

EAST LOS ANGELES COLLEGE: SOUTH GATE EDUCATIONAL CENTER

PSYCHOLOGY 001: GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY 1 – Fall 2008

Hours: 6:50-10:00, Tu - Ticket #: 6062 - Room #: SG-106

Instructor: **Dr. David K. Faux** ("Fox")

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Class Website: www.elacpsychology.org/DKFF2008Intro6062.html

Office Hours: 5:50-6:50 pm Tuesday, Room: TBA

OBJECTIVES OF THIS COURSE: To give students an understanding of the scientific study of human behavior by studying the theories and research findings relating to the major topics in the field of psychology.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:

“Psychology an Introduction”, by Benjamin Lahey (McGraw-Hill, 9th or most recent Edn.)

PROCEDURES / SUGGESTIONS FOR SUCCESS: Students will need to bring their text to every class. The following chapters in the text will be covered in class (with lectures and discussions). The most important material from each chapter will be presented in a skeleton form via the Internet on a screen during class. The notes for each chapter in the text are on the website for the class at <http://www.elacpsychology.org/DKFF2008Intro6062.html>. The student should read each chapter in its entirety, however some sections in selected chapters will be omitted and the student will not be tested on this material. Please take good supplementary notes during class as they, with the Internet notes, will be the most important guide to help students zero in on the material that needs to be studied for test purposes.

CHAPTERS TO BE STUDIED:

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| 1. What is Psychology? | 9. Developmental Psychology |
| 2. Research Methods in Psychology. | 10. Motivation and Emotion |
| 3. Biological Foundations of Behavior. | 11. Gender and Sexuality |
| 4. Sensation and Perception. | 12. Personality Theories and Assessment |
| 5. States of Consciousness. | 13. Stress and Health |
| 6. Basic Principles of Learning. | 14. Abnormal Behavior |
| 7. Memory. | 15. Therapies |
| 8. Cognition, Language and Intelligence. | 16. Social Psychology |

SCHEDULE (Subject to change if necessary):

<u>Class Dates</u>	<u>Chapters Covered</u>	<u>Tests</u>
1) Sep 02	Intro. & Ch.1	
2) 09	Ch.1	
3) 16	Ch.2	
4) 23	Ch.3	
5) 30	Ch.4	
6) Oct 07	Ch.5	Test 1: Chs. 1-4
7) 14	Ch.6	
8) 21	Ch.7	
9) 28	Ch.8	Test 2: Chs. 5-7
10) Nov 04	Ch.9-10	
11) 11	Ch.11	Test 3: Chs. 8-10
12) 18	Ch.12	
13) 25	Ch.13	
14) Dec 02	Ch.14	Test 4: Chs. 11-13
15) 09	Ch.15-16	
16) 16	Final and Make Up Tests *** <u>7:30 to 9:30 pm</u>	Test 5: Chs. 14-16

TESTS: All 5 tests noted above will be composed of multiple choice questions. There will be no comprehensive (overview) exam. The final test will cover the last 3 chapters. The instructor will drop the **LOWEST** of the **tests 1 to 4**. Test 5 will be counted in the grade calculations. **All 5 tests must be written.** If the student misses a test (due to a valid reason - as assessed by the instructor) the instructor may offer the student the opportunity to complete this test on the day of the Final. It is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor (in person or by voice mail or by e-mail) before or immediately after the test was given in class, noting that they will be (or were) unable to take the test. If the student does not follow through with this requirement a failing grade may be assigned for that test. **Only one test may be missed for any reason.** Students who miss two or more tests will have to drop the class. Tests are written in the first part of each class on test dates and will take approximately 30 minutes. Please bring a Scantron (50 questions on each side) and a soft pencil and a non – smearing eraser to each test.

BONUS ESSAY: Students will be given the opportunity to complete up to **two** bonus essays. In order to increase their final grade, students may select up to two original research papers from the psychology journals (**not** "Psychology Today", "Monitor on Psychology", encyclopedias, or newspapers) - see the Reference section of your text for acceptable psychology journals which may be obtained, for example, at our Library. Here there is access to online psychology journals via **Proquest Direct**. The web address is <http://proquest.umi.com/login>. Click on the "Psychology" journals / articles section and you can download articles via pdf format. Please ask the Librarian for assistance. An excellent resource that can be accessed at home is the American Psychological Association website, especially www.apa.org journals. See the instructor's website for guidance in using this Internet resource. The essay will require that the student provide an overview of each article, and offer a critique (your thoughts about the paper, and/or how the material relates to you). Each paper should be about 3 pages in length, and include identifying information (e.g., author and title), with the original work attached to the paper submitted by the student. Please show the instructor your choice of article **before** proceeding. Bonus essays can be handed in any time including the time of the Final.

ATTENDANCE: Students are expected to attend every class. The instructor will take attendance at some point during class. If the number of absences by mid term is half or more of the number of classes to that point, the student may be excluded (dropped) from the class without notice. If the student stops attending class altogether, it is the student's responsibility to officially drop the class otherwise an "F" will appear on their transcript.

GRADING:

Tests: 25% for each of the 4 tests counted in the calculations.

Grade Computation: If a test has 45 questions (for example), the instructor will divide 25 by 45, and multiply the result (.55 in this case) by the student's mark on that test giving a number (score) out of 25. The instructor will use a grade calculation program to assign each student a random 4 digit number which will be their code number for posting of grades. This program will permit the instructor to at any time during the Semester show each student how they are doing and thus how likely it is that they will get a passing grade or an A or whatever so that reasonable predictions can be made to help in the decision as to whether to drop the course or to do a bonus essay.

Bonus Essays: A maximum of 5 marks each (up to 10 percentage marks) to be added on top of the above test score.

Return of Final Mark: The instructor will not give out final grades by e-mail; they will be posted on the class website, within a week of writing the Final, and using the four digit random number assigned to the student early in the semester. The final grades should also be available via telephone and on-line within a week after the instructor submits the grades to the College. The student may also choose to provide the instructor with a self – addressed stamped envelope that includes a place to write the final grade. These envelopes are available at the bookstore for purchase.

<u>Grading Scale:</u>	90 - 100	=	A
	75 - 89	=	B
	64 - 74	=	C
	51 - 63	=	D
	Below 51	=	F

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY POLICY: The College requires that students be reminded that academic dishonesty (e.g., cheating) is a very serious matter, and that serious consequences will result if a student is caught engaging in this practice. The consequences are outlined in the College Catalog.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER: Please check the Schedule of Classes and Student Services Handbook for dates relating to “Drop” dates and similar matters relating to registration. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that, if they decide to drop the class, that they are aware of all the required procedures.