Administrative Unit: History and Social Sciences Department

Course Prefix and Number: PSYC 326

Course Title: Experimental Psychology

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

Catalog Description: Provides students with hands-on research experience and knowledge of experimental procedures through participation in representative experiments. Offered odd Fall.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Six hours of psychology courses.

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

Stanovich, K.E. How to Think Straight About Psychology. Harper Collins.


Meltzoff, J. Critical Thinking About Research: Psychology and Related Fields. APA.

Course Objectives:

• To think critically about the process of scientific research.
• To apply concepts to representation experiments.

Measurable Learning Outcomes:

• Apply theory, principles, techniques and concepts of experimental psychology.
• Apply experimental research design methods.
• Produce quantitative research products.
• Analyze techniques for critical and non-critical thinking.
• Identify, define, and explain pseudoscience and science.

Topical Outline (major areas of coverage):

This is a junior-level course in psychology. As such students are required to complete a research paper using proper APA style and format.

• Myths about psychology
• Defining experimental psychology (fields)
• Methods in psychology (techniques, design)
• Hypothesis testing
• Falsifiability (logic and reasoning)
• Basic statistics and graphing
• Ethics
• Critical analysis of information
• APA format and style
Recommended maximum class size for this course: 18

Library Resources: Online databases are available at 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: Cheryl-Ann Hardy, Ph.D.

Name                                     Signature

Date: April 3, 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