

# McLennan C O M M U N I T Y C O L L E G E

WACO, TEXAS

---

## COURSE SYLLABUS AND INSTRUCTOR PLAN

General Psychology

PSYC 2301\_15

PSYC 2301\_21

Dr. Misty Edwards

NOTE: This is a 16-week course.

### **COVID 19 Notice:**

McLennan Community College is committed to providing you with every resource you need to reach your academic goals including your safety. We will continue to monitor the evolving situation with COVID 19 and adjust our safety guidelines to make sure we offer a safe environment for you and our faculty. Please make sure to consult your faculty and the MCC website at <https://www.mclennan.edu/crisis-management/coronavirus-updates/index.html> on any changes to these guidelines.

General Psychology  
PSYC 2301 (Sections 15 & 21)

---

Course Description:

General Psychology is a survey of the major psychological topics, theories and approaches to the scientific study of behavior and mental processes.

Prerequisites and/or Corequisites:

Prerequisites: Must have passed the reading portion of the TSI Assessment or have credit for INRW 0402.

Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:

1. Expectations regarding student performance are available on the syllabus and throughout Brightspace. Please read all information carefully. The syllabus is a course contract and students are held accountable for its contents.
2. Follow posted instructions.
3. Attend class.
4. Adhere to the posted deadlines for completing assignments. These deadlines are compulsory – not optional.
5. Obtain reliable access to the internet. It is up to the student to plan accordingly to ensure that online work is completed.
6. Set up and check your student email. You may contact tech support at 299-8077 if you need email access assistance.
7. Check Brightspace and your email daily for important school/class announcements

**Previous grades, professors, work, etc. bears no importance to the current course. Every course is different and every professor employs academic practices that may be different from the previous one.**

---

Instructor Information:

Instructor Name: Dr. Misty Edwards  
MCC Email: medwards@mclennan.edu

Office Phone Number: 254-299-8967  
Office Location: MAC 329

- Office Hours
  - On campus: Tues and Thurs: 12:45 to 2:00
  - On campus: Every other Monday (dates below) 8:00 am to 10:00 am
    - 8/29
    - 9/12
    - 9/26
    - 10/10
    - 10/24
    - 11/7
    - 11/21
  - Zoom or phone meetings by request

General Psychology  
PSYC 2301 (Sections 15 & 21)

---

Required Text & Materials: (MCC Bookstore Website: <http://www.mclennan.edu/bookstore/>)

Connect Access

Edition: 5th

Title: Experience Psychology

Publisher: McGraw Hill

Author: Laura A. King

ISBN: (not including)

**Note: The connect access is included with your registration fee and does NOT require an additional purchase. This contains an online version of the textbook and gives access to class assignments. Instructions for accessing these resources will be given when the course opens. Please do NOT purchase direct access. A hard copy, loose leaf version of the textbook is available for purchase if you prefer, but it is not required for this course.**

Methods of Teaching and Learning:

This class will include the use of lectures delivered face-to-face, online textbook homework, brightspace quizzes, and a face-to-face test.

---

Course Objectives and/or Competencies:

Courses in this category focus on the application of empirical and scientific methods that contribute to the understanding of what makes us human. Courses involve the exploration of behaviors and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, and events, examining their impact on the individual, society, and culture.

- Critical Thinking (CT) -- to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- Communications Skill (COM) -- to include effective written, oral, and visual communication.
- Empirical & Quantitative Skills (EQS) -- to include applications of scientific and mathematical concepts.
- Social Responsibility (SR) -- to include intercultural competency, civic knowledge, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Identify various research methods and their characteristics used in the scientific study of psychology. (CT, COM, EQS, SR)
2. Describe the historical influences and early schools of thought that shaped the field of psychology. (CT, COM, EQS, SR)
3. Describe some of the prominent perspectives and approaches used in the study of psychology. (CT, COM, EQS, SR)
4. Use terminology unique to the study of psychology. (CT, COM, EQS, SR)

General Psychology  
PSYC 2301 (Sections 15 & 21)

---

5. Describe accepted approaches and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation.  
(CT, COM, EQS, SR)
6. Identify factors in physiological and psychological processes involved in human behavior.  
(CT, COM, EQS, SR)

