- More knowledgeable of their own personality and interests and how they can contribute to a satisfying career
- More aware of student resources available to promote success in college, job, and graduate school
- Familiar with internships, study abroad, the honors program, and the McNair program

- Knowledgeable of how minors at Winthrop can benefit psychology majors
- Knowledgeable of how skills learned as a psychology major can be transferred into various jobs
- Aware of the basic format of a resume and what will be needed on it by graduation
- Aware of various graduate programs in psychology
- Knowledgeable about the process of getting into graduate school, including information on the GRE and the application process to graduate school

ATTENDANCE

- This course is completed in the classroom, so you have to be here in order to complete it.
- You will receive 20 points each day you participate constructively in class. Class participation points cannot be made up. If you will be out of class for any reason (including all instances of excused absences), plan your grade around not having those points.
- **You have a maximum of 1 unexcused absences in this class.** Each subsequent unexcused absence will result in the loss of one letter grade. Take your absences sparingly.
- Discuss cases of emergencies (e.g., hospitalization, death of a family member, etc.) with me, and we'll see if alternate arrangements can be made. Discretion is mine.
- It is your responsibility to make sure I know you are at each class.
- Remember that you are responsible for what is said in class regardless of attendance.

ARRIVING LATE is disruptive to the class and to the professor. Please arrive on time. If you arrive late, you must inform me at the end of class that you came in late. Otherwise, you will not get credit for being present.

PROFESSIONALISM

You are adults and emerging professionals, and you will be treated as such. What does that mean? It means:

- you have my trust until you give me reason not to trust you
- you have ideas of your own that agree and disagree with mine and your classmates
- you are expected to be tolerant of others' ideas when they differ from yours
- you are encouraged to share your own ideas

It also means:

- you will have read and thought about the material prior to coming to class
- you will use all resources available to you (library, internet, community, etc.)
- you can learn from one another in addition to me

And it means honesty:

any form of cheating or plagiarism may result in your failing the course.

- cheating is defined as:
 - using any resources outside of those explicitly allowed
- plagiarism is defined as:
 - using someone else's work and directly or indirectly claiming it as your own
 - using someone else's ideas without giving them credit

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

As noted in the Student Conduct Code: "Responsibility for good conduct rests with students as adult individuals." The policy on student academic misconduct is outlined in the "Student Conduct Code

Academic Misconduct Policy” in the online *Student Handbook* (<http://www2.winthrop.edu/studentaffairs/handbook/StudentHandbook.pdf>).

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

I have a heart for students with disabilities, probably because I have a visual impairment and remember having to work extra hard in college. The goal of services to students with disabilities is not to give an undue advantage or somehow make it easier or lower standards. Rather, the goal is to give all students an even playing field so that everyone has the opportunity to do well, if they work hard at it. If you have issues with a disability, make sure to contact Disability Services at 323-3290. Once you have your letter, contact me, and we'll set up a meeting where we can discuss your accommodations and how you can best succeed in this class.

GRADING in this course is based upon participation, tests, and paper. The breakdown of grades is as follows:

Class Participation	15 days @ 20 pts. each	300
Completing the SII on time		50
Completing the MBTI on time		50
Career Project		100
Reflection Paper		100
The final grades will be as follows:		
	A = 90-100%	C = 70-76%
	B+ = 87-89%	D+ = 67-69%
	B = 80-86%	D = 60-66%
	C+ = 77-79%	F = 0-59%

Completing the SII and the MBTI

- To learn more about yourself, your interests, and your personality, you'll be completing the Strong Interest Inventory (SII) and the Myers Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI).
- The cost of these two instruments is \$12.50 each, for a total of \$25. Super cheap!!!
- Go to <http://www.winthrop.edu/cce/assessment/> and follow the instructions for taking both instruments by Monday, September 12, at midnight.
- You will get your results in class. Please do not set up an appointment through Career and Civic Engagement.

Career Project

- Compile the following information
 - A list of your high and moderately high scores on the SII
 - Define them
 - Give a list of possible jobs for each
 - A short summary of your MBTI profile
 - Give a list of possible jobs and least likely jobs
 - Select 3-5 possible Winthrop minors that you could consider given your career preference
 - Identify how that minor could help you in your career
 - Identify jobs you would like to consider
 - Jobs that require no further schooling
 - Jobs that require schooling outside of psychology
 - Jobs that require schooling within psychology

- For each of the jobs above, list the median income and a summary of job requirements
- Identify 3-5 areas of psychology that you would like to consider pursuing in graduate school
 - For each area, identify 2-3 graduate degree programs
 - List their admission requirements
 - Minimum GPA and GRE scores
 - Personal statement and letters of reference
 - List admissions information
 - Number of applications usually received
 - Number of applicants admitted
- Conclude with a paragraph or two of reflection on your choices.
- Please check your grammar carefully.
- Please use 14 point font and 1" margins.
- **Submit via email with your name and Career Project in the subject line to memckemy@comporium.net.**

Reflection Paper

Write a 4-6 page reflection on your experiences in this course, including the assessments, readings, speakers, etc. What did you learn? What surprised you? What do you think should be done differently? Please use 14-point font and 1" margins. **Submit via email with your name, Psyc 198, and Reflection Paper in the subject line to memckemy@comporium.net.**

COMPUTERS, CELL PHONES, ETC.

With the availability of wireless internet, laptops are more of a distraction than a help in class. Thus laptops are not permitted unless they are a disability accommodation. You may have your cell phones and other handheld electronic devices as long as they are turned off (or on vibrate) for class. You'll receive five extra credit points for emailing me this sentence in the first week of the semester if half or more of the class points it out to me. You'll receive ten extra credit points if less than half the class emails it to me.



"You must learn to be in touch with your inner tadpole."

Schedule

Monday, August 29	Introduction and Overview
Monday, September 5	Labor Day
Monday, September 12	Faculty Presentations
Monday, September 19	Strong Interest Inventory Results
Monday, September 26	MBTI Results
Monday, October 3	Faculty Presentations
Monday, October 10	Faculty Presentations
Monday, October 17	Fall Break
Monday, October 24	Student Resources – via Blackboard
Monday, October 31	Internships, Study Abroad, and Honors Program – via Blackboard
Monday, November 7	Areas of Psychology and Winthrop Minors – via Blackboard
Monday, November 14	Faculty Presentations
Monday, November 21	Jobs for Psychology Majors
Monday, November 28	Graduate School
Monday, December 5	Graduate School

NOTE: At times, it may be necessary to adapt this schedule. At such times, all changes will be announced in class. It is your responsibility to keep up with all changes (whether in class or not).