



**RANGER COLLEGE &
BRECKENRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL**

DUAL CREDIT COURSE SYLLABUS

GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY

PSY 2301

3 CREDIT HOURS

INSTRUCTOR: CALVIN BEST

INSTRUCTOR: Calvin Best
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OFFICE: Faculty Offices, Ranger College Erath County & BHS Office
PHONE: Ranger 254-968-1087 or Breckenridge High School 254-212-4730 EXT 1102
HOURS: Check with Respective Campuses for Hours of Operation

I. Texas Core Curriculum Statement of Purpose

Through the Texas Core Curriculum, students will gain a foundation of knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world, develop principles of personal and social responsibility for living in a diverse world, and advance intellectual and practical skills that are essential for all learning.

II. Course Description

General Psychology is a survey of the major psychological topics, theories and approaches to the scientific study of behavior and mental processes.

III. Required Background or Prerequisite

In order to take PSY 2301, students must achieve a passing score on TSI reading section or equivalent alternative test.

IV. Required Textbook and Course Materials

Morris, Charles G., & Maisto, Albert A. (2015). *Understanding Psychology* (11th ed.) Boston: Prentice Hall

V. Course Purpose

Courses in the Social/Behavioral Sciences category focus on how ideas, values, beliefs, and other aspects of culture express and affect human experience.

Courses involve the exploration of ideas that foster aesthetic and intellectual creation in order to understand the human condition across cultures.

VI. Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will . . .

- 1. Identify various research methods and their characteristics used in the scientific study of psychology. 2. Describe the historical influences and early schools of thought that shaped the field

of psychology. 3. Describe some of the prominent perspectives and approaches used in the study of psychology. 4. Use terminology unique to the study of psychology. 5. Describe accepted approaches and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation. 6. Identify factors in physiological and psychological processes involved in human behavior.

VII. Core Objectives

This course meets the following of the six Core Objectives established by Texas:

- X **Critical Thinking Skills (CT)** – Creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis; evaluation and synthesis of information
- X **Communication Skills (COM)** – effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication
- Empirical and Quantitative Skills (EQS)** – The manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- Teamwork (TW)** – The ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal

Social Responsibility (SR) – Intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

Personal Responsibility (PR) – The ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making

VIII. Methods of Instruction

General Psychology is a hybrid course consisting of active collaboration-both inside and outside of the classroom.

IX. Categories of Assessments

Grading scale: A = 90-100% B = 80-89 C = 70-79 D = 60-69 F = Below 60

SUPPLEMENTAL READING

QUIZZES 30%

FINAL EXAM 10%

UNIT ESSAY EXAMS 25%

PARTICIPATION &

DISCUSSION 20%

RESEARCH PROJECT 15%

X. Course/Classroom Policies

Attendance and Class Participation

The absence policy of Ranger College will be followed along with general student/academic policies from Breckenridge High School. Open-ended, active discussion of course concepts is encouraged. Such discussion fosters an application of course material to personal experiences and exposure to others' viewpoints. Students must be in class to participate and receive participation points. Every student has his/ her own life that is full of commitments. However, due to the limited amount of time that we have, you are expected to attend all class periods. If a student must be absent from an exam, he/she must notify the instructor at least one day prior to the exam. The instructor assigns the alternative date for the make- up exam. THE STUDENT WILL RECEIVE A GRADE OF "0" FOR THE MISSED EXAM IF THE ABOVE GUIDELINES ARE NOT FOLLOWED.

Students are permitted one absence for this class. After 2 absences, he/she will be required to submit a 3 page paper for each chapter discussed in class or covered in assigned readings. After the equivalent of 3 weeks missed, you will be asked to drop the class. Late work OR make up work will not be accepted.

Early Alert Reporting (EAR)

Early Alert Reporting is a college-wide effort designed to support student learning by identifying and warning students who may be in danger of failing one or more courses. Faculty will identify students in their classes who may be in danger of failing as well as the reason for their concerns. Faculty will use Early Alert Attendance to track student attendance for each class meeting. Faculty will also submit EAR Grade Track reports on student grades, retention reports, and report final grades. Students have access to this data through Campus Connect. Simply go to <http://www.rangercollege.edu>, click Campus Connect, then Campus Connect for Students. Enter your student ID. Your pin is your 8 digit birthdate. Use numbers only. By week six of the semester, I will notify the Retention Coordinator if you have struggled with excessive absences, incomplete work, or difficulty with the course content. This warning is not an official grade, yet it indicates concerns about your progress that need to be addressed immediately. If you are contacted about an Early Alert Report, please respond to the Retention Coordinator and respective campus personnel to discuss action strategies and resources for academic improvement and, ultimately, success.

