

**Syllabus**  
**(online course)**

**Clarendon College**

**Course Title:** General Psychology (PSYC 2301) SPRING 2012

Division of Liberal Arts

Behavioral Science Department

Instructor: Mr. Gene Denney

Course semester hours: 3

**Web-CT Course Website:**

<http://www.clarendoncollege.edu:8902>, **General Psychology. Gene Denney link**

This course uses Web-CT as its online course management program. All instructions, tutorials, exams, and assignments are provided at the course website. Due dates for all assignments are listed in the “Course Schedule” at the course website. Email communication will also be handled in Web-CT through the “Mail” feature. You will be able to log into the course website once you have officially registered for the course and once I have added you to the course website. The course website will become available to you at least by the first day of the semester. If you register late, it may take a day or two after you register to get your name processed so you can get into the course website. In order to be successful in completing this 3-credit hour course, you should plan to spend at least 8 hours per week on the course.

The information explaining how to log into your course website can be obtained by going to [Clarendon College](#)'s home page, and clicking on these links: CC On-Line, then Internet Courses. If you have any difficulty logging in, contact me using one of the methods listed below.

**Instructor's Contact Information:**

Office: Instructional Center, Office ADMN111

General office hours: Mon. & Wed. 11:00am-12:00-1:00 to 4:00pm, Tues. & Thurs.

8:30am-9:30am-11:00AM.

Office Phone: 806-874-4829; 806-874-3571 ext 132:

e-mail: [gene.denney@clarendoncollege.edu](mailto:gene.denney@clarendoncollege.edu)

The “Mail” feature in Web-CT is the main method you should use to contact me. I will make every effort to check the course website every week day and respond to your email requests within 24 hours.

**Course Required Text:**

PSYCSMART EDITED By Beth Mejia, pub. McGraw-Hill.

Online students have the option of using the electronic helps available through the publisher and will be referred to and hyper-linked in each chapter's lessons.

**Course Description:**

This course is designed to give a brief overview of the field of psychology. Psychology is the science of heredity and environment, control of emotions, behavior, learning, and the development, of personality.

**Course Purpose:**

Is designed to improve the understanding, of relationships in real life and the labels of the intricate parts of their environment and improve their communication skills through this understanding.

This course also satisfies the Behavioral Sciences requirement of the core curriculum. It also partially satisfies the requirements for Psychology majors and is fully transferable to a senior college or University.

**Course Objectives:**

The student will show competence in the use of specific specialized vocabulary, as it is established in the textbook and in class discussions.

**Exemplary Educational Objectives:**

1. To employ the appropriate methods, technologies, and data that social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.
  - a. The learner shall evaluate professional journals and refereed research on the human condition.
2. To use and critics alternative explanatory systems or theories
  - a. The learner shall arrange historical events in an illustrated manner to show the predictability of future events.
  - b. The learner shall appraise the social institutions and processes through the perspective of the major social structure.
  - c. The learner shall appraise social institutions and processes through different cultural perspectives
3. To develop and communicate alternatives explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.
  - a. The learner shall critique various theories of human behavior.
  - b. The learner shall predict behavior according to the different theories of development
4. To analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on the area under study.
  - a. The learner shall argue the outcome of a behavior from different social perspectives.
5. To identify and understand differences and commonalities within diverse cultures
  - a. The learner shall assess the interrelationship between individual behavior and social forces.

**Course requirements:**

1. Take all chapter tests by the due date
  - a. There are 13 chapters in the text and there will be a test available for each chapter.

2. Complete each discussion question for each chapter by the due date plus reply to your classmates discussions.
  - a. Each discussion question will be at least 1 paragraph.
  - b. You will also include at least 4 responses to other students.

**Grading Policies:**

The final grade in this course will be determined by the following:

Chapter Tests = 70%

Discussion Topics = 30%

**Extra Credit:**

Extra credit can be completed to improve your final grade. Each successfully completed activity can add up to 10 points to your chapter test grade. You can complete 1 for each of the 13 chapters in the text:

- Read an article from Psychology Today magazine and write a two paragraph critique. Summarize the article in the first paragraph. Express your opinion about the article in the second paragraph.
- Critique an article from another professional magazine and write a two paragraph critique. Summarize the article in the first paragraph. Express your opinion about the article in the second paragraph.
- Watch an approved movie and write a two paragraph critique. The movies that are in the section in the text “Psyc at the Movies”.
- Other projects approved by me. To receive approval on any other type of project, email me through the “Mail” feature in Web-CT, and explain the project. I will reply letting you know whether it is approved.

**Due Dates and Make-up policy:**

Due dates are clearly specified in the Course Schedule in Web-CT. All work will be submitted electronically at our course website. Instructions for everything you will do in the course are listed inside the Chapter Assignments link in Web-CT. Each week’s set of tasks are due by Monday at noon. I assume you will turn all assignments in on time. It is only at my discretion that you will be allowed to submit assignments late and only if you discuss your circumstances with me before the due date and make arrangements to complete the work by a date agreed upon by you and me. You should plan for unforeseen problems (such as technical difficulties or personal plans) and start your work early enough that you aren’t trying to finish it right before it is due. I retain the right to deduct 25 points from each late assignment or to not allow late assignments, depending on the circumstance.

