McLennan COMMUNITY COLLEGE

WACO, TEXAS

COURSE SYLLABUS

AND

INSTRUCTOR PLAN

General Psychology

PSYC 2301_87

PSYC 2301_89

PSYC 2301_91

Dr. Misty Edwards

NOTE: This is 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.

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. Success in this course requires a commitment to two academic skills: following directions (e.g. due dates) and deep learning. 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. **Adhere to the posted deadlines** for completing assignments. These deadlines are compulsory – not optional.
4. **Obtain reliable access to the internet**. It is up to the student to plan accordingly to ensure that online work is completed.
5. **Set up and check your student email**. You may contact tech support at 299-8077 if you need email access assistance.

Previous grades, professors, work, etc. bear 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/Teacher Conference Hours:

- Mon and Wed: 12:45 to 2:00
- Zoom or phone meetings by request

Required Text & Materials:
Connect Access
Title: Experience Psychology
Author: Laura A. King
Edition: 4th
Publisher: McGraw Hill
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.

MCC Bookstore Website: http://www.mclennan.edu/bookstore/

Methods of Teaching and Learning:
This class will include the use of lecture materials presented online, online textbook homework, and a brightspace 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)
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 Insight Assignments (40% of grade)

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 quiz-type, smartbook assignments. Specific instructions and expectations will be provided in Brightspace.

Chapter SmartBook Assignments (40% of grade)

Students will complete chapter assignments through Connect. These are quiz-type questions in which the student answers questions on various chapter topics. It is adaptable in that, when questions are answered incorrectly, the student is presented with another question until it is answered correctly. When all topics have been correctly answered, the assignment is complete. 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.

Final Exam (20% of grade)

At the end of the semester you will take a Brightspace exam over all course material. Details will be provided in Brightspace.

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.

Late Work, Attendance, and Make Up Work Policies:

MCC requires that instructors of Internet classes devise a method for likening "attendance" with "participation." In this course, for a student to be counted in attendance, a student must be completing their coursework – logging in will not suffice. Students will be administratively withdrawn if they are not in attendance (i.e. not completing coursework) for any 7 consecutive days, misses five homework assignments, or are completing less than 75% of his/her coursework at any given time. Accumulation of 'absences' after the 60% date will result in an F in the course unless extenuating circumstances warrant a W – this will be granted at the professor's discretion.

Late Work

- Make-up requests will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, but is unlikely since nothing is assigned in your absence and all assignments are online for extended periods.

Campus Attendance:

- Campus attendance is not regularly required for this course and all assignments and exams are designed to allow for remote course completion.

Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy
(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.

Backup Plan for Technology:

- In the event MCC's technology systems are down, you will be contacted/notified through your MCC student email address. Please note that all assignments and activities will be due on the date specified – extensions are not offered for individual technical issues.

Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:

Time Zone

- All posted times in this course reflect Central Standard Time (CST).

Dealing with Technical Difficulties: Brightspace/MCC

- Phone number: 254-299-8077
- E-mail: helpdesk@mclennan.edu

Dealing with Technical Difficulties: McGraw Hill Connect

- A large list of student help points are at http://www.connectstudentsuccess.com/
- A support request function is also available through this link

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

- **Email on Mobile Devices:**
  - The College recommends that you set up your mobile device to receive McLennan emails.

- **Forwarding Emails:**
  - You may forward the 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 become lost or placed in junk or spam filters.

McLennan COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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 www.mclennan.edu/disability.

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

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 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 http://www.lighthouse-services.com/mclennan/.

Go to McLennan's Title IX webpage at 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. 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.

MCC Academic Integrity Statement:
Go to 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 (http://www.mclennan.edu/employees/policy-manual/docs/E-XXXI-B.pdf) regarding college email. 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.

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 for help.

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.

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.