



Course Syllabus

**PSY 2012
General Psychology**

Spring Semester, A Session, 2026

CRN: 13756 • Online • Semester Hours: 3 • Prerequisites: None

Semester Dates: 9 January– 8 May 2026

Instructor Information:

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Required Textbook Information:

Great news: your textbook for this class is available for **free** online and as a downloadable textbook. Click the following link for the text:

[*Psychology 2e* from OpenStax \(Links to an external site.\)](#), ISBN 978-1-975076-45-0

In addition, the text will be in the Course Material Module section of the course.

Broad Goals:

- This course is primarily reading-based, with opportunities for discussions via the Canvas Discussion Board.
- The broad goals of the course include students learning and retaining a significant amount of information on human behaviors; mental disturbances using the principles of the major paradigms; categorizing and evaluating the stages of human development; demonstrating a general knowledge of the concepts of memory and cognition; developing critical thinking and deductive reasoning skills; and improving communication skills.

PSY2012 Catalog/Course Description and SLOs

In this course, students will gain an introduction to the scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. Topics may be drawn from historical and current perspectives in psychology.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLOs):

- Students will be able to identify basic psychological theories, terms, and principles from historical and current perspectives.
- Students will be able to recognize real-world applications of psychological theories, terms, and principles.
- Students will be able to recognize basic strategies used in psychological research
- Students will be able to draw logical conclusions about behavior and mental processes based on empirical evidence.

Student Learning Objectives

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.

Course Expectations Statement PSY 2012: General Psychology:

Students enrolled in this course are expected to:

1. Engage in Course Activities

- Participate through regular email communication with the instructor
- Watch and take thorough notes on digital lectures
- Read all assigned textbook materials
- Contribute to the Discussion Board for each weekly module
- Complete all exams, assignments, therapy project, course feedback, and the final exam as scheduled
- Students are unable to see the answers to the quizzes. Students wishing to see them can have testing arranged in the college testing centers. Students must download the Respondus Browser and use their computer's web camera for testing in this course.
- IPADS cannot be used for testing in this course.

2. Course Structure

- The course is organized into weekly modules consisting of:
 - Reading assignments
 - Digital lecture links
 - Key terms lists
 - Discussion questions posted by the instructor
 - Relevant videos and/or documentaries
 - Communication Policy:

Instructor replies to emails within 24 hours on weekdays, and within 48 hours on weekends. You may also reach me by phone. If I am unavailable, please leave your name, class CRN, and message. Your call will be returned within 24 hours.
 - Students should report any problems or concerns as early as possible
 - Technology Requirements:

Access to a personal computer or laptop with internet is required
 - Success in an online course is not possible without a computer and internet service
 - Students must use Canvas, OpenStax, and their GCSC email for all course communications and materials
 - Download and install Respondus LockDown Browser and use the Webcam Monitor for Chapter Quizzes and Final Exam.
 - Students without access to a device may check out a laptop from the GCSC Library or use college computer labs.

Laptop/Personal Technology Policy:

Students enrolled in this course are required to have access to a personal computer or laptop and a working internet connection to succeed. You may check out a laptop from Gulf Coast State College Library if you do not have access to a personal computer. This is an online course that requires completing coursework in Canvas, accessing course materials, and having a reliable internet connection.

Generative Artificial Intelligence Policy (AI):

See the student handbook for further information. Students with questions about acceptable use should consult their instructor.

Students may use basic assistive technologies for spelling, grammar, and formatting; however, the use of AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Copilot, Grammarly's AI function, etc.) for generating, rewriting, or enhancing content is not permitted. All work must reflect the student's original ideas and writing. Representing work created by AI as one's own is a violation of academic integrity and may result in penalties, including a zero on the assignment and additional disciplinary actions as outlined in the college's academic integrity policy.

Instruments of assessment for PSY 2012 include:

Exam # 1
Exam # 2
Exam # 3
Exam # 4
Discussion Boards
Therapy Project
Individual Assignments/Journal
Feedback Assignment
Final Exam

Assignment of Grades: All examination and assignment grades will appear in the student's gradebook in Canvas. Final letter grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

- A** 90%-100%
- B** 80%-89%
- C** 70%-79%
- D** 60%-69%
- F** 59% and below

Final grades are based on the following weights or points.

Type of Assignment	Weight
Chapter Discussion Forums	15%
Quizzes	40%
Course Assignments & Journal	20%
Therapist Project	10%
Class Feedback	5%
Final Exam (comprehensive)	10 %
Total	100%

2025-2026 GCSC Social Sciences Policies

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. Social Science professors report every instance of student academic misconduct to the college for inclusion in the student's records.

- **"Cheating"** includes but is not limited to the use of any unauthorized assistance in completing coursework.
- **"Plagiarism"** includes, but is not limited to, the use by paraphrase or direct quotation of another person's published or unpublished work without full and clear acknowledgment as well as the purchase of papers or projects.
- **"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 Religion they originally wrote for an English class, this is self-plagiarism. Once a paper receives a grade in one class, it cannot be submitted again for another class.
- **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.

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 0) for the test, assignment, or activity, to failure of the course, to suspension or dismissal from the college.

Student Accessibility Statement - Gulf Coast State College supports an inclusive learning environment for all students. If aspects of this course's instruction or design hinder your full participation, reasonable accommodations can be arranged. Before receiving accommodations, you must register with Student Accessibility Resources. Appropriate academic accommodations will be determined based on the documented needs of the student. For information regarding the registration process, email sar@gulfcoast.edu or call 850-747-3243.

