

PSY 2012: General Psychology

Summer 2026 Semester | Gulf Coast State College

COURSE INFORMATION

Course: PSY 2012 General Psychology

Credits: 3 Credit Hours

Format: Online (Canvas)

Section: CRN 51504

Prerequisites: None

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Melanie Pelton, Ed.D.

Title: Associate Professor

Email: mpelton@gulfcoast.edu

Office Hours: Advising by Zoom appointment. The Zoom link is available in Canvas.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

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.

COURSE GOALS

- Develop knowledge of major psychological theories and concepts.
- Understand how thoughts, emotions, and behaviors interact.
- Apply psychological concepts to everyday situations.
- Develop critical thinking and communication skills.
- Understand how psychologists study behavior and mental processes.

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.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Psychology 2e (2022) by Rose M. Spielman, William J. Jenkins, and Marilyn D. Lovett. This Open Educational Resource from OpenStax is provided by the instructor.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance in this online course is defined as active participation in Canvas. Participation includes reading course materials, submitting assignments, posting discussion responses, and completing quizzes.

Students must log into the course and complete at least one assignment during the first week of the semester to be counted as present. Students who do not complete this requirement may be reported as a No-Show.

COURSE WORK AND GRADING

Assignment Type	Points	Percentage
Chapter Quizzes	200	20%
Writing / Metacognition Assignments	500	35%
Discussion Boards	200	20%
Final Exam	100	25%

Total Points Possible: 1000

LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY

Late assignments will receive a deduction of five points per day after the due date.

DISCUSSION BOARD EXPECTATIONS

Discussion boards provide interaction similar to face-to-face classes. Students should demonstrate critical thinking, reference course concepts, and extend the discussion in meaningful ways.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Assignments must be submitted as DOC, DOCX, RTF, or PDF files. Images or phone screenshots of assignments will not be graded.

For technical assistance with Canvas or student email, contact the GCSC ITS Help Desk at 850-913-3303.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Academic honesty is essential in maintaining a productive learning environment. Cheating, plagiarism, and self-plagiarism are violations of academic integrity and will not be tolerated.

Assignments must represent the student's original work. Submissions created using generative artificial intelligence tools may receive a grade of zero.

STUDENT ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

Gulf Coast State College supports an inclusive learning environment. Students who need academic accommodations should register with Student Accessibility Resources.

Email: sar@gulfcoast.edu

Phone: 850-747-3243

COMMUNICATION POLICY

Instructor emails are typically answered within 48 hours during the work week. Students should include the course number, section number, and their name in the email subject line.

WITHDRAWAL POLICY

Students may withdraw from the course until the withdrawal deadline published in the Gulf Coast State College academic calendar.

INCOMPLETE GRADES

Incomplete grades may be granted only for emergencies occurring during the final two weeks of the course. Students must be passing and must have completed at least 60 percent of the course requirements.

DIVISION CONTACT INFORMATION

Division Chair: Dr. Bob Saunders

Office: Social Sciences 211

Phone: 850-872-3826

Email: rsaunder2@gulfcoast.edu

Administrative Assistant: Jody Walton

Office: Social Sciences 210

Phone: 850-872-3825

Email: jwalton1@gulfcoast.edu

SUMMER 2026 COURSE CALENDAR

PSY 2012 – General Psychology

(Schedule subject to revision as needed)

Modules open Monday at 12:00 AM and close Sunday at 11:59 PM unless otherwise noted.

Assignment schedule may change as needed

Week	Dates	Topics	Course Activities
1	May 15 – May 17	Course Orientation, syllabus review, course policies, Canvas navigation, introduction to metacognition	Canvas Module 1; Metacognition Module
2	May 18 – May 24	Introduction to Psychology	Chapter 1
3	May 25 – May 31	Psychological Research	Chapter 2
4	June 1 – June 7	Learning	Chapter 6
5	June 8 – June 14	Thinking and Intelligence	Chapter 7
6	June 15 – June 21	States of Consciousness	Chapter 4
7	June 22 – June 28	Social Psychology	Chapter 12
8	June 29 – July 5	Personality Psychology	Chapter 11
9	July 6 – July 12	Psychological Disorders	Chapter 15
10	July 13 – July 19	Psychological Therapies	Chapter 16
11	July 20 – July 26	Continue Psychological Therapies; Review Course Concepts	Chapter 11, 15, & 16 Review
12	July 31	Final Review and Final Exam	Final Exam