Spring 2024 Syllabus
Psychology 203 – General Psychology
(Please keep all semester as it should answer many of your questions)

Course: General Psychology
Lecture: Monday/Wednesday 9:30 – 10:45 Room M148
Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Gwena Lovett Hooper
A.A., Psychology, John A Logan Community College - 2000
B.A., Psychology, Southern Illinois University – 2002
M.A., Applied Psychology, Southern Illinois University – 2004
Teaching experience: Southern Illinois University – 2003-2004
University of Arkansas Rich Mountain – 2004-present

Contact Info: **Email: ghooper@uarichmountain.edu**

Office: Room 209 in the learning center/library. I will be on campus *Mondays and Wednesdays (I have another class at 12:30) and some Tuesdays.* ***(Preferred Office hours: Monday and Wednesday 2:00 – 3:30) We can also make an appointment to meet if needed.*** You can email or call/**text** me at **479-216-0711, especially if you need a quick response.** Please leave a message if there is no answer and include your name and class you are in.

UA Rich Mountain Office Phone Number – *479-394-7622 Ext. 1333*

Required Textbook: *OpenStax.* Spielman, Jenkins & Lovett. (2020). *Psychology (2nd edition).* **(Please pick up the textbook at the bookstore located in the student center.)** *It is not necessary to bring your textbook to every class, but I recommend you read what we talk about in class in the textbook as well.*

Course Description: A study of human behavior with emphasis on research, biology, learning, memory, development, personality, and abnormality. This course is designed to satisfy a general education requirement in the social sciences and will provide the necessary background for those desiring additional course work in the field of psychology.

Program Outcomes: *The general education curriculum provides how* students will increase their:

(1) writing, reading, speaking, and listening skills,

(2) analytical skills to solve real-life problems,

(3) understanding of different cultures and societies across the globe and how both have changed over time,

(4) technological and research skills

(5) understanding of basic principles and their application in the field of biological sciences.

Rationale: An education in general psychology should enable the student to think critically about moral and ethical issues in relationship to individuals within a society. It should also enhance people skills and enable one to have healthier relationships, as well as improving the student's understanding of research and how it applies to individuals and the society in general.

Course Objectives: Upon completion of the course, you should be able to:

- Think critically and analytically about issues related to human development and behavior.
- Demonstrate a basic understanding of the scientific method as it is used in psychology.
- Demonstrate your knowledge of the principal findings and theories in general psychology.
- Apply your knowledge of psychology to human and social problems and their solutions.
- Express your views in writing in an informed and cogent manner.

Course Outline:

Units/Exams	Text Chapters	Chapter/*Section* Titles
1	Chapter 1	Introduction to Psychology
	Chapter 2	Psychological Research
2	Chapter 12	Social Psychology
	Chapter 8	Memory
3	Chapter 3	Biopsychology
	Chapter 4	States of Consciousness (pages 115-129) Substance Use Disorders (pgs. 134-142)
2 Section Quizzes	Chapter 6	Learning (Classical and Operant Conditioning)
4	Chapter 9	Life-Span Development
5	Chapter 11	Personality
FINAL	Chapter 15	Psychological Disorders

Course Conduct: Presentation of material will include power point lectures and videos, as well as group interaction and discussion. Student participation is strongly encouraged but cannot become disruptive to other students or the instructor. I will be distributing notes for each chapter, so you need a **three-ring binder** to keep them in; you need **paper and pen/pencil** for taking notes and pop quizzes. *Be sure and keep all notes, homework, and study guides all semester (they may also be useful for future psychology courses).*

UA Rich Mountain Credit Hour: *A typical three credit hour class will require about **nine hours per week** of* concentrated attention on course-related work. This should include time attending class, as well as out-of-class time spent reading, reviewing, organizing notes, preparing for upcoming quizzes/exams, problem solving, completing assignments, and other activities that enhance learning.

