Syllabus

PSY 200 General Psychology

I. Instructor Information
   A. Instructor’s name
   B. Location of instructor’s office
   C. Office phone number
   D. E-mail address
   E. Office hours

II. Course Information
   A. PSY 200, General Psychology, 3 credits hours.
   B. Section number and reference/synonym number
   C. Class (and/or laboratory) meeting time- (days and times) and location(s)
   D. Pre-/co-requisite course(s): ENG 093, C or better or satisfactory ACT, SAT, or RDG placement score
   E. Course objectives
      Upon satisfactory completion of this course, the student should have a reasonable mastery of the following objectives:
      1. Define the key terms used in psychology
      2. Identify the basic scientific methods used in psychology
      3. Compare and contrast the major theoretical perspectives used in psychology
      4. Identify the key theorists who have contributed to the field of psychology
      5. Explain the role of psychological factors that influence behavior
      6. Explain the role of biological factors that influence behavior
      7. Explain the role of sociocultural factors that influence behavior
      8. Explain the relationship between the biological and environmental factors that influence behavior
      9. Apply knowledge of psychological principles to enhance personal development
      10. Demonstrate knowledge of critical thinking skills in understanding psychology
      11. Demonstrate ability to utilize electronic databases
      12. Demonstrate ability to utilize supplemental course instructional technology resources

III. Textbook and Course Support Materials
   A. Baird, THINK Psychology, Pearson.
   B. Laboratory manual(s) and/or additional notes/materials/supplies
   C. Video tapes (if applicable)
   D. Library and LRC resources and services are accessible on-line at http://lib.calhoun.edu/lib

IV. Instructional Methods (Methods of Teaching)
   Lecture will be the primary method of instruction. Individual instructors may choose to supplement this with class discussions, slides, videos, maps, library research, etc.

V. Grading Plan
   Grades will be determined based on the following criteria:
In the Course Reflection Paper, please provide a comprehensive response to each of the following questions. The completed paper should be NO LESS than five (5) pages of content, typed, double-spaced, Times New Roman font, 10-12 pt., APA style. Please include a title page (not counted as one of the five pages) with your name, course name, and the date of submission.

1. What were your general views about psychology before taking this course? What is your perception of this course now that you have completed it? If you could put those thoughts into one word, what would it be?
2. Which chapter or subject was the most significant to you? Explain why? Describe the most significant learning experience that you had in this course.
3. Describe the thing that you enjoyed most about this course. Describe the thing that you enjoyed least about this course.
4. Describe one thing that you would do to improve the way this course is taught. Describe one thing that you think would improve student interaction in this course.
5. Is there a specific principle learned in this course that you plan to apply to enhance your personal development?
6. What is your major? In what way(s) could the knowledge gained in this course assist you in the career you have chosen?
7. Imagine that you are a clinical psychologist and you are working with a family from a different country. Why would it be important to understand their culture and background prior to making an assessment or diagnosis of their behavior? (example: The symptoms of depression are expressed differently in eastern cultures as opposed to western cultures.)
8. Explain how sociocultural influences, such as the media, the family, and religion, impact personality development, behavior and mental processes.
9. Social researchers have concluded that sexual orientation is determined by a combination of hereditary and environmental factors. According to what you have studied during the semester, do you believe that sexual orientation is based more on heredity, more on environment, or a combination of both? Provide a detailed explanation of your choice.
10. What was the impact on the field and practice of psychology given its early development by a predominately white male professional base to the exclusion of minorities and women? Identify and discuss two theories/hypotheses that have been developed as a result of the inclusion of minorities and women.

