PSYC 111101 Introductory Psychology
3 Credits
Summer, 2015

Instructor: Dr. Janice Plunkett D’Avignon  
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Office: McGuinn 100  
Office Hours: by appointment  
Telephone: 671-435-3989

Schedule (class times and day(s)): Mondays and Wednesdays, 8:15 AM – 11:30 AM (6/22-7/29/2015)  
Room: Campion 009

Boston College Mission Statement

Strengthened by more than a century and a half of dedication to academic excellence, Boston College commits itself to the highest standards of teaching and research in undergraduate, graduate and professional programs and to the pursuit of a just society through its own accomplishments, the work of its faculty and staff, and the achievements of its graduates. It seeks both to advance its place among the nation's finest universities and to bring to the company of its distinguished peers and to contemporary society the richness of the Catholic intellectual ideal of a mutually illuminating relationship between religious faith and free intellectual inquiry.

Boston College draws inspiration for its academic societal mission from its distinctive religious tradition. As a Catholic and Jesuit university, it is rooted in a world view that encounters God in all creation and through all human activity, especially in the search for truth in every discipline, in the desire to learn, and in the call to live justly together. In this spirit, the University regards the contribution of different religious traditions and value systems as essential to the fullness of its intellectual life and to the continuous development of its distinctive intellectual heritage.

Course Description

Human behavior is endlessly intriguing and its surprises are what motivate us to understand the psychological complexities that produce them. Psychology is the scientific study of mind and behavior, and so offers us a chance to explore why we act as we do: how behavior helps us adapt to meet the challenges of daily living. Course considers such areas as child development, social psychology, personality, psychological disorders, neuroscience, sensation, perception, cognition and state of consciousness, and psychotherapy to shed light on familiar questions and practical issues.

Course Objectives

- Gaining factual knowledge to include terminology, classifications, methods and trends.
- Learning fundamental principles, generalizations and theories
- Learning to apply course material to improve thinking, problem-solving, decision-making and understanding of human behavior
1. The student will demonstrate knowledge across cultural settings and will learn the impact of culture, gender, and age across development. This will be demonstrated by gaining an understanding of the impact of cultural diversity in child rearing practices across cultures and the influence on life choices as they are impacted by cultural values and principles.

2. The student will demonstrate ethical knowledge pertaining to the beliefs and practices of individuals and groups as they are demonstrated through the psychological research, theories and studies in moral and spiritual development.

**Grading**

Class attendance and participation in in-class group discussion
2 quizzes
Midterm exam
Final exam

*Summer Grading System*

The undergraduate grading system consists of twelve categories: A (4.00), A- (3.67), excellent; B+ (3.33), B (3.00), B- (2.67), good; C+ (2.33), C (2.00), C- (1.67), satisfactory; D+ (1.33), D (1.00), D- (.67), passing but unsatisfactory; F (.00), failure; I (.00), incomplete; F (.00), course dropped without notifying office; W (.00), official withdrawal from course. The graduate grading system is A (4.00), A- (3.67), Excellent; B+ (3.33), B (3.00), good; B- (2.67), C (2.00), passing but not for degree credit; F (.00), failure.

Grade Reports: All students are required to log into the web through Agora to access their semester grades. Students must utilize their BC username and password to log on. If your username or password is not known, the Student Learning and Support Center in the O’Neill Library Computer Center will issue a new one. The SLSC requires a valid picture ID (a BC ID, driver’s license or passport) to obtain your password.


**Text(s)/Readings (Recommended):**


**Grading:**
Midterm (33 %)
Final grade (33%)
Quiz grades (average of 2 = 33%)
Important Policies
http://www.bc.edu/content/bc/schools/advstudies/guide/academicinteg.html

Written Work
Graduate and undergraduate students are expected to prepare professional, polished written work. Written materials must be typed in the format required by your instructor. Strive for a thorough, yet concise style. Cite literature appropriately, using APA, MLA, CLA format per instructors decision. Develop your thoughts fully, clearly, logically and specifically. Proofread all materials to ensure the use of proper grammar, punctuation, and spelling. You are encouraged to make use of campus resources for refining writing skills as needed [http://www.bc.edu/libraries/help/tutoring.html].