Attendance Requirements: Regular and punctual attendance is expected, and attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. Students with good class attendance/participation will receive extra credit points at the end of the semester. **It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor if he/she will not be present for class.**

As your instructor, I will be responsible for assigning your final grade. Therefore, ***if you need to drop the course for any reason, please go through the official procedure in admissions as stated in the UA Rich Mountain catalog.*** Do not just stop attending class because an official withdrawal is noted by a "W" instead of "F" on your transcript ***(last day to drop and receive a W is May 3)***. For security reasons, the classroom door will be shut and locked at 9:35 so try to be on time.

Classroom Conduct:

I expect your full attention during lectures, please do not carry on conversations with your classmates or read material that is not related to class. ***Keep your desktop computer <u>off</u> during lecture/class. If I see you looking at the monitor, or your phone, throughout class, I will count you absent for that class session and you will lose any extra credit attendance points and possibly a deduction of points on the next exam.*** **Please turn your cell phone off or to a non-sound mode during class and keep it in your backpack out of sight**.

If behavior becomes disruptive to your classmates or instructor (including cell phone/computer usage) you may be asked to change seats or leave class after one warning which will result in an absence. **There will be no earphones allowed during class,** and no pictures or videos taken without my permission.

Course Requirements - Grading and Evaluation:

Your final grade will be based on points earned through unit exams, quizzes, a final exam, study guides, homework, and participation points. There will be opportunities given to earn extra credit points during the semester. Unit exams and quizzes account for approximately **49%** of your grade and the final exam accounts for approximately **11%**. Participation, study guide and homework points will account for approximately **40%** of your grade. **<u>All students must take the final exam to pass the class.</u>**

Grades are assigned based on a standard percentage scale:

90 – 100	A
80 – 90	B
70 – 80	C
60 – 70	D
0 – 59	F

NOTE: **If** I can tell you have done your best (attended class and submitted all assignments on time including extra credit opportunities), and your grade is within .5 or less from the next letter grade, **I will round up your grade.**

(Please do not ask if you can complete an assignment to bring your grade up after the semester is over and grades are submitted as it will not be possible.)

NOTE: ***You will be able to view your grades on Blackboard after the assignment is graded.***
Also, if exams are administered on Blackboard in the classroom, they need to be taken **on the computers provided**, not on personal laptops, so I can view your screens from my desk.

*Please complete all written work in **Microsoft Word***

Rescheduling exams: If you miss one exam, the next exam you take can count double (you will receive that grade for 2 exams). If you miss a second exam, it will need to be made up within **one week or receive a 0**. *Pop **quizzes** are given as an attendance grade; therefore, they cannot be made up***.**

Note: **For student athletes**: If an exam or quiz is missed due to a game, you can schedule a time to make it up with Charlotte or Student Support. Excused absences will not count against your attendance.

Late Homework**:** In the event of an absence, I will accept late study guides and homework within one week of the due date with a deduction in points**. It is always in your best interest to complete the homework and study guides on time as it should help you to do better on exams.**

Note: *It is the student's responsibility to attain the notes and complete any missed assignments in the event of a necessary absence.* (I will not contact you about missed work). However, you may text/email me if you have any questions or to find out what you missed.
--*Missing the class before exam day is not a good enough reason to be excluded from taking the exam.*

If class is cancelled, please check Blackboard for possible assignments.

You need to activate your UA Rich Mountain student email account as it is how I will communicate with you outside of class. *If you have difficulties setting up your student email, contact Student Support Services.*

To access Blackboard: Go to the UA Rich Mountain website. Once you have signed in to Blackboard, click on **"courses"** to the left of the page and choose General Psychology. The course is designed around several topics. To access all the resources, click to the right of the topic name. Everything you need (an overview of the topic, power point presentations, videos, etc.) should open and be available. **I will let you know in class if you are to complete an assignment in Blackboard.**

I will post any new class information during the semester on Blackboard or under Announcements (it will automatically show up when you log on)

Available Tutoring: If you are having extreme difficulty with class work, please make an appointment with me to discuss it. You may obtain tutoring from student support services. Additionally, the university has made available 5 hours of free tutoring on tutor.com for every student. At tutor.com you can access a live chat 24/7. A student email is required to log in.

