PSYC 101 – General Psychology
Spring 2014 – Section 005 (3 hours)
MW 12:30-3:15pm (Kinard 115)
½ Semester Course
(Mar 4, 2014 - Apr 28, 2014)

Instructor: Dr. Kathleen Willet
Email: willetk@winthrop.edu
Phone: 803-579-4416 (no texts/calls after 8 pm)
Office: Kinard 218
Office Hours: Mon. and Wed. 3:30-4:45 PM
(Other times by appointment)


Learning Objectives:
The purpose of this course is to introduce you to the field of Psychology as the scientific approach to the study of psychological phenomena including human development, learning and thinking, motivation and emotion, perception, testing and measurement, personality and behavior. This course meets multiple Department of Psychology goals for student learning (see http://www2.winthrop.edu/psychology/ for additional details).

In addition, this course participates in Winthrop University's Global Learning Initiative. The global learning component(s) of this course include understanding cultural influences on perceptions of normal and abnormal behavior. This will especially relevant when we discuss social and abnormal psychology. For more info about Winthrop's GLI see: http://www2.winthrop.edu/gli/.

By the end of the semester, students should demonstrate:
• Knowledge of the major content areas of psychology and an ability to apply concepts in meaningful ways
• Knowledge of the methods that psychologists use to approach these topics.
• Knowledge of historical and current research findings in psychology.
• An ability to think critically about psychological theories and research findings. Also, an ability to effectively articulate ideas using proper grammar and a scientific style of writing.
• A greater understanding of the behavior and mental processes of the self and others.
These objectives will be obtained through readings, written assignments, class discussions, group activities and research experiences. The objectives will be assessed through examinations, written assignments and contributions made during class discussions and activities.

Grading:
Your grade in this course will be determined based on a 600 point scale. Your final grade will be the accumulation of points earned on your exams (400 possible points), in-class quizzes (100 possible points), journal article assignments (30 possible points), and homework activities (70 possible points).

*Final grades will be based on a 600 point scale:*

- 600-556 points = A
- 555-538 points = A-
- 537-519 points = B+
- 518-496 points = B
- 495-478 points = B-
- 477-460 points = C+
- 459-436 points = C
- 435-418 points = C-
- 417-400 points = D+
- 399-376 points = D
- 375-358 points = D-
- 357-0 points = F

Exams:
There will be 2 exams given this semester- a midterm and a final exam (each will be worth 200 points = total 400 points). The exams will cover material discussed in class as well as material from your text. No makeup exams will be given without a legitimate, documented excuse (e.g., serious illness). Students who know in advance that they will miss an exam must notify me at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled exam. Make-up exams may have a different format than a regularly scheduled exam.

Quizzes:
You will be given an in-class quiz at the beginning of each class (excluding exam days) throughout this semester. It is in your best interest to keep up with readings and assignments. Each day, class time will begin with the 15-20 minute quiz. Please be on time- I will not be able to give extra time if you show up late to class. Also, we will occasionally grade your quizzes on the spot, so I cannot give makeup quizzes. The purpose of the quizzes is for me to gauge your learning and for you to practice for the exams. We will have a total of 12 quizzes this semester. Each quiz will be worth 10 points for a total of 100 points; therefore, I will drop your lowest 2 quiz grades.

Journal Article Assignments:
You will be assigned 2 journal articles to read and summarize throughout this semester (total of 30 points). Details will be handed out and posted on blackboard. All assignment due dates will be clearly announced and posted on blackboard and are due at the beginning of class. Late work (i.e., handed in after the start of class) will NOT be accepted.

Homework Activities:
You will be assigned 5 homework assignments based on in-class activities. The requirements for these assignments will be given to you in class and posted on blackboard. Homework assignments #1-4 will be worth 10 points for a total of 40 points. Assignment #5 will be worth 30 points. All assignment requirements and due dates will be clearly announced and posted on blackboard and are due at the beginning of class. Late work (i.e., handed in after the start of class) will NOT be accepted.
**Attendance:** I do not award points, but I do record attendance in this class. Attendance in class is strongly recommended unless you are ill. Failure to attend class will almost certainly affect your grade, as I will be covering some material not found in the text. If you miss class for reasons other than illness or other emergency it is your responsibility to get notes and other materials from a classmate.

