



WACO, TEXAS

**COURSE SYLLABUS
AND
INSTRUCTOR PLAN**

**GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY
PSYC_2301-030, TR**

Clinton Dennard

NOTE: This is an 16-week Face-to-Face course.

GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY

PSYC 2301-030

Course Description:

PSYC 2301 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:

Must have passed the reading portion of the TSI Assessment or have credit for INRW 0402. (For additional information regarding course content, see Learning Outcomes/Core Objectives below.)

Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:

Students will be expected to read all material thoroughly. This includes information in both Brightspace and Connect. Students are also encouraged to download course schedule, Power Points, and study guides provided in Brightspace. Grades are also available on Brightspace, and announcements here should be checked regularly as well.

Instructor Information:

Instructor Name: Clinton Dennard

MCC E-mail: cdennard@mclennan.edu (the best way to reach me)

Office Phone Number: 254-299-8933

Office Location: MAC 328

Office/Teacher Conference Hours: F2F on Monday/Wednesday 11:10-12:30, Tuesday/Thursday 10-11, and of course, by appointment (this is the best way)

Zoom meetings by appointment ONLY. (*Send me an email to schedule a virtual meeting*)

Other Instruction Information: Cell phone: 254-495-0330

Required Text & Materials:

Your **required** course materials for this class are included in your course fees and are substantially discounted. You will be provided instructions on how to access and use these materials the first day of class. *You will be required to use your McLennan email address, so please make sure you can read and reply to emails via that account.*

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

Methods of Teaching and Learning:

Lecture and/or videos, along with the following:

Assignments/Activities

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- Various assignments and activities will be completed during class units that are intended to expand and enhance the student's understanding about important topics.

Objective Quizzes/Exams

- These assessments will include objective questions in various formats over the primary characteristics (e.g. definitions, parts/features, relationships, etc.) of course topics from each chapter.

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.
2. Describe the historical influences and early schools of thought that shaped the field of psychology.
3. Describe some of the prominent perspectives and approaches used in the study of psychology.
4. Use terminology unique to the study of psychology.
5. Describe accepted approaches and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation.
6. Identify factors in physiological and psychological processes involved in human behavior.

Course Attendance/Participation Guidelines:

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If a student is not in attendance in accordance with the policies/guidelines of the class as outlined in the course syllabus as of the course census date, faculty are required to drop students from their class roster prior to certifying the respective class roster. A student's financial aid will be re-evaluated accordingly and the student will only receive funding for those courses attended as of the course census date.

Before the 60% point of the semester, a student who is absent for 25% or more of a face-to-face or blended course or who miss 25% or more of assigned work for an online course will be withdrawn from the course with a grade of W. A student may also request to be withdrawn with a grade of W before the 60% point of the semester. After the 60% point of the semester, the student may request to be withdrawn if the student is passing, or be assigned the final grade earned at the end of the semester after grades have been updated to reflect missing work.

Course Outline:

Unit 1

Ch. 1: The Science of Psychology

Ch. 6: Memory

Ch. 7: Thinking, Intelligence, and Language

Lecture Schedule:

Jan	09	T	What is Psychology?	Ch. 1
	11	Th	Service and Research, Specialty areas/Subfields, education and degrees	
	16	T	Contemporary Perspectives in Psychology, Research Methods	
	18	Th	Memory	
	23	T	Memory	

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	25	Th	Memory	
	30	T	Decision Making and Reasoning	
Feb	1st	Th	Thinking and Intelligence	Ch. 6
	6th	T	Exam 1	

Unit 2

Ch. 8: Development

Ch. 10: Personality

Ch. 11: Social Psychology

Lecture Schedule:

Feb	8th	Th	Epigenetics, Nature and Nurture "Debate," Stages of Development	Ch. 8
	13th	T	Socioemotional and Moral Development	Ch. 8
	15th	Th	Biological, Psychoanalytic, Humanistic Perspectives on Personality	Ch. 10
	20th	T	Trait Perspectives, Psychometrics, Five Factor Model, Happiness	Ch. 10
	22nd	Th	Stanford, Milgram, Asch and why we don't do that now	Ch. 11
	27th	T	Social Influence: Conformity	Ch. 11
Feb	29th	Th	Exam 2	

Unit 3

Ch. 2: The Brain and Behavior

Ch. 3: Sensation & Perception

Ch. 4: States of Consciousness

Lecture Schedule:

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Mar	12th	T	A&P Breakdown, The Neuron	Ch. 2
	14th	Th	Neurotransmitters, The Split Brain Patients	Ch. 2
	19th	T	What is Sensation/Perception	Ch. 3
	21st	Th	The Visual and Auditory Systems	Ch. 3
	26th	T	Dreams!	Ch. 4
	28th	Th	Drugs!!!!	Ch. 4
Apr	2nd	T	Exam 3	

Unit 4

Ch. 5: Learning

Ch. 12: Psychological Disorders

Ch. 13: Therapies

Lecture Schedule:

April	4th	Th	Classical Conditioning and Operant Conditioning	Ch. 5
	9th	T	Observational Learning	Ch. 5
	11th	Th	Abnormal means? Anxiety and Depressive Disorders	Ch. 12
	16th	T	Schizophrenia	Ch. 12
	18th	Th	Treating the above-mentioned disorders	Ch. 13
	23rd	T	Same	Ch. 13
	25th	Th	Last class day, Final Exam will be during the day and time according to the final exams schedule: Thu May 2nd 11:10-1:10pm	

Course Grading Information:

The final grade will be based on the student's average of 4 test scores, a final exam, class participation and attendance.

