PLEASE READ THIS THOROUGHLY. I KNOW IT’S LONG, BUT IT EXPLAINS HOW THIS CLASS WORKS!

PSYCHOLOGY 205/DISTANCE ED, HYBRID FORMAT
INTRODUCTORY PSYCHOLOGY
FALL 2015
Distance Education B Video/Hybrid Course
SYLLABUS

ROGER HOCK
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ACTUAL (NON-VIRTUAL) OFFICE HOURS: M/W 9:30-11:00; T/TH 3-4
ADDITIONAL TIMES AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT

This is a distance-education, video/hybrid course (meaning we meet in person a few times, instead of totally online). This class gives you a great overview of the field of psychology. This may be the most interesting, relevant, and meaningful introductory course you will ever take in college. Virtually everything that happens in our lives is connected, in some way, to psychology. I have always been fascinated with the study and applications of psychology and I hope to pass that on to each of you. Our goal in this class is for you to acquire an increased awareness of why people behave the way they do, and apply that awareness to your life. This is a distance education course, but it is called a “hybrid” because, in addition to our online connections, we will meet in person a few times during the semester to discuss and clarify the material you have been working on through Etudes. Also, our 3 exams will be given during our in-person meetings (this is explained more below).

Our objectives for this course include learning about, understanding, and applying the following concepts and principles: studying human behavior rationally and scientifically; the amazing interactions between the mind and body; the developmental path we all travel throughout our lives; how psychology and our physical health are intertwined; and the ways people influence each other=s actions. [PLEASE SEE THE OFFICIAL COURSE OUTCOMES AT THE END OF THIS SYLLABUS]

Explore the online video resource at “Education Portal” https://education-portal.com/academy/course/psychology-101.html. We will be using selected programs from this site. The videos are up-to-date and explain concepts VERY clearly. You can explore and sample them on the site on your own, but you do NOT need to sign up for the site. I’ll link you to the videos in our course modules.
OUR TEXT:
Morris & Maisto, UNDERSTANDING PSYCHOLOGY, **10th EDITION** Pearson Publishers.
This is a well written and easy reading book -- I think it's the best intro psych text on the market.

You may purchase any of the following versions (but it must be the 10th edition):

- 978-0205986187 or 978-0205845965 (paperback)
- 978-0205846160 (hard cover -- believe it or not, sometimes it's cheaper)
- B0072W19NQ (Kindle)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:
Here’s how this course works. This is a distance ed class but it’s called a “hybrid” because we meet in person a few times. This makes our interactions more personal and gives us a chance to discuss topics. Personally, I prefer this greatly over the impersonal nature of an online class where no one ever even sees anyone else. You and I are going to meet IN-PERSON as a class three more times after our first orientation meeting, but I am available to you for consultation by email, phone, in-person and online for at least as many hours each week and a traditional “on-the-ground” class.

Each time we meet in-person (see semester schedule or refer to course site), several things will happen: One, I will do a summary/review/discussion (about 90 minutes) of what you’ve been reading and watching in the class modules and what we’ve been discussing online. Of course, you can always ask questions online or by email or vmail as you are reading and studying, if something is not clear. Then we (well, that is, you) will have an exam during our in-class meetings (explained below).

- TEXT READINGS: In between our scheduled meetings you will be reading and watching video programs online all about the various branches of psychology. You’ll be guided through this by the modules in and other interactions on Etudes. Distance education courses place a LOT of responsibility on you to be organized, disciplined, and to resist the great temptation to procrastinate! Good luck with that.

I recommend watching the videos first and then reading because the videos will give you the basics to help you grasp the readings better But if you feel you’d prefer to read then watch, that’s fine, it’s really up to you. But the specific videos and the readings go together. That is, you should avoid reading a bunch of chapters and then watching all the related videos – that’ll get confusing, I’m pretty sure (would for me).

Some of the readings will seem kinda long, but keep in mind that they are linked to the videos, which will provide explanations and clarifications and at each meeting I’ll do a summary of them as best I can in the time we have.

- VIDEOS SESSIONS: The video programs are like mini-lectures with instructors, graphics, and examples. Each one is very short, like, 4-7 minutes (several will be assigned for each reading). The videos help a lot to make the reading material more understandable and clear.
As you get into the modules, you’ll notice that some readings require as many as 7 video sessions – it’ll seem like a lot, but even with 7 assigned video sessions, it’s only about 50 minutes total, max. Plus, all videos include a complete written transcript that you can read as you watch, copy and print, and/or go back to when you’re preparing for an exam.

NOTE: The videos have short learning quizzes attached that you can click on (5 questions each) – they are optional and are not scored or graded (I won’t even know if you do them or not), but they are a good, quick learning check if you want to do them.

