COURSE SYLLABUS

GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY

PSYC 2301

3 credit hours

INSTRUCTOR:

Donnie Armstrong
I. Texas Core Curriculum Statement of Purpose

Course Objective: The objective for this course is to bring to the learner an overall view of the science of Psychology. The course is designed to assist the learner in mastering an understanding of various psychological concepts and principles through several modalities and their applicability in the world around us.

II. Course Description

A survey of the major principles derived from research on human and animal behavior. Topics studied include heredity and environment, intelligence, emotions, motivation, learning, personality, the senses, perception, and the form and functions of the nervous system.

III. Required Background or Prerequisite

Passing score on THEA reading section or equivalent alternate test.

IV. Required Textbook and Course Materials

*Discovering Psychology*, Cacioppo & Freberg 2nd Edition
ISBN: 9781305088375

V. Course Purpose

The basic purpose of this course will be to give students a basic understanding of the field of psychology and its application.

VI. Learning Outcomes

- Read, analyze, and critique psychology texts.
- Demonstrate knowledge of beliefs, practices, values, and terminology of psychology.
- Trace the historical developments and cultural expressions of psychology.
- Articulate key conceptual distinctions in theories of psychology.
• Communicate understanding of different psychological theories writing.

VII. Core Objectives

This course meets the following of the six Core Objectives established by Texas:

☒ Critical Thinking Skills (CT) – Creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis; evaluation and synthesis of information

☒ Communication Skills (COM) – effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication

☐ Empirical and Quantitative Skills (EQS) – The manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions

☐ Teamwork (TW) – The ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal

☒ Social Responsibility (SR) – Intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

☒ Personal Responsibility (PR) – The ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making

VIII. Methods of Instruction

This class will include lecture, assigned readings, discussions, videos, electronic documents, and more.

IX. Methods of Assessment

• Chapter Exams (1/3) – Careful examination of assigned readings is essential for this reading-and-discussion-based course, so you will be held accountable for completion of the reading assignments. Quizzes will assess your knowledge and understanding of what you have read, focusing especially on the technical terminology. All information for the quizzes will be taken directly from the text. Quizzes will be open book. The FINAL EXAM will count the same as other Chapter Exams. It too will be open book.

• Labs and Discussions (1/3) – There will be weekly labs and discussions that will cover a variety of topics.

• Classroom Participation (1/3) – Classroom participation in lecture and classroom activities will be expected.

Grading scale: A = 90-100%  B = 80-89  C = 70-79  D = 60-69  F = Below 60
X. Course/Classroom Policies

These classroom rules should be adhered to as they will effect your grade.

**Participate.** There will be regular chances for you to interact with your classmates in discussion boards. You should participate as outlined in your lab instruction sheet.

**Be kind.** Rudeness, personal attacks and foul language will NOT be tolerated in the Discussion Boards and may result in dismissal from class depending on severity.

**Turn in assignments on time.** All Chapter Exams and Labs have a due date. By accepting this syllabus, you agree to accept a score of zero on any late work, unless prior arrangements have been made.

**Don’t cheat.** Any assignment reflecting cheating, plagiarism, or any other form of academic dishonesty will receive a grade of zero. A second instance will result in automatic failure of the class and a report being filed with ASU’s Vice President of Instruction. The consequences of this report can be quite severe for your academic future.

**Email:** I am happy to communicate with you by email and will do my best to respond within 24 hours during the week. Messages sent over the weekend will be read on Mondays. In the subject line of any email that you send me, please indicate the content of the email.

XI. University Policies

**Honor Code:** Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is available on the web at http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/honorcode5.pdf.

**Statement for Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:** ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA), and subsequent legislation.

The Office of Student Affairs is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability, and it is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting: Ms. Dallas Swafford, Director of Student Disability Services, dallas.swafford@angelo.edu.