

PSYCH 1A  
Santa Rosa Junior College  
Office 1689, Office Hours Fridays 12-1pm

Friday 9am-12pm  
Instructor: Nick Tuttle  
Contact: ntuttle@santarosa.edu

## **GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY**

**Course Description:** This course provides an introduction to the scientific study of human behavior, including emotions, thinking, heredity, environment, learning, intelligence, and human diversity; while at the same time offering various ways in which you can apply psychology to your own life.

This class not only offers the opportunity to explore what current scholarly knowledge in psychology is, but also an invitation to connect that knowledge with your own life story and the opportunities for self-understanding that may arise within you. This class also pays particular attention to critical thinking and cross-cultural issues in order to allow you the opportunity to engage in transformative learning and impact patterns of thinking and feeling.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Use major psychological theoretical perspectives to explain human behavior.
2. Identify the major scientific research methods, and use the critical thinking process to assess research materials and methods.

### **Diversity:**

Diversity is interwoven throughout the world in which psychologists practice. Although you may not be interested in becoming a psychologist, understanding issues of diversity and gaining mutual respect among diverse groups of people and opinions are of the utmost importance. Throughout the course, diversity will be addressed to ensure that students' understanding of psychology is enriched by an appreciation of the diversity of all participants.

**Required Text:** Experience Psychology, Fourth Edition; Laura A. King, 2018, McGraw-Hill w/Connect

### **Office Hours:**

Students are encouraged to stop by my office to talk about assignments, raise questions, and address concerns. Scheduling an appointment will guarantee your time with me but is not required.

### **Attendance:**

Regular attendance and participation is a necessary part of this class. If you do not attend class, you miss participation points and the material covered in class, and you will likely fail the course.

Attendance is taken at the beginning of each class. Any student with excessive absences **may be dropped** from the course. SRJC Attendance Policy 8.1.5P states a student may be dropped when absences exceed 10% of the total class hours. For this class, that means a student may be dropped after **2 absences** during the semester.

If you come after attendance being taken, you need to check in with me to get credit for that day's attendance. If you come late or leave early, only partial attendance for that day will be awarded, and this could jeopardize your status within the class.

## Course Requirements:

The class will be taught using lectures and discussions, in which group activities will be conducted and online activities will occur.

### Assignments

- 15%: The “Standard” in-class stuff...  
Lectures, groups activities within class, solo writing and reflections, and in-class participation
- 60% (20% each): The “Exams”...  
Three multiple-choice exams  
2 during the semester and 1 final
- 15%: The “Assignment”  
1000 to 1500 word essay and presentations (in class and video submission formats available)
- 10%: The “Homework”  
McGraw Hill’s Connect Website
- Bonus: Extra credit  
McGraw Hill’s Connect Website

### Exams

- Exam dates are as follows:
  - Exam 1: Friday 2/28
  - Exam 2: Friday 4/10
  - Final: Friday 5/22, **7am-9:45am**

## CLASS POLICIES

The following guidelines will help to ensure that each student benefits most from class lectures and activities:

1. Please be on time and prepared for class. This includes reading the assigned materials before class so that you may join the in-class discussion and ask questions as needed. Lectures are designed on the assumption that you have, indeed, read the material.
2. Please turn off cell phones and do not use them (this includes no texting) during class. If you must use your cell phone, please leave the classroom quietly to do so. If you persist in using your cell phone, you may be asked to leave the room and will be counted as absent.
3. Please help us develop a classroom climate conducive to asking questions and open discussions. This means being prepared and willing to participate, respecting others when they are talking, and remembering not to monopolize the conversation.
4. Students are responsible for checking their SRJC email through the Student Cubby Portal system. Please check your email on a regular basis and keep your contact information current in order to receive correspondence from me. If you are not receiving emails from me, work to remedy this situation ASAP.
5. You may NOT use your laptop in class unless you have specific accommodation needs that require note-taking from your laptop. Additionally, tablets of all sorts are also not allowed in class.
6. Academic honesty and integrity is your responsibility as a student at Santa Rosa Junior College. Cheating, plagiarism, impersonation, misrepresentation of an idea or fact for the purpose of defrauding, use or unauthorized aids or devices, falsifying attendance records, violation of testing protocol, and/or inappropriate course assignment collaboration in any form will not be tolerated and are subject to disciplinary actions according to the Student Conduct Standards. Do not jeopardize your grade in this class or your college career by engaging in academic dishonesty. Any dishonesty related to assignments or exams shall be considered cheating and is grounds for a failing grade in the class. Additionally, any talking or cell phone usage during a test will be considered an act of cheating, and the student(s) involved will receive a grade of zero for the exam and the potential of failing the class.

7. Plagiarism is an important aspect of academic honesty and integrity that involves using material copied verbatim, inadequately paraphrased, and/or paraphrased without adequate citations. The widespread availability of the Internet has made it technically simple to copy other people's work and submit such material as one's own. At the Santa Rosa Junior College, such practices are unacceptable and will lead to a zero on the assignment and the possibility of further sanctions. The Santa Rosa Junior College maintains a license agreement for an online text-matching service called Turnitin. At my discretion, I will use this web-based plagiarism detection service and/or require students to submit work to this service to determine the originality of student papers. All written or presented material drawn from outside sources must be paraphrased or set in quotations, and adequately cited. I will find out. Just don't try it. Students are responsible for consulting their Student Handbook and learning about plagiarism. See [http://www.santarosa.edu/for\\_students/rules-regulations/academic-integrity.shtml](http://www.santarosa.edu/for_students/rules-regulations/academic-integrity.shtml) for more information.

#### **Grading:**

<b>% Material</b>	<b>Grade</b>
90-100%	A
80-89.9%	B
70-79.9%	C
60-69.9%	D
Below 59.9%	F

#### **Accommodation Needs:**

Students needing disability related accommodations for this class, such as a note-taker, test-taking services, special furniture, etc., must provide the Authorization for Academic Accommodations (AAA letter) from the Disability Resources Department (DRD) to your professor before the first scheduled quiz, exam, or assignment. Students may also speak with your professor privately during office hours about your accommodations. If you have not received authorization from DRD, it is recommended that you contact them directly.

DRD is located in Analy Village on the Santa Rosa campus and Jacobs Hall on the Petaluma Campus. Students who have been tested and approved by Disability Resources to receive special arrangements for exams and writing assignments need to provide documentation to the professor no later than one week prior to the first scheduled quiz, exam, or assignment.

#### **Dropping the class:**

**\*\* It is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to drop yourself from the class! \*\***

#### **This is a Contract**

This syllabus is an agreement between the student and the instructor and continued registration in this course means that you agree to the policies and procedures outlined in this syllabus. The course syllabus is intended to give the student guidance in what may be covered during the semester and will be followed as closely as possible. At the same time, the instructor reserves the right to modify, supplement and make changes as the course needs arise. Students will be informed in a timely manner should any changes be necessary.