Scholarship and Academic Integrity
It is expected that students will produce original work and cite references appropriately. Failure to reference properly is plagiarism. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not necessarily limited to, plagiarism, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, cheating on examinations or assignments, and submitting the same paper or substantially similar papers to meet the requirements of more than one course without seeking permission of all instructors concerned. Scholastic misconduct may also involve, but is not necessarily limited to, acts that violate the rights of other students, such as depriving another student of course materials or interfering with another student’s work.

Request for Accommodations
If you have a disability and will be requesting accommodations for this course, please register with either Dr. Kathy Duggan (dugganka@bc.edu), Associate Director, Connors Family Learning Center (learning disabilities or AHD) or Dean Paulette Durrett, (paulette.durrett@bc.edu), Assistant Dean for students with disabilities, (all other disabilities). Advance notice and appropriate documentation are required for accommodations. For further information, you can locate the disability resources on the web at http://www.bc.edu/content/bc/libraries/help/tutoring/specialservices.html.

Attendance
Class attendance is an important component of learning. Students are expected to attend all classes and to arrive by the beginning of and remain for the entire class period. When an occasion occurs that prevents a student from attending class, it is the student’s obligation to inform the instructor of the conflict before the class meets. The student is still expected to meet all assignment deadlines. If a student knows that he or she will be absent on a particular day, the student is responsible for seeing the instructor beforehand to obtain the assignments for that day. If a student misses a class, he or she is responsible for making up the work by obtaining a classmate's notes and handouts and turning in any assignments due. Furthermore, many instructors give points for participation in class. If you miss class, you cannot make up participation points associated with that class. Types of absences that are not typically excused include weddings, showers, vacations, birthday parties, graduations, etc. Additional assignments, penalties and correctives are at the discretion of the instructor. If circumstances necessitate
excessive absence from class, the student should consider withdrawing from the class. In all cases, students are expected to accept the decision of the instructor regarding attendance policies specific to the class.

Consistent with our commitment of creating an academic community that is respectful of and welcoming to persons of differing backgrounds, we believe that every reasonable effort should be made to allow members of the university community to observe their religious holidays without jeopardizing the fulfillment of their academic obligations. It is the responsibility of students to review course syllabi as soon as they are distributed and to consult the faculty member promptly regarding any possible conflicts with observed religious holidays. If asked, the student should provide accurate information about the obligations entailed in the observance of that particular holiday. However, it is the responsibility of the student to complete any and all class requirements for days that are missed due to conflicts due to religious holidays.

There may be circumstances that necessitate a departure from this policy. Feel free to contact the WCAS at 617-552-3900 for consultation.

**Deadlines**
Assignments are due at the beginning of the class period on the specified dates. Late assignments will be graded accordingly.

**Course Assignments**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week of:</th>
<th>Assigned Chapters</th>
<th>Topics</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 22</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction to psychology</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Nature or nurture?</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Life span development</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>The biology of mind</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 39</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>The brain and behavior</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Disorders of the brain</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>States of consciousness</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Sensation and perception</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 13</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Learning</td>
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<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Memory</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Thinking and language</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 20</td>
<td>10 &amp; 11</td>
<td>Intelligence and motivation</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Personality development</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 27</td>
<td>13 &amp; 14</td>
<td>Psychological disorders</td>
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July 13            MIDTERM
July 6 & July 20   QUIZ DATES
July 29            FINAL EXAM

It is expected that 8 hours per week of your study time out will be spent on out of class assignments and exercises. Please note that some weeks will require more time and some weeks less time but the average is approximately 8 hours per week over the semester.