*All of the above learning outcomes are taught through lectures, assigned reading, and class discussions and are assessed by objective exams, written assignment, and/or class projects.*

---

Course Outline or Schedule (and related Learning Outcomes):

Weeks 1-3: course intro and memory (LOs: 1 – 6)

Weeks 4-6: biological processes (LOs: 3, 4, 6)

Weeks 7-9: learning and cognitive theories (LOs: 1 – 6)

Weeks 10-13: personality and social factors (LOs: 1 – 6)

Weeks 14 – 16: clinical (LOs: 2 – 6)

*Please note this is subject to change. Students will be notified of changes in Brightspace.*

---

Course Grading Information:

Students' grades will be an average of the following:

Chapter SmartBook Assignments (20% of grade)

Multiple attempts for each assignment up to deadline:

Students will complete chapter assignments through Connect. Students may complete these as many times as they want up until the deadline. Your grade will be recorded when you've successfully completed the assignment. If you did not complete it by the deadline, your highest completion grade will be recorded.

Chapter Insight Assignments (20% of grade)

One attempt for each assignment up to deadline:

For every chapter assigned, students will complete 1 – 2 “insight” assignments through Connect. The purpose of these is to allow for deeper application of course material above and beyond the smartbook assignments. Each one has different instructions which are provided at the start of the assignment within Connect.

Unit Quizzes (30% of grade)

Best 4 out of 5. One attempt on each:

There will be 5 unit quizzes, all taken in Brightspace. There are 2-3 chapters on each unit quiz. Questions are various formats and will likely include a combination of multiple choice, matching, and fill in the blank.

General Psychology  
PSYC 2301 (Sections 15 & 21)

---

Attendance/Participation (10% of grade)

Students are expected to regularly attend class on time and be ready to learn. Attendance assessment includes timeliness of coming to class, staying until class is dismissed, and coming prepared for discussing the material of each class period. This will be recorded with an attendance roster and/or participation prompts. (Note: This is a face-to face class. As such, attendance only counts for on-campus presence. Students who wish to have a zoom option for attendance should enroll in classes offering that format).

Cumulative Final Exam (20% of grade)

The final exam will be held on Tuesday, December 6th. This exam will be given **IN CLASS**. Attendance is mandatory and final exams will **NOT** be given early. Students must bring a **scantron 882-E** with them for this exam. The final exam is comprehensive.

This course will adhere to the following grading scale:

90-100 = A

80-89 = B

70-79 = C

60-69 = D

≤ 59 = F

Grade Disputes

Other than the final course grade, students have 72 hours to challenge or revisit previous a grade on any assignments/exams in the course. Due to the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act, I am prevented from discussing student grades with parents/guardians unless a waiver has been signed.

Academic Integrity in This Course

In this class, a student has violated this policy if they:

- Use any outside sources or copies from another student on quizzes or exams (e.g., quizlet, google, another person, etc.)
- Photographs/copies any of the quiz/exam questions for any reason
- Share any of the quiz/exam questions with anyone other than the professor, for any reason

Late Work, Attendance, and Make Up Work Policies:

[Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy](https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html)

**(<https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html>)**

Click on the link above for the college policies on attendance and absences. Your instructor may have additional guidelines specific to this course.

General Psychology  
PSYC 2301 (Sections 15 & 21)

---

Attendance in *THIS* Course

- Attendance is taken every day
- **ALL ABSENCES COUNT** regardless of whether or not documentation can be provided
- At 7 absences you're automatically dropped from the course
- Accumulation of 7 absences after the 60% drop date will result in an F in the course unless extenuating circumstances warrant a W – this will be granted at the professor's discretion

Making up missed assignments

Opportunities for this are not offered since nothing is assigned in your absence and all assignments are online.