- **SHORT ESSAY ASSIGNMENTS:** The writing portion of this course will be in the form of short essays that require you to demonstrate a somewhat deeper understanding of some of the concepts from the videos and/or readings. Between each in-person meeting you will receive (online) a short-answer essay assignment (these will be announced well in advance of when they are due – but you must complete them before the due date). You will do these on the course site in Etudes. [HINT: If you want, you can write the essays in a Word document so you can spell check and proof it; THEN copy and paste it into Etudes – that’s what I usually do with Etudes, although Etudes does have a spell check tool, but it’s clunkier – and that’s a made-up word not in Word’s dictionary]

- **ONLINE DISCUSSIONS/E-MAIL:** Between our in-person meetings, I will be contacting you pretty frequently (I hope I won’t be a pest!) by email (from the course site) just to check in; offer hints, tips, or “pep-talks;” or start a discussion (in the “Discussions” tab). Plus, I’ll pose several topics for discussion and ask you all to comment (for points) and have a chance to respond to each other. These are easy points, because a discussion is usually asking for your (educated) opinion on something. My habit is to let you know with an email and/or a site announcement if there’s something in “Discussions” that you need to pay attention to.

  You can also open discussions among members of the class on a topic of interest, anytime. I do not require you to do this, and I can’t guarantee how many students will respond, but often some good back-and-forth dialogues get started this way.

- **EXAMS:** Exams are not given online. At each of our three regular in-person meetings, there will be an exam covering the videos and related readings as indicated on the semester schedule. These will be multiple-choice Athink type questions that ask you to demonstrate your understanding of the concepts and principles you have been watching and reading about. There will be approximately 40 questions per exam and they typically take less than an hour.
ATTENDANCE:
Remember this is a HYBRID distance education course, so we are meeting several times in person. Attendance at the orientation on Sat. 8/23, 9:00-10:20 (in Room 9110 in the science bldg.), and at our three, full in-person meetings (see schedule below) is officially mandatory. Please check your Saturday schedules in advance and mark off the days we meet so you’ll be able to be there. The meetings are important for three main reasons: 1) that’s when we have the exams, 2) I do a pretty good summary of the vast amount of material you’re covering online, and 3) it’s a chance for us to get together so we’re not totally virtual! If you have an unavoidable conflict for one of the meetings, please discuss this with me ASAP.

GRADING:
Each exam counts 40 points and online assignments and exercises will count 45 points (15 points each). There will also be some additional discussion points (not sure how many exactly in advance – probably around 20 or so). At the end of the semester I will total everyone's points and assign final course grades. You can obtain your grades for each exam, assignment, and your final grades from our online course site. You will have a chance to see and review exams 1 & 2 at the at the following class meeting. If you wish to review Exam 3, it will be available in my office. [NOTE: You cannot rely on the Etudes’ built-in grading percentages. Use the grade ranges I provide when each assignment is scored. – You will like them better…]. You should be clear about how you are doing as the semester progresses, but if you are ever unsure, or would just like an update from me, feel free to ask, anytime.

ACCESS TO ME:
Although this class is a bit different from a standard online class or in-person class, I am as available to you for the same number of contact hours as if you were taking a traditional course (probably more). Please feel free to discuss anything with me at any time during the semester. I’m on your side and we have the same goal: an interesting, rewarding, and successful course experience for you! If you want to talk in person, visit me during my office hours or make arrangements for us to get together at a different time that might be more convenient for you. I am also always available by phone and email and on the course site discussion section.

THIS CLASS IS AN EXCELLENT OVERVIEW OF A FASCINATING FIELD. I'M SURE YOU WILL ENJOY IT. HAVE A GREAT SEMESTER!

Roger Hock
INTRODUCTORY PSYCHOLOGY
FALL 2015
SEMESTER SCHEDULE – ONLINE/HYBRID CLASS -- INCLUDES 4 IN-PERSON MEETINGS

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IN-PERSON MEETINGS

***PLEASE POST THESE DATES IN YOUR CALENDARS!***

• ORIENTATION MEETING: SATURDAY 8/29; 9:00-10:20 IN ROOM 9110
IN THE SCIENCE BLDG
GO OVER CLASS PRELIMINARIES, DEMO STUFF, EXPLAIN EVERYTHING, ETC. YOU KNOW, ORIENT YOU TO GET OFF TO A SMOOTH START

• FULL CLASS MEETING 1: SATURDAY, 10/3; 9-11:50; IN ROOM 9110
DISCUSSION, SUMMARY AND EXAM ON CHAPTERS 1, 2, 4, & 5 (we’re skipping Ch 3) AND THE ASSOCIATED VIDEO SESSIONS

• CLASS MEETING 2: SATURDAY, 11/7; 9-11:50; IN ROOM 9110
DISCUSSION AND EXAM ON CHAPTERS 6, 9, 10, & 11 (we’re skipping Ch 7 & 8) AND THE ASSOCIATED VIDEO SESSIONS.

• CLASS MEETING 3: SATURDAY, 12/5; 9–11:50; IN ROOM 9110
DISCUSSION AND EXAM ON CHAPTERS 12, 13 & 14 AND ASSOCIATED VIDEO SESSIONS.

PSY205
INTRODUCTORY PSYCHOLOGY

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THIS COURSE:

1. Develop an awareness of basic scientific research methods for human behavior

2. Acquire an introductory-level understanding of biologically-based psychological behavior

3. Demonstrate a basic, conceptual knowledge of lifespan human development

4. Display an introductory understanding of psychology and health

5. Attain a basic understanding the dynamics of human interaction

6. Demonstrate the acquisition, improvement, or the use of educational/informational technology