Electronic Devices in Classrooms

The classroom is a learning laboratory, which must be free from interruption or interference. As a result, all electronic devices capable of generating noise such as cellular phones, pagers, palm pilots, beepers, watches, etc., are considered a distraction to the learning process and will be turned off prior to entering the classroom unless the teacher establishes an alternative arrangement related to classroom instruction. Such devices will also be kept out of sight and not accessed during the class period. Students will not interact with these devices at any time during classroom instruction. A student who chooses to use an electronic device will be dismissed from class until he/ she can return without the device turned on. The student will be responsible to make up what was missed in class on his/her own time. A student who has an unauthorized electronic device activated during an examination period will not be permitted to continue the examination, will be asked to leave the classroom, and will be denied the opportunity to complete or re-take the examination. Due to the circumstance, the instructor may question the validity of any portion of the examination completed prior to the violation and may elect not to grade the examination. In such a situation, the student will not receive credit for the examination and will not be permitted to make up the missed examination. Finally, PLEASE BE ON TIME--it is very distracting when students arrive late, and it will be hard for you to follow the presentation if you miss the opening minutes.

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Academic Dishonesty

“Academic dishonesty” includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, misrepresenting facts and any other act designed to give unfair academic advantage to the student.

A. Cheating on academic work includes:

1. Copying another student’s test paper in academic work;
2. During a test, using materials that are not authorized by the test administrator;
3. Failing to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;
4. Possession during a test of materials that are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes, specifically designed “crib” notes, and/or the utilization of electronic devices to deliver and/or receive answers. The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation only if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test.
5. Using, buying, selling, stealing, transporting, or soliciting the contents of an un-administered test, test key, homework, solution, or computer program.
6. Collaborating with, seeking aid or receiving assistance from, another student or individual during a test or in conjunction with other assignments without authority.
7. Discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination.
8. Divulging the contents of the examination for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another when the instructor has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned to or kept by the student.
9. Substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test or any course-related assignment.
10. Having another person obtain an un-administered test, test key, homework solution or computer program, or information about an un-administered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program.
11. Falsifying research data, laboratory reports, class observations, verification forms, and/or other academic work offered for credit.
12. Taking, keeping, misplacing or damaging the property of the college, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct.
13. Possession at any time of current or previous test materials without the instructor’s permission.

B. “Plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation of buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means, material that is attributable in whole, or in part, to another source, including words, ideas, illustrations, structure, computer code, other expression and media, and to present the material as one’s own for academic advantage is strictly prohibited.

C. “Collusion” is defined as the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work for credit.

D. “Falsifying academic records” includes, but is not limited to, altering or assisting in altering, of any official record of the college and/or submitting false information or omitting requested information

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that is required or related to, any academic record of the college. Academic records include, but are not limited to, applications for admission, the awarding of a degree and/or certificate, grade reports, test paper, registration materials, grade change forms, grade check forms, and reporting forms used by the Office of the Registrar.

E. "Misrepresenting facts" to the College or an agent of the college includes, but is not limited to, providing false grades or resumes; providing false or misleading information in an effort to receive a postponement or an extension on a test, quiz, or other assignments for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit for oneself or for another individual; or providing false or misleading information in an effort to injure another student academically or financially.

All questions of academic dishonesty are first considered and reviewed by the faculty member. If the student does not accept the decision of the faculty member, the next step will be to appeal to the appropriate instructional administrator. If the student disagrees with the decision of the division chair, the student's case may then be referred to the Vice President for Student Services for normal disciplinary procedures. The student will be allowed to remain in class until the process is exhausted.

XII. Non-Discrimination Statement

Admissions, employment, and program policies of Ranger College are nondiscriminatory in regard to race, creed, color, sex, age, disability, and national origin.

XIII. ADA Statement

Ranger College provides a variety of services for students with learning and/or physical disabilities. Students are responsible for making initial contact with the Ranger College Counselor, Gabe Lewis (glewis@rangercollege.edu). It is advisable to make this contact before or immediately after the semester begins.