**PSYC 1010**  
**BASIC PSYCHOLOGY**  
**MASTER COURSE SYLLABUS**

Instructors will provide students with additional course-specific information, including attendance/makeup policies, assignment/test scheduling, and instructor contact information, as necessary and appropriate.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prerequisite(s):</th>
<th>Diploma program admission language competency OR successful completion of required English and reading learning support courses with C or better.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Co-requisite(s):</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term(s) Offered:</td>
<td>Fall, Spring and Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Hours:</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lab Hours:</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit Hours:</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Course Description**

Presents basic concepts within the field of psychology and their application to everyday human behavior, thinking, and emotion. Emphasis is placed on students understanding basic psychological principles and their application within the context of family, work and social interactions. Topics include an overview of psychology as a science, the nervous and sensory systems, learning and memory, motivation and emotion, intelligence, lifespan development, personality, psychological disorders and their treatments, stress and health, and social psychology.

**Course Competencies and Student Learning Outcomes**

**Contemporary Perspectives**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Order</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Identify psychological perspectives and careers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Identify methods of research.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Identify components of critical thinking.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Biological Foundations of Behavior**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Order</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Identify the structure of neurons and what neurotransmitters do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Identify the basic parts of the brain and their functions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Outline the divisions of the nervous system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Identify the basic parts of the endocrine system and their function.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sensation and Perception**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Order</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Differentiate between sensation and perception.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Identify principles of perception.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Learning and Memory**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Order</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Differentiate classical conditioning, operant conditioning, and cognitive learning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Describe the how classical conditioning takes place.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3 Recognize examples of classical conditioning in human behavior.
4 Describe how operant conditioning takes place.
5 Differentiate principles of reinforcement and punishment.
6 Recognize examples of operant conditioning in human behavior.
7 Identify the types of cognitive learning and their application to humans.
8 Describe how information is encoded into sensory, short-term and long-term memory.
9 Describe and implement methods for improving memory.

State of Consciousness

Order Description
1 Identify states of consciousness, sleep, and dreaming.
2 Describe states of consciousness, sleep, and dreaming.
3 Define intelligence and describe how intelligence is measured.
4 Identify gender differences in cognitive abilities.

Motivation and Emotion

Order Description
1 Explain the biological and psychological sources of motivation.
2 Identify the basic emotions and how they are communicated.
3 Describe emotional intelligence and how to manage emotions.

Lifespan Development

Order Description
1 Identify the stages of prenatal development and threats to development.
2 Describe physical, psychosocial and sex role development throughout the lifespan.
3 Describe physical, psychosocial, and gender-/sex-role.

Personality

Order Description
1 Identify basic concepts related to psychodynamic theories of personality.
2 Describe basic concepts related to humanistic theories of personality.
3 Identify basic concepts related to trait theories.
4 Describe basic concepts related to social-cognitive theories of personality.
5 Identify methods of personality assessment.

Psychological Disorders and Treatment

Order Description
1 Differentiate abnormal and normal behavior.
2 Identify the types of treatments of psychological disorders.

Stress and Health Psychology

Order Description
1 Identify stress and describe its effects on the body.
2 Identify ways to cope with stress and to stay healthy.
3 Identify lifestyle-based risks to health.
4 Identify healthy lifestyle changes.

Social Psychology

Order Description
1 Describe fundamentals of social cognition.
2 Recognize examples of each.
Identify the origins of attitudes, prejudice, and discrimination and recognize examples of each.

Describe social and cultural influences on behavior, thoughts, and emotions.

Identify the psychological processes involved in social action.

**Required Textbook(s) and Materials**

Students enrolled in this course are obligated to have the following:


**Grading Policy and Criteria**

Tests ......................................................... Varies by class

Participation/Homework/Quizzes ......................................................... Varies by class

Final Exam .......................................................................................... 20%

**Grading Scale**

The grading scale is detailed in the *Catalog and Student Handbook* and listed below for reference. All faculty members follow this scale when assigning grades to reflect a given student's performance in the classroom.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Numerical Equivalent</th>
<th>Grade Point</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A/A*</td>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B/B*</td>
<td>80-89</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C/C*</td>
<td>70-79</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D/D*</td>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F/F*</td>
<td>0-59</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Effective Summer Quarter 2006, Athens Technical College replaced the S/U grading system used for learning support classes with an A*-F* grading system. The registrar uses an asterisk (A*, B*, C*, D*, F*, W*, WF*, WP*) to designate learning support course grades on transcripts and grade reports because these grades are not components of the term grade point average.

