

# **PSY 2012: General Psychology –**

## **HYBRID (F2F CLASS ON TUESDAYS, ZOOM CLASS ON THURSDAYS)**

**Section Numbers: 15355**

**Term: SPRING 2025**

**January 6, 2025 to May 2, 2025**

### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

**Instructor:** Melanie Deckert Pelton, Ed.D.

**Office Location:** Social Science Bldg. Room 217

**Email Address:** mpelton@gulfcoast.edu

**Phone Number:** 850 769-1551 ext. 2825

**Office Hours:** TBA  
[Advising by Zoom Appointment Linked](#)

**Classroom location:** Social Sciences Bldg, Room 113 F2F ON Tuesdays AND VIA ZOOM ON THURSDAYS

### **COURSE INFORMATION**

**PSY2012:**

General Psychology 3 Credit Hours, 3 Contact Hours

No Pre- or Co-Requisites

This course is a study of the general field of psychology and is designed to provide an understanding of human thought and behavior by studying the adaptation of the individual to his/her physical and social environment.

## STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Categorize the various approaches, fields, and subfields of psychology along with their major concepts and important figures in these domains.
2. Identify preeminent theories, principles, and research findings, and give examples of psychology's integrative perspectives and concepts by applying them to everyday life.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of psychological theories regarding the relationship between physiology, cognition, and emotion.
4. Explain how humans become self-aware, how we learn to interact with others, how we influence others, and how they influence us.
5. Classify the strategies with which psychologists study human behavior and how this knowledge is used to explain, predict, and influence behavior.

## TEXTBOOK INFORMATION

**THIS OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE IS PROVIDED BY THE INSTRUCTOR**

TITLE & EDITION	AUTHORS	PUBLISHER
<a href="#">Psychology 2e, 2022Links to an external site.</a>	Rose M. Spielman, William J. Jenkins, Marilyn D. Lovett	Openstax Creative Commons Attribution License 4.0

### Assignments and the Final Exam

Your assignment and testing progress will be monitored in Canvas. The final exam is comprehensive and covers all the course-learning outcomes, over the chapters covered throughout the semester. The final exam will be worth 100 points and consists of a variety of question type including but not limited to M/C, matching, and short essay questions. Students who do not take the final exam by the deadline receive a zero for the final exam score, unless they have completed the process for obtaining an Incomplete for the course, as detailed in this syllabus. In order to receive a passing grade for the course, the final exam must be taken or arrangements for an Incomplete must be made, according to the Incomplete policy listed in this document.

## Attendance and Class Policies

1. **This course is designed as a hybrid course, resulting in attendance requirements for Tuesdays, F2F in class 113, Social Studies Building. For the Thursday classes, students will be required to attend class F2F via Zoom on Thursdays.**

Regular class attendance and participation are significant factors that help to promote success in college. F2F attendance in this hybrid course is defined as attending Tuesdays in person, and then logging into Zoom and attending class over Zoom, reading course materials, and submission of completed written assignments, quizzes, or discussion posts. Simply logging on to a CANVAS class is not sufficient for attendance purposes.

2. Regular class attendance and participation are significant factors that help to promote success in college. Participation is counted and serves as a grade for the course for class is defined as coming to class, participation in class activities, logging into Canvas, reading course materials, and submission of completed written assignments, quizzes, or other types of assignments.
3. **IMPORTANT! Students MUST must come to class and complete at least one assignment, including, but not limited to posting the student guidelines or posting an introduction within the first week of the semester to be “counted” as present in the course. Students NOT adhering to this policy will be reported as a No Show on the course roster, which can have a negative impact on a student’s academic record, in addition to problems with any grants or loans one has acquired. A student email expressing intent to participate does not count as “participation”. Please contact me via email with any questions or concerns about this policy.**
4. Recording Lectures - In accordance with federal and state privacy laws, students may record class lectures for their own personal educational use, in connection with a complaint to the college, or as evidence in internal or external legal proceedings. Students may not publish or upload the recordings or any components thereof without the knowledge and written permission of the faculty member. Failure to obtain permission to publish could lead to the students’ having to pay damages, attorney fees, and court costs. For more information about what can be recorded, please see the guidelines on pages 36-38 in the GCSC Student Handbook: <https://www.gulfcoast.edu/current-students/student-handbooks/2021-2022-student-handbook.pdf>