**Excused vs. Unexcused: Making up Homework Assignments and Exams:** Homework Assignments will be due at the beginning of the class period for which they are due and they will not be accepted late for any reason other than a documented medical excuse, the flu, jury duty, funeral or a few prearranged situations such as a religious holiday or a presentation at a professional conference. I realize that other circumstances may arise that are out of your control. If you act with integrity and notify me as soon as possible I will do my very best to work with you. If you know you must miss class for some alternate reason (e.g. a friend’s wedding), I will allow you to turn in the assignment early. You can slide this under my door or hand it in to me. Please note that technical difficulties related to personal computers and/or connection to the Winthrop system does not constitute a valid excuse unless they affect the entire Winthrop University system. Make-up exams will only be given in the case of the emergencies defined above.

**Academic Honesty:** Academic dishonesty of any kind is a serious offense, which will not be tolerated. Students are expected to adhere to the Student Code of Conduct as published in the Undergraduate catalog. The Code of Conduct can also be accessed online at [http://www.winthrop.edu/recandreg/catalogs/08-09.htm](http://www.winthrop.edu/recandreg/catalogs/08-09.htm). The Student Code of Conduct includes provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to University materials, misrepresentation or falsification of University records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. It is extremely important to be aware of, and follow the rules pertaining to copying and plagiarism (which includes simply paraphrasing) material from textbooks, journals, handouts, and from other students. All work turned in should be your own work. If you use the words and ideas of others, you must appropriately cite the author of the work. When in doubt about academic integrity, please ask me. Information about plagiarism may be found at [www.winthrop.edu/english/plagiarism.htm](http://www.winthrop.edu/english/plagiarism.htm).

**Creating a Safe, Fair and Respectful Learning Environment:** In accordance with the Student Code of Conduct, students are expected to participate in creating an environment that is respectful of individual differences and diversity. This includes, but is not limited to: interacting on a professional and ethical level at all times, providing constructive rather than critical feedback during discussion, and showing respect for differences in learning styles and abilities.

**Students with Disabilities:** Winthrop University is dedicated to providing access to education. If you have a disability and require specific accommodations to complete this course, contact the Program Director of Services for Students with Disabilities at (803) 323-3290. Once you have your official notice of accommodations from Services for Students with Disabilities, please inform me as early as possible in the semester. I’m happy to help in any way I can.

**Academic Success Center:** Winthrop’s Academic Success Center is a free resource for all undergraduate students seeking to perform their best academically. The ASC offers a variety of personalized and structured resources that help students achieve academic excellence, such as tutoring, academic skill development (test taking strategies, time management counseling, and study techniques), and group/individual study spaces. The ASC is located on the first floor of Dinkins, Suite
Tutoring for this specific course is offered through the office. If you wish to request a tutor, you must attend ONE Tutee Seminar, offered every Friday until March 14. Please contact the ASC at 803-323-3929 or success@winthrop.edu if you have any questions. For more information on ASC services, please visit www.winthrop.edu/success.

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Module(s) 10th Ed.</th>
<th>Module(s) 9th Ed.</th>
<th>Due Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>The Nervous System and our Brain</td>
<td>4-6</td>
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<td>3/12- Journal Article 1</td>
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<td>Sensation &amp; Perception</td>
<td>17-19</td>
<td>17-20</td>
<td>TBA- Homework #1</td>
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<td>Learning and Memory</td>
<td>20-22</td>
<td>23-25</td>
<td>TBA- Homework #2</td>
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<td>Forgetting</td>
<td>23-26</td>
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<td>Thinking</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>30-31</td>
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<td>4/2</td>
<td>MIDTERM EXAM (Wednesday)</td>
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<td>4/7, 4/9, 4/14, 4/16, 4/21, 4/23, 4/28</td>
<td>Consciousness</td>
<td>7-8, 10</td>
<td>7-8, 10</td>
<td>4/9, 4/14, 4/16, 4/21, 4/23, 4/28- Quizzes</td>
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<td>Emotion, Stress</td>
<td>35-38</td>
<td>40, 42-43</td>
<td>4/7- Journal Article 2</td>
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<td>Personality</td>
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<td>Social Psychology</td>
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<td>Disorders and Therapy</td>
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<td>TBA- Homework #5</td>
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<td>4/30</td>
<td>FINAL EXAM (Wednesday)</td>
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***Please note that these topics are tentative- I will adjust the schedule as needed based on our progression. All assignments, labs, and any potential changes will be clearly posted on blackboard.***