Recording Lectures - Under federal and state privacy laws, students may record class lectures for their 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 student(s) paying damages, attorney fees, and court costs.

For more information about what can be recorded, please see the guidelines in the GCSC Student Handbook: <https://www.gulfcoast.edu/current-students/student-handbooks/2021-2022-student-handbook.pdf>

Email & Voicemail Response Time - Instructors will check and respond to messages sent to their gulfcoast.edu email within 48 hours during scheduled workdays, barring illness or emergencies. The instructor may or may not check email during holidays or weekends. This policy also applies to messages sent via Canvas, as well as voicemails left on a provided phone number.

Attendance - Regular class attendance and participation are significant factors that help to promote success in college. In face-to-face courses, students are required to be in class at the beginning of each class session, as attendance will be taken at this time. If a student arrives late, it is his/her responsibility to inform the instructor after class of his/her presence. Failure to do so may result in the student being marked as "Absent." Attendance in an online/hybrid CANVAS class is defined as the submission of complete written assignments before their posted deadline.

Withdrawals - Students may withdraw themselves from any course until the published withdrawal deadline for that term in the Gulf Coast State College catalog. 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 before the scheduled withdrawal date as published on the college calendar. 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. After that, a grade will be assigned. 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 Grades - Grades of Incomplete in any Social Sciences course can only be assigned to students who have an emergency arise during the last two weeks of the course.

To receive an Incomplete, students must:

- Submit a written request to the instructor before the last face-to-face class meeting. For online courses, a written Incomplete request must be received no later than the week before the Final Exam period begins.
- Have completed no less than 60 percent of the course requirements and be passing the course at the time the request for an Incomplete is submitted.

Important Note: 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.

PSY 2012 GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY 13756 SPRING 2026 A
9 January to 8 MAY 2026

DB: Discussion Board Q: Quiz

Week of:	MODULE	Module Assignments
WEEK 1 9 January	Start Up Module	Syllabus Quiz; Discussion Board (1): About Me (Due: 14 January 2026) - To avoid being dropped as a No Show (NS), students should complete these assignments by Wednesday. - In an online course, attendance is verified by the student’s submission of work during the first week of class. Once you are dropped as a NS, you will not be readmitted into the course.
Week 2 12 January	1	Chapter 1 -Intro to Psychology; Student Guidelines Assignment; Academic Integrity (Due: 18 January 2026)
Week 3 19 January	2	Chapter 2- Psychological Research; DB; Original post due Wednesday, 21 January ; (Due: 25 January 2026)
	Q1	Quiz 1: Chapters 1 & 2 (Due: 25 January 2026)
Week 4 26 January	3	Chapter 3 Biopsychology; Individual Assignment Journal 1 (Due: 1 February 2026)
Week 5 2 February	4	Chapter 4 - States of Consciousness Individual Assignment (Due: 8 February 2026)
	Q2	Quiz 2: Chapters 3 & 4 (Due: 8 February 2026)

Week 6 9 February	5	Chapter 5-Sensation and Perception; Individual Assignment; (Due: 15 February 2026)
Week 7 16 February	6	Chapter 6-Learning; Individual Assignment; (Due: 22 February 2026)
	Q-3	Quiz 3: Chapters 5 & 6 (Due: 22 February 2026)
Week 8 23 February	7	Chapter 7- Thinking and Intelligence; Individual Assignment Mind Map (Due: 1 March 2026)
Week 9 2 March	8	Chapter 8 - Memory: Individual Assignment (Due: 8 March 2026)
		<i>You will not be responsible for Chapters 9 & 10</i>
	Q-4	Quiz 4: Chapters 7 & 8; Abnormality Practice Quiz: (Due: 8 March 2026)
Week 10 9 March	9	Chapter 15-Psychological Disorders; Individual Assignment; (Due: 15 March 2026)
		SPRING BREAK March 16-22, 2026
Week 11 23 March	10	Chapter 16-Therapy & Treatment; DB; Original post due Wednesday; Classmates Reply; (Due: 29 March 2026)
	Q-5	Quiz 5: Chapters 15 & 16 (Due: 29 March 2026)
		Email request N/L/T 6 April 2026 Mental Health Topic for Approval Guidelines & Examples in the Therapy Assignment Module, and Course Materials Modules. Do not request to use the example topics provided, or neurological, intellectual disabilities, or sleep disorders. Assignments submitted without an approved mental health disorder will not receive credit.
Week 12 30 March	11	Chapter 11 – Personality; Personality Theories Assessment DB; Personality Test (Due: 5 April 2026)
Week 13 6 April	12	Chapter 12 - Social Psychology; DB (Due: 12 April 2026)
		Chapters 11 & 12 testing will be included on the Final Exam <i>You will not responsible for Chapters 13 & 14</i>
Week 14 13 April	Therapy Project	Becoming A Therapist Assignment (Due: April 19, 2026)
Week 15 20 April		Feedback Assignment: (Due: 26 April 2026)
		Study Guide—Extra Credit Assignment (Due: 30 April 2026); Due Prior to taking Final Exam
Final Exam 4 May 1:00pm CST	Final Exam	The Final Exam is due no later than 1 May 2026 at 1 PM CST . Once it closes, you will not have access to the test.