## Assignments and Grading Policies

1. Students will be expected to regularly and frequently check into Canvas, as this is our learning platform for this F2F course. Here are some important policies with regard to assignments:
2. All writing assignments requiring original work that is uploaded into a Canvas drop box will automatically be processed through the plagiarism software called Turnitin. Turnitin (TII) provides a score that indicates the degree to which the information in the submission matches information from millions of available sources. High TII scores indicate large amounts of material has been taken from other sources. All TII scores are checked to ensure that proper and appropriate citations are used for material taken from another’s ideas, writings, theories, media, etc. In the event an assignment is found to not be properly cited, it will receive a zero. It is critical that students review their TII scores for each submission and make corrections or revisions. Canvas allows for multiple uploads into a drop box, so feel free to upload as many revisions as needed to address the problem.
3. Assignments **MUST** be type written (unless otherwise noted) and must be uploaded using one of these four file types: **.doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf. Pictures of assignments OR handwritten assignments will not be accepted or graded.** Moreover, submissions and files generated from a phone or from a device that uses a program not listed above will also not be accepted or graded.

4. In the event a student encounters a problem with technology (for example, their computer breaks down), there are several places on campus where students have access to computers and printers, namely the library and the ATC.
5. Similarly, if a situation arises where a scanned document is required to complete an assignment, scanning equipment is also available in the library and the ATC. Thus, excuses about late work involving technical problems will not be accepted.
6. Final grades will be based on a combination of assignment types, including but not limited to quizzes, discussion board posts, writing assignments, journals, a final project, and participation in the form of student process reports and meetings with the instructor, other course activities, and the final exam.
7. Your grades will be available via Canvas. There will be no “individual-only” extra credit offered; occasionally, I will offer extra credit opportunities for all students in a class. Extra credit **MUST** be submitted on time; there are no late submissions accepted for extra credit.
8. Each new module will “open” on Monday, 1200 am and will “close” on Sunday 1159 pm. All new, weekly content will be available when the modules open and any assignments are all due no later than the following Sunday by midnight, unless otherwise stated.

#### Course Work and Grading Scale

##### Course Work Point Breakdown

Course work (content may be revised) will be weighted as follows. Total points can be subject to change up or down, but the calculation remains the same. That is, take the total number of points accrued and divide by the total number of points possible.

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|--|------------|
| • Chapter Exams (lowest score of five exams will be dropped)                 | <b>20%</b> |
| • Writing, Journal, Metacognition Assignments, Quizzes, Homework Assignments | <b>20%</b> |
| • Final Project  | <b>25%</b> |
| • Attendance   | <b>10%</b> |
| • Final Exam (cannot be dropped)   | <b>25%</b> |

**\*Late assignments will be penalized 5 points per day.**

**\*\*There is always an opportunity for any student to obtain additional points for an especially excellent, comprehensive, or insightful discussion post or writing assignment.**

#### Grade Scheme

The following grading standards will be used in preparing the end of semester grades for this class:

Grade	Range
A	90% to 100%
B	80% to < 90%
C	70% to < 80%
D	60% to < 70%
F	0.01% to < 60%
I	0% to < 0.01%

#### Make Up Exam Policy

All assignments will remain open for the chance to submit late work, with the EXCEPTION of chapter exams and extra credit assignments. Chapter exams will close out on the stated date.

If you miss a chapter exam, you will have the opportunity **to make-up ONE test to replace the zero** you will receive for the missed test. The make-up test will consist of essay, short answer, true/false, or multiple choice questions or any combination thereof. ***A missed test MUST be made up within ONE week of the date of the missed test.***

All extra credit will have an end date when the assignment will close and will not be reopened for ANY reason.

#### Academic Integrity Policy

Honest participation in academic endeavors fosters an environment in which optimal learning can take place and is consistent with the college's mission. Academic misconduct, including cheating or plagiarism, is destructive to the spirit of an educational environment and therefore will not be tolerated. Important points include, but are not limited to:

1. "Cheating" includes but is not limited to use of any unauthorized assistance in completing course work.
2. "Plagiarism" includes, but it not limited to, the use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment.
3. "Self-plagiarism" occurs when a student submits the same or considerably similar document to fulfill requirements in different classes. For example, if a student submits a term paper in a Religion class that he or she originally wrote for an English class, this action is self-plagiarism. Once a paper receives a grade in one class, it cannot be submitted again for another class, without the express consent of the instructors.
4. Full and clear acknowledgment in one's written work is achieved by using one of the citing systems, such as MLA or APA , to cite sources in text for assertions of fact or ideas not one's own. In addition, any submission with in text sources must also include a reference page (also called a bibliography).
5. **Any Turnitin score above 20% will NOT be graded. Review your score before final submission, review and resubmit if needed.**
6. **The use of AI software in any form to create class assignments may violate GCSC's Academic Integrity Policy. Before employing AI technology in any manner and to any degree, students should consult with their professors for all courses offered through the Social Sciences Division.**
  1. **AI INFORMATION SPECIFICALLY FOR THIS COURSE:** Generative AI is here, and surely here to stay. You may be tempted to use it at some point in the semester, but I require that you do not use AI for any