Academic Dishonesty: I encourage you to familiarize yourself with UA Rich Mountain's policies regarding academic dishonesty. These policies are found in the UA Rich Mountain Catalog/Student Handbook under **Code of Student Conduct > Prohibited Conduct > Dishonesty.**

I have two additional requirements. ***First,*** *you must do your own work. All papers, quizzes, and exams must be completed by you without assistance beyond what is specifically authorized by me. I expect each student to do his/her own work on assignments and exams.* **Cheating on an assignment or test will result in a zero (0) for that work. The use of artificial intelligence (ex. ChatGPT, etc.) on a paper or assignment questions will result in a (0), and you will not receive an additional attempt. I do encourage you to use Grammarly to check for spelling/grammar errors.** *Additionally, all instances of cheating/plagiarism will be reported to the Vice-President for Student Affairs.* ***Second,*** *be respectful of your fellow students during class discussions.*

Disability Policy: It is the policy of UA Rich Mountain to accommodate students with disabilities, pursuant to state and federal law. Any student accommodations (e.g., in seating, placement, examinations, access to information on the web) should contact the Vice President for Student Affairs at 394-7622 ext. 1400.

Arkansas Clean Air Act: Effective August 1, 2010, and in compliance with the Arkansas Clean Air on Campus Act 8, U of A Rich Mountain is a smoke and tobacco free facility. Students and guests are to refrain from using all tobacco products while on campus.

Student Misconduct: Students committing misconduct are subject to disciplinary sanction(s) and or restrictions. Misconduct or prohibited behavior includes, but is not limited to endangerment, harassment, disruption, sexual misconduct, dishonesty, illegal drugs and/or alcohol, fire or safety issues, gambling, property violations, computer violations or other violations as listed in detail in the UA Rich Mountain catalog.

See Something … Hear Something … Say Something

Suspicious behavior should be reported to the Deputy Sheriff at (479)394-6811. The Deputy Sheriff's office is in the Spencer Building across from the library.

Title IX and Discrimination Policy: UA Rich Mountain adheres to a policy that enables all individuals, regardless of race, color, gender, national origin, age, religion, sexual orientation, veteran's status, or disability, to work and study in an environment unfettered by discriminatory behavior or acts. Harassment of an individual or group will not be condoned, and any person (student, faculty, or staff member) who violates this policy will be subject to disciplinary action.

Harassment that is considered discriminatory includes actions or conduct (verbal, graphic, gestural, or written) directed against any person or group with the intent to demean or create a hostile or threatening environment. It is not the intent of this policy to infringe upon or limit educational, scholarly, or artistic expression. Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against should contact the Title IX Coordinator to obtain assistance and information concerning the filing of a complaint.

Mission: The University of Arkansas Rich Mountain provides transformative education to all learners.

Crime Statistics Link: http://www.uarichmountain.edu/at-a-glance/disclosures

Tentative Calendar for General Psychology Spring 2024

January 17	Syllabus Review and Chapter 1
January 22	Chapter 1-2
January 24	Chapter 2
January 29	Chapter 2
January 31	**Exam 1**
February 5	Chapter 12
February 7	Chapter 12
February 12	Chapter 12
February 14	**Exam 2**
February 19	**Winter Break (no class)**
February 21	Chapter 3
February 26	Chapter 3
February 28	Chapter 3-4
March 4	**Exam 3**
March 6	Chapter 6 - Classical conditioning
March 11	**Homework due** and classical **quiz** Operant conditioning (chapter 6)
March 13	**Homework due** and Operant cond. **quiz** Begin Chapter 8
March 18-March 22	**Spring Break**
March 25	Chapter 8
March 27	Chapter 8-9
April 1	Chapter 9
April 3	Chapter 9
April 8	**NO CLASS (eclipse)**
April 10	**Exam 4**
April 15	Chapter 11
April 17	Chapter 11
April 22	**Exam 5**
April 24	Chapter 15
April 29	Chapter 15
May 1	Chapter 15
May 6-9	**Finals** week (final to be determined)

***I reserve the right to change this syllabus at any time with reasonable notice.**