Exams: **COMPLETION OF Exams in class on the date of the exam is mandatory!!** No project can replace a(n) test/exam score. If these guidelines are not followed, the instructor has

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the right to reduce possible grades and/or fail the student for lack of compliance with course requirements. The instructor also holds the right for alternatives at their discretion. Each test will be weighted at 10% of the final grade. You will need a scantron 882-E. Each exam will worth 100 points worth 10% of the final grade each for a total of 40% of your grade determined by exams.

Final Exam: The final exam will be held on May 2nd. 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 with emphasis on chapters 12-14. The final exam will be weighted at 10% of the final grade.

Attendance and Participation: A large portion of your grade is determined by attendance/participation. In fact, 50 points of the final grade will be determined by the student's attendance and participation. This **includes** timeliness of coming to class, staying until class is dismissed, and coming prepared for learning and discussing the material of each class period.

Send me a photo of Bob Ross expeditiously! (yes, this is a real request)

Grading Summary:

Test 1 (Unit 1) =	10
Test 2 (Unit 2) =	10
Test 3 (Unit 3) =	10
Test 4 (Unit 4) =	10
Final Exam (Cumulative)	10
Attendance and Participation =	50
FINAL GRADE =	100 points

The traditional score equivalency will be used in this class:

A = 90-100

B = 80-89

C = 70-79

D = 60-69

F = BELOW 60

Late Work, Attendance, and Make Up Work Policies:

Up to two missed quiz days can be made up at the instructor's discretion. Details of how to make up missed quiz days will be provided after the student has contacted the professor. Exams cannot be made up. The final exam **MUST** be attended as scheduled.

Send me a photo of Bob Ross expeditiously. (don't send me two photos of Bob Ross)

Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:

Each student is strongly recommended to participate in class. Due to the diversity of the students, many different viewpoints will be held. Students may not only disagree with each other at times, but the students and instructor may also find that they have different views on sensitive and volatile topics. It is my hope that these differences will enhance the class and create an atmosphere where students and instructor alike will be more encouraged to think and learn. Therefore, be assured that your grade will not be adversely affected by any beliefs and/or ideas expressed in class or assignments. Respect will be given for the views of others when expressed in classroom discussions. The instructor expects students to also treat each other with respect and manifest appropriate classroom behavior.

If the instructor becomes aware of cheating or plagiarism, an automatic 0 will be given for that task. These behaviors will be reported as per MCC policy. See MCC's policy on Academic Integrity for more information.

Attendance:

Regular and punctual attendance is expected of all students. The instructor will maintain a complete record of attendance for the entire length of each course. Students will be counted absent from class meetings missed, beginning with the first official day of classes. Students, whether present or absent, are responsible for all material presented or assigned for a course and will be held accountable for such materials in the determination of course grades. Instructor will follow the MCC attendance policy strictly. For this semester, the 60% course date is October, 23, 2023. A student who has missed 8 class periods by this date will be automatically withdrawn with a W. Students who miss more than 25% of class periods after this date will receive the grade earned in the class once all completed work is graded and all missed assignments have been graded as 0. A student may only be withdrawn from this class after the 60% date by student request, and at the discretion of the instructor.

*** [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.

10/09/2023



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. Claudette Jackson, (Accommodations/Title IX) at (254) 299-8465. MCC employees are mandatory reporters and must report incidents immediately to the Title IX Coordinator. Individuals may also contact the MCC Police Department at (254) 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center at (254) 299-8210. The MCC Student Counseling Center is a confidential resource for students. Any student may report sexual harassment anonymously by visiting <http://www.lighthouse-services.com/mclennan/>

Additionally, Title IX provides rights and protections for pregnant and newly parenting students. 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/>

Academic Support and Tutoring is here to help students with all their course-related needs. Specializing in one-on-one tutoring, developing study skills, and effectively writing essays. Academic Support and Tutoring can be found in the Library and main floor of the Learning Commons. This service is available to students in person or through Zoom. You can contact the Academic Support and Tutoring team via Zoom or email (ast@mclennan.edu) by going to our website (<https://www.mclennan.edu/academic-support-and-tutoring/>)

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 either MCC CREW – Campus Resources Education Web by calling (254) 299-8561 or by emailing crew@mclennan.edu or a Success Coach by calling (254) 299-8226 or emailing success@mclennan.edu.

Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) provides free food by appointment to students, faculty and staff. To schedule an appointment, go to <https://calendly.com/paulannespantry-mcc/15min>.

The CREW, Success Coaches, and Paulanne's Pantry are all located on the second floor of the Student Services building in Success Coaching Services.

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:

Please view our [Academic integrity statement](#) for more information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating. The unauthorized use of artificial intelligence (AI) for classwork can be a violation of the College's General Conduct Policy. Whether AI is authorized in a course and the parameters in which AI can be used in a course will be outlined by each instructor.

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. For more information about your student email account, go to www.mclennan.edu/studentemail.

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.

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](#) or email 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.