Administrative Unit: History and Social Sciences Department

Course Prefix and Number: PSYC 101

Course Title: Introduction to General Psychology

Number of Credit Hours: 3  Lecture Hours: 3  Laboratory Hours: 0

Catalog Description: Introduction to the field of psychology and the major sub-areas including the biological basis of behavior, sensation perception, learning, memory, motivation, emotion, personality, stress, as well as abnormal, developmental and social psychology. G.E.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): None.

Text(s): Most current editions of the following:

Myers, D. *Psychology*. Worth.


Course Objectives:

• To understand and describe the major perspectives of psychology and the theoretical and applied aspects of each.

• To understand how psychologists think, conduct research, write, and provide treatments and impact human society.

• To begin to develop critical thinking and problem solving skills as they apply to general psychological questions.

• To understand the process by which scientific research in psychology is conducted.

• To develop an appreciation for the discipline of psychology as a science and its historical development.

• To understand the basics of major topics, theorists, principles and vocabulary of psychology.

Measurable Learning Outcomes:

• Demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in psychology.

• Demonstrate knowledge and understanding representing appropriate breadth and depth in
selected major content areas of psychology.

- Understand basic research concepts in scientific psychology, including experimental method and correlation method.
- Recognize the necessity for ethical behavior in all aspects of the science and practice of psychology.
- Demonstrate reasonable skepticism and intellectual curiosity by asking questions about causes of behavior.
- Recognize and respect human diversity and understand that psychological explanations may vary across populations and contexts.
- Gain understanding of how psychological knowledge, skills, and values are used in occupational pursuits in a variety of settings.
- Recognize the relevance of psychological knowledge in occupations and other settings.

**Topical Outline (major areas of coverage):**

It is recommended that a semester course cover at least 12 of the following topics:

- Historical foundations of psychology
- Psychology as a science
- Fields of psychological study
- Physiological/biological psychology
- Developmental psychology
- States of consciousness
- Sensation and Perception
- Learning theory
- Cognitive psychology
- Personality theories
- Abnormal psychology
- Treatments
- Emotion
- Motivation
- Intelligence/testing
- Health psychology
- Industrial/organizational
- Social psychology

Recommended maximum class size for this course: 35

Library Resources: Online databases are available at [http://www.ccis.edu/offices/library/resources.asp](http://www.ccis.edu/offices/library/resources.asp). You may access them from off-campus using your eServices login and password when prompted.

Prepared by: Graham E. Higgs, Ph.D.

Name ________________________________ Signature ________________________________

Date: March 23, 2006

**NOTE:** The intention of the master syllabus is to provide an outline of the contents of this course, as specified by the faculty of Columbia College, regardless of who teaches the course, when it is taught or where it is taught. Faculty members teaching this course for Columbia College are expected to
facilitate learning pursuant to the course objectives and cover the subjects listed in the topical outline. However, instructors are also encouraged to cover additional topics of interest so long as those topics are relevant to the course’s subject. The master syllabus is, therefore, prescriptive in nature but also allows for a diversity of individual approaches to course material.

Office of Academic Affairs
12/04