

**Dual Credit**  
**PY 101: Introduction to Psychology**  
**Instructor: Dana Battison**  
[dbattiso@centralmethodist.edu](mailto:dbattiso@centralmethodist.edu)  
**Fall 2017**

**CENTRAL METHODIST UNIVERSITY**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is an introduction course to the ever-changing field of Psychology. It will provide the student with an excellent foundation for further classes in this field. During the course of this semester, the student will discover the many figures that shaped this field and the various theories that are prominent in Psychology. Students will look at the biological basis for behaviors and thoughts, and discuss sensation, perception and genetics in this biological arena.

**COURSE GOALS:**

Students will examine the historical development and the various theories associated with psychology. Some theories of learning, cognition and intelligence will be examined and applied to a variety of real-life situations. Students will study the complex processes of the brain as they relate to cognition, memory, intelligence, and impaired function. Students will learn to think critically about human behavior and apply those skills to the behavior of others and themselves. Students will learn the basics of physical, cognitive, social/emotional, and personality development. Influences of genetics, family, culture, and society will be explored as they shape personality and behavior. Students will examine themselves in the context of motivation, emotion, stress, coping mechanisms, and personality. Students will be introduced to abnormal behaviors as described in the DSM-IV and common therapies to treat disorders. Students will complete the semester with a study of social psychology.

**COURSE COMPETENCIES:**

Students will:

- Show initiative and creativity
- Demonstrate knowledge of the basic tenets of psychology
- Analyze problems thoughtfully
- Work harmoniously with others
- Respond positively to instructions and procedures
- Maintain high standards
- Complete work in a timely, consistent manner
- Respect diverse perspectives

**REQUIRED TEXT:** Lahey, Benjamin B. *Psychology: An introduction* (10th edition). New York, NY: McGraw Hill.

### **EXAMS, ASSIGNMENTS, and ATTENDANCE:**

- We will have three exams in addition to a Final. The three highest scores of these will be used. Therefore, those scoring well on the first three exams need not take the Final exam, if they do not wish to do so.
- There will be quizzes every week or two.
- This is a COLLEGE LEVEL CLASS so you will be expected to be in **attendance**, be attentive during class, take lecture notes, and keep up with the reading. If you are absent for any reason, you are responsible for the information missed. You will have three days to turn in late assignments.
- You will have a variety written projects assigned throughout this semester; each will be discussed in class and a due date will be given. APA format will be used for references on papers. Papers must be Word documents and will be submitted to the professor via email at: [dbattison@centralmethodist.edu](mailto:dbattison@centralmethodist.edu).
- All assignments will be emailed to facilitators who will distribute to students.
- Quizzes and exams will be monitored by facilitators and submitted to the Professor.
- This is an interactive course. Students are expected to be prepared for assignments and discussions.

### **Academic Conduct:**

As with any other class, plagiarism or any other form of academic misconduct is unacceptable. According to the CMU Catalogue, “Any conduct that unprofessionally represents a student’s academic performance violates CMU’s Academic Conduct Policy” (41). The Catalogue defines plagiarism this way:

Plagiarism includes but is not limited to [1] representing as one’s own work a paper, speech, or report written in whole or in part by someone else (from the un-credited use of significant phrases to the un-credited use of larger portions of material), including material found on the internet, [2] failing to provide appropriate recognition of the sources of borrowed material through the proper use of quotation marks, proper attribution of paraphrases, and proper reference citations. Always provide appropriate recognition of all borrowed materials and sources.

Whether it is intentional or not, plagiarism is unacceptable in a college classroom. Failure to cite sources or misrepresent someone else’s work as your own (in both cases either intentionally or unintentionally) may result in any or all of the following: a) a zero (0) on the assignment, b) a failure of the course, and/or c) a referral to the Dean’s office for further disciplinary action (see page 42 of the course catalogue for the range of actions the Dean’s office may take). For more information on CMU’s academic conduct policies, please see the Course Catalogue pg 41-42.

### **ACADEMIC PROPERTY**

All work (original or copy) submitted by the student to satisfy the requirements of the course may be retained at the discretion of the instructor. Such work is generally used for assessing the course and providing evidence of student accomplishment for review by accrediting agencies. Any student wishing to prohibit such use of their work may do so by notifying the instructor in writing.

### **INSTRUCTORS POLICIES**

It is expected that YOU will each be responsible for your OWN work and exams; cheating results in an automatic 0 for that project or exam, and your principal will be contacted. Should you cheat on any exam/project, you will receive an F for the class. Your grades will be submitted at the request of your schools.

### **ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY**

The University will discipline students for infractions of the Academic Honesty Policy with various sanctions which it deems appropriate, up to and including suspension or expulsion from the University. *Penalties internal to a course, including grades and expulsion from the course, are at the discretion of the instructor.* Students can appeal instructor's internal course penalties to the Committee on Academic Standards and Admissions, whose decision is final. Instructors must report all penalties they impose for academic dishonesty, with a brief account of the offense, to the Dean of the University, so that all violations are recorded. For serious or repeated offenses, the Dean may impose further penalties beyond the course penalty. These penalties include but are not limited to notations in the student file, notations on the student transcript, probation, suspension, and expulsion. A decision by the Dean of the University can be appealed to the Faculty Committee on Academic Standards and Admission, whose decision is final.

### **ADA Statement:**

Students with documented disabilities who may need accommodations, who have any emergency medical information the instructor should know of, or who need special arrangements, should make an appointment with me as early as possible

### **Course Complaint Protocol:**

If you have complaints or concerns about me or about this class, please follow accepted protocol in seeking solutions and redress: discuss your concerns first and foremost with me. Then, if you feel I have inadequately addressed your concerns, contact me directly, and your facilitator.

### **Central Methodist University Mission and Creed**

Central Methodist University prepares students to make a difference in the world by emphasizing academic and professional excellence, ethical leadership, and social responsibility.

The Central Methodist University community, consistent with its United Methodist heritage, strives for academic excellence, individual achievement, and social responsibility. As members of that community we believe in: seeking knowledge, truth, and wisdom; valuing freedom, honesty, civility, and diversity; living lives of service and leadership; and taking responsibility for ourselves and the communities in which we live.

**Assignments and grades:**

**Written assignments = 20 pts. each.**

**Quizzes = 20 pts. each.**

**Exams = 50 pts. Total of 150 points maximum from the best three exams.**

**The pace of the class will determine the number of quizzes and written assignments which will ultimately determine point total.**

**Grade Scale:**

**90 - 100% = A**

**89 - 80 % = B**

**79 - 70 % = C**

**69 - 60 % = D**

**Below 60% = F**

**If at any time, you feel you need further instruction/clarification or simply want to discuss anything related to the class, please email me. I will respond as quickly as possible.**

**Thank you and have a great semester!**

**"The greatest discovery of my generation is that human beings can alter their lives by altering their attitudes of mind." William James (1842-1910)**