VI. Grade Scale
Grades will be based upon A= 90-100%, B= 80-89%, C = 70-79%, D= 60-69%, and F= below 60%

VII. Topic Outline
(Include tentative dates and topics)
A. History (Chapter 1)
B. Research Methods (Chapter 2)
C. Biological/Physiological (Chapters 3, 5, 7, 15, and 18)
D. Learning and Memory (Chapters 11 and 12)
E. Motivation and Emotion (Chapter 9)
F. Cognition (Chapters 10 and 14)
G. Abnormal Psychology (Chapters 16 and 17)
H. Developmental Psychology (Chapters 6 and 8)
I. Sensation and Perception (Chapter 4)
J. Personality (Chapter 13)

VIII. Assignments
Weekly or daily list of assignments to include required submissions of course requirements as shown in the Grading Plan. (Note: Instructors should ensure that at least one major course requirement (exam/paper/project) has been completed, graded, and returned for student review prior to the end of the withdrawal period).

IX. Final Exam
Date, time and location of final exam

X. Attendance Policy

FOR CLASSES OTHER THAN DISTANCE EDUCATION/HYBRID CLASSES:
Attendance is taken for each class meeting. Absences are counted beginning with the first class meeting after the student registers; however, students are responsible for all coursework and assignments made or due from the first day of class. In general, students should have no more than 4 absences for a 15-week term, no more than 3 absences for a 10-week term, no more than 2 absences for an 8-week term, and no more than 1 absence for a 5-week term. Each course syllabus will clearly state the number of absences considered as the acceptable maximum for the class as well as how late arrivals and early departures will be handled. Each course syllabus will also state policies regarding make-up work, if allowed. The policies stated in the course syllabus for a student’s specific class will be the policies for which the student will be held accountable. Communication with the instructor concerning absences is essential. If a student has excessive absences, s/he is encouraged to withdraw from the course after consulting with the instructor. Instructors will not withdraw students for any reason. If a student fails to officially withdraw from a course, this could result in a grade of F and adversely impact financial aid. Withdrawing from a course is the responsibility of the student. Therefore, a grade of F will not be changed without written approval from the Vice President of Instruction and Student Services. Military personnel who are involuntarily called to active duty for unscheduled and/or emergency situations and those individuals called for jury duty will be excused with official documentation. College related events which the student is required to attend by the club sponsor and which have been approved by the appropriate Dean, will also be excused. Official documentation will be required. Make-up work will be accepted under these excused circumstances as outlined in the individual course syllabus.

FOR DISTANCE EDUCATION/HYBRID CLASSES:
Attendance in a Distance Education or Hybrid course will be recorded within the FIRST WEEK of the course by one or more of the following:
- Student contact with the instructor through attendance at an on-site orientation session
- Student participation in an online orientation session that is tracked through Blackboard’s “Student Tracking” feature, or through “Tegrity Reports”, or similar features in other course management systems
- Student sending an e-mail to the instructor’s Calhoun address or through Blackboard e-mail
● Student making phone call to the instructor’s Calhoun office or an in-person visit to the instructor
● Student submission (online or in-person) of completed assessments, assignments, essays, or other course related work

After the first week, the student's "attendance record" will be based on the student's meeting course requirements such as submitting assignments or communicating with the instructor as outlined in the course syllabus. It is expected that a student will receive a weekly attendance record based on requirements stated in the course syllabus. If a student does not meet attendance requirements as stated in the course syllabus, the student is encouraged to officially withdraw from the course. Failure to officially withdraw from the course could result in a grade of F and adversely impact financial aid.

XI. Make-Up Exams
Statement concerning makeup policy/how to make up missed work.

XII. Withdrawal Policy
Grades of WP and WF are no longer applicable. A student who wishes to withdraw from a course(s) after the drop/add period may do so by having a withdrawal/drop form completed by Admissions/Records Personnel or their designated representatives. A student may withdraw from a course(s) after drop/add period through the last class day of the term.

XIII. Disability Statement
If you have a disability that might require special materials, services, or assistance, please contact Calhoun’s Disability Services Office in the Chasteen Student Center, Room 220G (Decatur Campus) or call (256) 306-2630 or (256) 306-2635.

XIV. Communication
Calhoun Community College will communicate campus-wide information via SPACE student e-mail. You have a SPACE e-mail account, which you can access from www.calhoun.edu. Your username is your first initial, last name, and last four digits of your student ID number. (Example: jsmith1234) Your initial password is cal and the last 4 digits of your student ID number. You will be prompted to change the password.