**Academic Support Center**

The Academic Support Centers of Athens Technical College (ATC) provide free tutoring for enrolled students. Both instructors and peer tutors provide tutoring in almost all subjects offered by the college. Information about the Center is accessible via the ATC website at [http://www.athenstech.edu/StudentDevelopmentServices/AcademicSupportCenter](http://www.athenstech.edu/StudentDevelopmentServices/AcademicSupportCenter). To find out the specific services available on the Athens, Greene, and Walton Campuses, please call (706) 583-2839. To contact the Academic Support Center on the Elbert County Campus, please call (706) 213-2129.

**Attendance**

Regular class attendance is important and expected. The college considers both tardiness and early departure from class as forms of absenteeism. Students absent from class for any reason are still responsible for all work missed. Instructors have the right to determine whether work missed can be made up and have the liberty to set reasonable expectations for attendance based on frequency of class meetings and on the instructional delivery method, subject, type, and level of the class. Class attendance policies will be clearly stated for students by their respective instructors on separate documents (course outlines/schedules) or appendices to the master syllabus.

**Course Withdrawal**
Students may withdraw from a course without academic penalty until the midpoint of the term. Students withdrawing after the midpoint of the term receive grades of WP – Withdrawal Passing, or WF – Withdrawal Failing. Students who stop attending class(es) without formally withdrawing risk earning a final grade of F, which will appear on the academic transcript. Withdrawing from a course may impact financial aid status, academic standing, and GPA. Refer to the ATC Catalog and Student Handbook for further details. http://www.athenstech.edu/Catalog/

Course Technology
Course addendum will provide details concerning the use of technology in the course. Course schedule types include web-enhanced – taught face-to-face; online – taught online using the internet, may require proctored exam; hybrid – class time is split between face-to-face and online; video conference – taught at two or more campus locations simultaneously with instructor located at one of the classroom locations. More details are available on the Athens Technical College website.
http://www.athenstech.edu/eLearning/CourseList.cfm

Continuation of Instruction
In the event of severe weather or other emergency, students will be expected to continue participating in learning activities via ANGEL, Athens Technical College email, or other modality. Instructors will provide a plan for the continuation of instruction.

Work Ethics
To fulfill the responsibility to teach essential workplace ethics, the college provides students instruction in, and evaluates students on, the following ten work ethics traits: attendance, character, teamwork, appearance, attitude, productivity, organizational skills, communication, cooperation, and respect. To best equip students for successful workplace experiences in their chosen profession, instruction and evaluation takes place in the context of their program of study.

Academic Honesty
Academic honesty is expected at all times. Any student found to have engaged in academic misconduct such as cheating, plagiarism, or collusion is subject to disciplinary sanctions as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct detailed in the ATC Catalog and Student Handbook. See the following link for the complete Academic Honesty policy.
http://www.athenstech.edu/StudentAffairs/AcademicHonesty/Academic%20Honesty.pdf
Students are also advised to complete the tutorial on Academic Honesty available here:
http://www.athenstech.edu/StudentAffairs/AcademicHonesty

Americans with Disabilities Act
It is our goal at Athens Technical College to provide equal access to education for all students. Any student with a documented disability is eligible to receive reasonable academic adjustments and auxiliary aids in the classroom and/or for testing at Athens Technical College, as long as appropriate documentation of the disability has been submitted to the Disability Services Office in a timely manner. Students can access the application packet on our website.
http://www.athenstech.edu/CurrentStudents/orientation/files/disability_services_application.pdf

Cell Phones and Electronic Devices
Cell phone use in the classroom for non-instructional purposes, with the exception of receiving emergency notifications, is prohibited.

Food/Drinks in Classroom
Food and beverages (other than water) are not allowed in classrooms/labs.

Communication with ATC Faculty and Staff
Students, faculty, and staff must use Athens Technical College email and ANGEL accounts for all college-related communications. Students are obligated to check their email and ANGEL accounts on a regular basis, preferably daily.
Warranty of Graduates

The Technical College System of Georgia warrants every graduate of technical programs in which students may earn technical certificates of credit, diplomas, or associate degrees. The warranty guarantees that graduates demonstrate the knowledge and skills and can perform each competency as identified in the industry-validated standards established for every program of study. If one of our graduates educated under a standard program or his/her employer finds that the graduate is deficient in one or more competencies as defined in the course/program standards, Athens Technical College will retrain the employee at no instructional cost to the employee or the employer. This guarantee is in effect for two years after graduation.

TEACH Act

According to the TEACH Act of 2002, Athens Technical College is obligated to advise you that instructional material included in this course may be subject to copyright protection. As such, you must not share, duplicate, transmit, or store the material of this course beyond the purpose and time frame explicitly stated in the syllabus of your course. If you are not certain whether a particular piece of material is covered by copyright protection, you should contact your instructor and obtain his/her written clarification. Failing to observe copyright protection is a violation of law.