---

Technical Difficulties Backup Plan for Technology:

- Please note that all assignments and activities will be due on the date specified – extensions are not offered for individual technical issues.
  - Issue with Brightspace:
    - Phone number: 254-299-8077
    - E-mail: [helpdesk@mclennan.edu](mailto:helpdesk@mclennan.edu)
  - Issue with McGraw Hill
    - <http://www.connectstudentsuccess.com/>
    - A support request function is also available through this link
- 

Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:

***If a student chooses to violate these expectations, I reserve the right to publicly ask that the behavior be changed and/or that the student leave the classroom. Repeat offenders may be permanently removed from the class with either an F or a W for their final grade.***

The great majority of college students understand the need for civility toward others. Most students routinely exhibit such behavior and expect their classrooms to be free from unwanted distractions. So please be assured that significant or chronic disruptive behaviors will not be tolerated in this class. (For example: abusive language, eating, sleeping, chatting, cell phone use, bringing children or other guests, packing up backpacks before class is over, etc.) If you have a medical problem or other special need, please talk with me privately. If you have a special need to be available to others on your phone, please discuss it with me.

---

General Psychology  
PSYC 2301 (Sections 15 & 21)

---

More on Attendance: Entering and Exiting the Classroom During Class Time (not permitted):

I will be *slightly* flexible on forgiving tardiness to class. If you must enter the classroom late, do not walk in front of the professor or presentation. Remember: If someone can be consistently late to class, they can consistently be on time.

If tardiness becomes a problem, I reserve the right to implement a locked door policy. If a locked door policy is in effect, you may not re-enter the classroom if you have stepped out. If you need to leave early, you should discuss this with me prior to the start of class. Otherwise, you will be counted absent for the entire class period.

Recording of Lectures (need permission):

Students can record lectures after written permission has been given by the professor.

Instructional Uses of Email:

To promote effective email communication, students should:

- Use MCC email to send email to professor
- Indicate email topic in the “Subject” line of email and include proper language, a greeting, closure, and detailed description of the question or concern. I do not respond to emails with questions that do not adhere to this format and/or can be answered by referring to the syllabus.
- PLEASE BE CAREFUL!!!! If you are upset about a grade or an assignment, etc., your emotions may result in your message to me sounding terse and rude (even if that is not what you intended). Please re-read any messages before sending.

An example of an inappropriate message to a professor would be one like this:

hey i didn't see a grade for my assignment and so can u tell me my grade?  
2cute4u@bbd.com

An appropriate message: Dear Professor Edwards, I finished and submitted my assignment on memory. I was concerned that I might not have submitted it right, so I was wondering if you could check to make sure it is there. Thanks! Jane Smith

MCC Athlete/Club Member

Students who choose to participate in extra-curricular activities must be responsible and assertive with their coursework. While I respect situations that members may face with travel schedules, I treat them as I do all others enrolled in the course. Each athlete or student member **MUST** provide documentation of status and a copy of a travel schedule (if it will conflict with class schedule) within the first week of class. I expect these students to be proactive (not reactive) in managing coursework that conflicts with travel (i.e., look and plan ahead). I also need at least one day notice prior to signing grade reports or I do not sign them.

McLennan  
C O M M U N I T Y  
C O L L E G E

---

## ACADEMIC RESOURCES/POLICIES

### **Accommodations/ADA Statement:**

Any student who is a qualified individual with a disability may request reasonable accommodations to assist with providing equal access to educational opportunities. Students should contact the Accommodations Coordinator as soon as possible to provide documentation and make necessary arrangements. Once that process is completed, appropriate verification will be provided to the student and instructor. Please note that instructors are not required to provide classroom accommodations to students until appropriate verification has been provided by the Accommodations Coordinator. For additional information, please visit <https://www.mclennan.edu/disability/>.

Students with questions or who require assistance with disabilities involving physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact:

[disabilities@mclennan.edu](mailto:disabilities@mclennan.edu)

254-299-8122

Room 319, Student Services Center

### **Title IX:**

We care about your safety, and value an environment where students and instructors can successfully teach and learn together. If you or someone you know experiences unwelcomed behavior, we are here to help. Individuals who would like to report an incident of sexual misconduct are encouraged to immediately contact the Title IX Coordinator at [titleix@mclennan.edu](mailto:titleix@mclennan.edu) or by calling Dr. Drew Canham (Chief of Staff for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion/Title IX) at (254) 299-8645. Individuals also may contact the MCC Police Department at 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center at MCC at (254) 299-8210. The MCC Student Counseling Center is a confidential resource for students. Any student or employee may report sexual harassment anonymously by visiting <https://www.lighthouse-services.com/mclennan/incidentLandingPageV2-MCC.asp>.

