MASTER SYLLABUS
(Generic Outline)

Administrative Unit: History and Social Sciences Department

Course Prefix and Number: PSYC 495

Course Title: Integrative Psychology

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

Catalog Description: Capstone course integrating prior learning, exploring current research and contemporary issues in psychology. Writing intensive. Students enrolled in this senior seminar are required to take the Major Field Test for Psychology. Required as a culminating experience prior to graduation. Grade of C or better is required for this course and all prerequisite courses. Prerequisites: Senior standing, Psychology major; PSYC 101, PSYC 324, PSYC 325, PSYC 381.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Senior standing, Psychology major; PSYC 101, PSYC 324, PSYC 325, PSYC 381.

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

Zimbardo, P.G. & Gerrig, J. Psychology and Life. Allyn and Bacon.

Gray, P. Psychology. Worth.


Course Objectives:

- To integrate psychology as a discipline by demonstrating a comprehensive knowledge of the history of the discipline, its major concepts, theories, research methods and findings in major content areas.
- To use critical thought and scientific methodology.
- To solve problems and form conclusions.
- To demonstrate tolerance and act ethically when applying psychological principles.
- To understand how psychological knowledge, skills, and values are used in occupational pursuits in a variety of settings.

Measurable Learning Outcomes:

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

- Understand representing appropriate breadth and depth in selected content areas of psychology.
- Use the concepts, language and major theories of the discipline to account for psychological phenomena.
- Explain major perspectives of psychology (e.g., behavioral, biological, cognitive, evolutionary, humanistic, psychodynamic, and sociocultural).
- Understand basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretation.
- Use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and when possible, the scientific method to solve problems related to behavior and mental processes.
- Apply psychological principles to personal, social, and organizational issues.
- Value empirical evidence, tolerate ambiguity, act ethically, and reflect other values that are the underpinnings of psychology as a discipline.
- Demonstrate professional writing skills in APA format.
- Demonstrate professional oral communication skills.

Topical Outline (major areas of coverage):

- The Major Field Test in Psychology will be administered.
- The Academic Profile, short form, will be administered. This 40-minute standardized test measures learning in general education courses. The results of the tests are used by faculty to improve the general education curriculum at the College.
- This is a writing intensive seminar course in which students discuss the major questions in psychology and write short critical essays on the major questions of psychology.
- A final integrative paper in which students bring together their knowledge of theory and application as they apply to the major questions is required.
- A Curriculum Vita or Resume and a Career Goals Statement will be required.
- Issues related to graduate school and work in psychology will also be addressed.
- An oral presentation will be scheduled toward the end of the course.

During this course the Academic Profile, short form, will be administered. This 40-minute standardized test measures learning in general education courses. The results of the tests are used by faculty to improve the general education curriculum at the College.

Recommended maximum class size for this course: 15
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: 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.

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