**work in this class.** Most of what we do in this course develops your own analytical skills and insights, and the writing assignments are essentially about your interpretations of the content and your own learning. **Thus, all your submissions should be generated from your brain! Work submitted and found to be AI generated will receive a zero.**

7. **Sanctions for incidences of academic misconduct, depending on the severity of the incidence and/or its repetition, may range from receiving an F grade (or zero) for the test, assignment, or activity, to failure of the course, to suspension or dismissal from the program or the college.**
8. Any case of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Chair of Social Sciences and the Dean of Student Affairs.

### Student Accessibility Information

Gulf Coast State College supports an inclusive learning environment for all students. If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that hinder your full participation, reasonable accommodations can be arranged. Prior to receiving accommodations, you must register with [Student Accessibility Resources](#). [Links to an external site.](#) Appropriate academic accommodations will be determined based on the documented needs of the student. For information regarding the registration process, email [sar@gulfcoast.edu](mailto:sar@gulfcoast.edu) or call 850-747-3243.

### Emails and Voicemail Response Time Policy

1. Instructors will check and respond to messages sent to their Canvas and GCSC email within 48 hours during scheduled workdays, barring illness or emergencies. The instructor may not check email during holidays or weekends. This policy also applies to messages sent via Canvas. Please use my GCSC email [mpelton@gulfcoast.edu](mailto:mpelton@gulfcoast.edu) if you require an especially prompt reply to your email.
2. Ensure that your GCSC student email account is activated and that you check it regularly. **You can call GCSC ITS Help Desk (850-913-3303) at any time if you have any technical problems or problems with your email account OR eLearning (Canvas).**
3. ANY email contact **that is not sent through Canvas** should contain, in the subject line, 1) the course title (i.e. XYZ 1000) AND 2) the section number (for example, 12345), AND 3) your name. Emails without these designations cannot be returned promptly due to the additional time it takes to go through class records to determine who the student is and in which class and section he or she is enrolled.

### Withdrawal Policies

#### Division Withdrawal Policy

Students may withdraw themselves from any course until the published withdrawal deadline for that term in the [Gulf Coast State College catalog/academic calendar](#). [Links to an external site.](#) Students wishing to withdraw from a course and receive a "W" must complete a withdrawal form and submit this to the Office of Enrollment Services prior to the scheduled withdrawal date as published on the college calendar; within the first two weeks, text me the phrase I will not plagiarize for bonus points on your final exam. Social Sciences instructors do not withdraw students from their individual courses under any circumstances. If you feel you have a unique situation that warrants removal from all of your courses

for a term after the withdrawal deadline has passed, you may contact the Vice President of Student Affairs to discuss your situation.

### **Consequences of Withdrawals**

Two withdrawals are permitted per credit course, according to Florida state DOE policy. For a third attempt, a grade will be assigned, regardless of the final outcome. Please be concerned about withdrawals. When admitting students into certain programs, universities may calculate withdrawals as grades. It is your responsibility to verify the effects of enrollment and/or withdrawal upon your financial assistance (financial aid, scholarships, grants, etc.).

### **Incomplete Grade Policy**

Grades of Incomplete in any Social Sciences course can be assigned only to students who have an emergency arise during the last two weeks of the course. To receive an Incomplete, students must:

1. Submit a written request to the instructor prior to the last face-to-face class meeting. For online courses, the Incomplete request must be received no later than the week before the Final Exam period begins.
2. To receive an Incomplete, students must have completed no less than 60% of the course requirements AND be passing the course at the time the request for an Incomplete is submitted.
3. The Incomplete option provides 30 days from the date grades are due to make up any missing work; if work is not submitted during this period, the grade will automatically change to an "F" in Lighthouse.

### **Additional GCSC Information**

1. The health and safety of students and faculty are a priority. If you are sick with cold, flu, or COVID symptoms or any other contagious illness, please stay home to protect others. Notify your professor by phone or email to make accommodations.

### **Division Contact Information**

**Division Chair:** Dr. Bob Saunders

**Administrative Asst:** Jody Walton

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