Go to McLennan's Title IX webpage at <https://www.mclennan.edu/titleix/>. It contains more information about definitions, reporting, confidentiality, resources, and what to do if you



or someone you know is a victim of sexual misconduct, gender-based violence or the crimes of rape, acquaintance rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, dating violence, or domestic violence.

**Student Support/Resources:**

MCC provides a variety of services to support student success in the classroom and in your academic pursuits to include counseling, tutors, technology help desk, advising, financial aid, etc. A listing of these and the many other services available to our students is available at <http://www.mclennan.edu/campus-resource-guide/>.

College personnel recognize that food, housing, and transportation are essential for student success. If you are having trouble securing these resources or want to explore strategies for balancing life and school, we encourage you to contact a Success Coach by calling (254) 299-8226 or emailing [SuccessCoach@mclennan.edu](mailto:SuccessCoach@mclennan.edu). Students may visit the Completion Center Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. to schedule a meeting with a Success Coach and receive additional resources and support to help reach academic and personal goals. Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) provides free food by appointment to students, faculty and staff based on household size. Text (254) 870-7573 to schedule a pantry appointment. The Completion Center and pantry are located on the Second Floor of the Student Services Center (SSC).

**MCC Foundation Emergency Grant Fund:**

Unanticipated expenses, such as car repairs, medical bills, housing, or job loss can affect us all. Should an unexpected expense arise, the MCC Foundation has an emergency grant fund that may be able to assist you. Please go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/scholarships-and-resources/emergencygrant.html> to find out more about the emergency grant. The application can be found at [https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency\\_Grant\\_Application.pdf](https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency_Grant_Application.pdf).

**MCC Academic Integrity Statement:**

Go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity/> for information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating.

**Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC's D2L|Brightspace:**

Go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/Faculty-and-Staff-Commons/requirements.html> for information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC's D2L|Brightspace learning management system.

**Minimum Technical Skills:**

Students should have basic computer skills, knowledge of word processing software, and a basic understanding of how to use search engines and common web browsers.

**Backup Plan for Technology:**

In the event MCC's technology systems are down, you will be notified via your MCC student email address. Please note that all assignments and activities will be due on the date specified in the Instructor Plan, unless otherwise noted by the instructor.

**Email Policy:**

McLennan Community College would like to remind you of the policy regarding college email, which can be found at <https://www.mclennan.edu/employees/policy-manual/docs/E-XXXI-B.pdf>. All students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to use their McLennan email addresses when conducting college business.

A student's McLennan email address is the preferred email address that college employees should use for official college information or business. Students are expected to read and, if needed, respond in a timely manner to college emails. For more information about your student email account, go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/student-email/>.

**Instructional Uses of Email:**

Faculty members can determine classroom use of email or electronic communications. Faculty should expect and encourage students to check the college email on a regular basis. Faculty should inform students in the course syllabus if another communication method is to be used and of any special or unusual expectations for electronic communications.

If a faculty member prefers not to communicate by email with their students, it should be reflected in the course syllabus and information should be provided for the preferred form of communication.

**Email on Mobile Devices:**

The College recommends that you set up your mobile device to receive McLennan emails. If you need assistance with set-up, you may email [Helpdesk@mclennan.edu](mailto:Helpdesk@mclennan.edu) for help.

You can find help on the McLennan website about connecting your McLennan email account to your mobile device:

- [Email Setup for iPhones and iPads](#)
- [Email Setup for Androids](#)

**Forwarding Emails:**

You may forward emails that come to your McLennan address to alternate email addresses; however, the College will not be held responsible for emails forwarded to an alternate address that may be lost or placed in junk or spam filters.

For more helpful information about technology at MCC, go to [MCC's Tech Support Cheat Sheet](#) or email [helpdesk@mclennan.edu](mailto:helpdesk@mclennan.edu).

**Disclaimer:**

The resources and policies listed above are merely for informational purposes and are subject to change without notice or obligation. The College reserves the right to change policies and other requirements in compliance with State and Federal laws. The provisions of this document do not constitute a contract.