

NOTE:

COURSE CONTENT MAY BE CHANGED, TERM TO TERM, WITHOUT NOTICE. THE INFORMATION BELOW IS PROVIDED AS A GUIDE FOR COURSE SELECTION AND IS NOT BINDING IN ANY FORM.

MOODY DISTANCE LEARNING

Course Number, Name, and Credit Hours

GSU-2210 Introduction to Psychology, 3 credit hours

Course Description

This course examines historic and contemporary psychological theories of maturity, motivation, personality, emotions, and mental health. Theories are understood, evaluated, and where appropriate integrated with biblical teachings about human nature and the Christian life.

Prerequisites: None.

Course Goals

In this course you will:

- Understand the most common terms, theory and practice of Psychology
- Understand the major theories, best known experiments, and application of Psychology
- Comprehend the uniqueness of God's creation of animals and people
- Learn how to distinguish between various Christian approaches to psychology and counseling, and recognize some of the leaders in this field
- Gain familiarity with the strengths and weaknesses in modern psychology, as seen from the Christian perspective

Course Objectives

At the completion of this course you should be able to:

1. Describe the scientific methods used to investigate human behavior in psychology
2. Demonstrate the ability to think critically and analytically, applying the principles of good decision making and the logic of scientific inquiry
3. Integrate theory and practice and be able to apply classroom learning to situations in life
4. Describe each of the basic principles of learning, including classical conditioning, operant conditioning, and social learning
5. Describe the basic functioning of the human brain including how neurons work and the major areas of the brain and their functions principles of human thought including, how memory works, how people think and the common ways in which other people and society influence our behavior, and the concept of intelligence and the influences on it

Course Textbook(s) and/or Supplemental Information

Required textbooks for all Moody Online classes can be found on the [Required Textbooks](#) section of the Moody website.

Assignments Overview

All assignments are due according to the due dates listed in the Course Schedule. Reading should be completed and reported weekly according to the Course Schedule.

1. **READING:** One of the essential aspects of each course is the reading assignments. It is expected that you will complete all the required reading the week that it is assigned so that you are able to effectively participate in the online discussions as well as for your own benefit in being able to grasp the concepts being taught in the lesson.
2. **WEEKLY QUIZZES:** Weekly self-graded quizzes will test your readings from the Myers textbook assigned for each week. Quizzes range from 5-21 multiple-choice questions. Though these self-graded quizzes are not part of your grade, they will help prepare you for the exams.
3. **PAPER 1:** This paper must be at least 4-6 pages in length, double-spaced. Outside research will be required to produce a good paper. Write on one (1) of the assigned options.
4. **PAPER 2:** This paper must be at least 5-10 pages in length, double-spaced. Outside research will be required to produce a good paper. Write on one (1) of the assigned options.
5. **EXAM 1:** This exam covers the reading of Myers chapters 1-10 and Collins lessons 1-7. It is made up of 23 essay questions. It is closed book and with a 1.5 hour time limit.
6. **EXAM 2:** This exam covers the reading of Myers chapters 11-15 and Collins lessons 8-12. It is made up of 30 essay questions. It is closed book and with a 1.5 hour time limit.
7. **DISCUSSION BOARDS:** Students must maintain a significant presence in the discussion boards by providing an initial response to the lesson's discussion questions by the middle of the week (Friday, 11:59pm CST) and reading/responding to at least two classmates' posts by the end of the week (Monday, 11:59pm CST) unless otherwise directed by your instructor. Refer to the discussion board grading guide included in the **Course Resources** section of this course for more information on how participation in the discussion board will be assessed.

Assessments

Your grade for this course will consist of:

Paper 1	20%
Paper 2	10%
Exam 1	30%
Exam 2	30%
Reading / Discussion Board Participation	10%
	100%

Letter grades are determined by the following scale:

Letter Grade	Percentage Equivalent	Letter Grade	Percentage Equivalent
A	96% or higher	C	73 - 76.9%
A-	90 - 95.9%	C-	70 - 72.9%
B+	87 - 89.9%	D+	67 - 69.9%
B	83 - 86.9%	D	63- 66.9%
B-	80 - 82.9%	D-	60 - 62.9%
C+	77 - 79.9%	F	Below 60%

Course Resources

Online students have access to the Moody Library. Though students may wish to check out books via inter-library loan, the online database has a number of articles and reviews available for download. You can access the online database by logging into your account at my.moody.edu.

In addition to the resources available at the Moody Library, you may wish to visit <http://www.biblicalstudies.org.uk> or www.bible.org. These sites contain content on various topics written by competent biblical scholars. It is also suggested that you download a free version of the NET Bible at bible.org.

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Course Bibliography

Collins, Gary R.. *The Rebuilding of Psychology*. Wheaton, Illinois: Tyndale House Publishers, 1977.

Fernald, L. Dodge. *Basic Psychology*. 5th ed. Dubuque, IA: William C. Brown, 1985. 235-259.

Hinckley, Jack, and Jo Ann Hinckley. *Breaking Points*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1985.

Ornstein, Robert, and Richard Thompson. *The Amazing Brain*: Publisher: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Trade & Reference Publishers, 1991.