**Academic Integrity and Dishonest Behavior.**

Clarendon College is committed to a philosophy of honesty and academic integrity. It is the responsibility of all members of the Clarendon College community to maintain

academic integrity at Clarendon College by refusing to participate in or tolerate academic dishonesty. Any act of academic dishonesty will be regarded by the faculty and administration as a serious offense.

Academic dishonesty violations include, but are not limited to: (1) obtaining an examination, classroom activity, or laboratory exercise by stealing or collusion; (2) discovering the content of an examination, classroom activity, laboratory exercise, or homework assignment before it is given; (3) observing the work of another during an examination or providing answers to another during the course of an examination; (4) using an unauthorized source of information during an examination, classroom activity, laboratory exercise, or homework assignment ; (5) entering an office, classroom, laboratory, or building to obtain unfair advantage; (6) taking an examination for another person; (7) completing a classroom activity, laboratory exercise, homework assignment, or research paper for another person; (8) altering grade records; (9) using any unauthorized form of an electronic communication device during an examination, classroom activity, or laboratory exercise; and/or, (10) plagiarism. (Plagiarism is defined as the using, stating, offering, or reporting as one's own, an idea, expression, or production of another person's work without proper credit. This includes, but is not limited to, turning in a paper purchased or acquired from any source, written by someone other than the student claiming credit, or stolen from another student.)

Students are responsible for reporting known acts of academic dishonesty to a faculty member, the program coordinator, the associate dean, and/or dean. Any student with knowledge of a violation who fails to report it shall him/herself be in violation and shall be considered to have committed an act of academic dishonesty. Additionally, any student who reports him/herself in violation of this code before it is likely that another might consider this possibility will be understood as repentant and acting in good faith. Though the confession will not excuse the student for the violation, the confession will be considered and the violation should not result in suspension from school except in the most extreme cases.

While academic integrity and honesty are the responsibility of the individual student, each individual faculty member, teaching assistant, and/or laboratory instructor is responsible for classroom management and for maintaining ethical behavior within the classroom and/or laboratory. Faculty who discover or suspect a violation should discuss the matter with the suspected violator(s) and attempt to resolve the case at that point. In cases of convincing evidence, the faculty member should take appropriate action. The faculty member and student should complete a Counseling Sheet regarding the violation. (The Counseling Sheet should contain at a minimum the date and time of the violation, the course, the instructor's name, the student's name, an explanation of the infraction or facts of the case, and the resolution to the incident.) This form should be signed by the student, faculty member, program coordinator, and the Dean of Students. The Dean of Students will maintain a file on all violations. If a faculty member prefers to report the case directly to the Dean of Students, it remains his/her prerogative to do so. Additionally, if the faculty member and the accused student cannot reach a resolution or if the faculty member believes that suspension from school is the only fair sanction, the

case should immediately be reported by the faculty member, in writing, to the Dean of Students. If the Dean of Students observes any trends in student behavior which involve more than one violation or act of academic dishonesty, the Dean is responsible for notifying all faculty members involved, for contacting the student(s) involved, and after consultation with the faculty member(s) involved for taking the appropriate action. The Dean of Students is responsible for the timely notification (normally within two weeks) to all parties of an action taken.

Students wishing to appeal a disciplinary decision involving academic integrity or acts of academic dishonesty may do so through the Student Appeals and Grievance Procedure.

### **Withdrawing from (Dropping) the Course**

If you decide that you are unable to complete this course or that it will be impossible to complete the course with a passing grade, you may drop the course and receive a “W” on your transcript instead. (The last day to drop a course is in the official catalog.) If you fail the course and do not go through the formal withdrawal procedure, you will receive a grade of "F" on your transcript.

According to Texas state law a student is only allowed to drop the same class twice before he/she can be charged triple the tuition amount for taking the class a third time or more. Furthermore, beginning with the Fall 2007 semester, students in Texas may only drop a total of 6 courses throughout their entire undergraduate career. After the 6th dropped class, he/she will no longer be able to withdraw from any classes.

If you think you need to drop this course, please talk with me about it first. It is possible that there is something you can do to still pass the course. Don't hurt your chances for a passing grade in the course by not turning in assignments or taking chapter tests before we have discussed your situation. If we agree that you should drop the course, you will contact the college registrar to initiate the process.

### **Accommodations Statement:**

Clarendon College provides reasonable accommodations for persons with temporary or permanent disabilities. Should you require special accommodations, notify the Office of Student Services (806-874-3571 or 800-687- 9737). We will work with you to make whatever accommodations we need to make.

### **Tentative Course Schedule**

A detailed Course Schedule is available in Web-CT. It lists due dates for each set of Chapter Assignments, including chapter tests, discussion topics, short essays, and possible extra credit activities.