Introductory Psychology
Classroom location: TBA
Class Time: 9:30-12
Instructor:
Dr. Max Gunther
mlgunther@mail.smu.edu

Topics include consciousness, the scientific study of human behavior, the human brain, emotion, psychopathology and psychiatric treatment. Prerequisites: None

The purpose of the course is to provide an introductory overview of the major areas within the study of psychology. Topics include emotion, social influence, memory, neuroscience, consciousness, perception, psychological disorders and their treatment, learning, research methods and human development.

Students will be able to explain basic theories and methods related to the study of human behavior, cognition, and socio-cultural organization.

Required Texts:

The textbook will be available in the SMU Bookstore. Other brief readings may be distributed in class.

Journal – students are required to keep an informal journal documenting reactions and questions from the reading, lectures and texts, to be turned into the instructor daily.

Grading procedure:
Daily journal entries = 10%
Class participation = 10%
Exams = 70%
Class Presentation = 10%

Late assignments are deducted 20% per day late.

SCHEDULE:

Pre-class arrival reading and orientation
– meet class after dinner & orientation
- Read Meyers & DeWall
  Student Preface
  Prologue
  Chapter - Thinking Critically With Psychological Science

Day 1
- **Field trip to Taos Pueblo** with discussion of the history of psychology.
Lecture: Biological foundations
- Read Meyers & DeWall
  - Chapter - The Biology of Mind
  - Chapter - Consciousness and the Two-Track Mind

**Day 2**
- Lecture: biological foundations and consciousness.
- Read Meyers & DeWall
  - Chapter - Nature, Nurture and Human Diversity
  - Chapter - Developing Through The Lifespan

**Day 3**
- Field trip to speak to Marine Special Forces Vietnam Veteran & social worker David Stewart
- Lecture: human diversity with discussion of the historical and cultural diversity of New Mexico
- Read Meyers & DeWall
  - Chapter - Sensation and Perception
  - Chapter - Learning

**Day 4**
- **EXAM 1 at the beginning of class**
- Lecture: Sensation, perception & learning.
- Read Meyers & DeWall
  - Chapter - Memory
  - Chapter - Thinking and Language

**Day 5**
- Lecture: memory, thinking and language.
- Read Meyers & DeWall
  - Chapter - Intelligence
  - Chapter - What Drives Us: Hunger, Sex, Belonging and Achievement

**Day 6**
- Field Trip - Santa Fe
- Lecture: Intelligence & motivation
- Read Meyers & DeWall
  - Chapter - Emotions, Stress and Health
  - Chapter - Social Psychology

**Day 7**
**EXAM 2 at the beginning of class**
- Lecture: Emotion, stress, health and social psychology
- Read Meyers & DeWall
  - Chapter - Personality

**Day 8**
- Lecture: Continuation emotion, stress, health and social psychology
- Read Meyers & DeWall
  - Chapter - Psychological Disorders
Day 9
- Field Trip - Hiking
- Lecture: continuation of psychological disorders
- Read Meyers & DeWall
  Chapter - Therapy
  Watch “Explained” episode “pseudoscience” on Netflix

Day 10
Lecture: Review for cumulative final exam

Day 11
- FINAL EXAM at the beginning of class
- Class presentations

· Disability Accommodations: Students needing academic accommodations for a disability must first register with Disability Accommodations & Success Strategies (DASS). Students can call 214-768-1470 or visit http://www.smu.edu/Provost/ALEC/DASS to begin the process. Once registered, students should then schedule an appointment with the professor as early in the semester as possible, present a DASS Accommodation Letter, and make appropriate arrangements. Please note that accommodations are not retroactive and require advance notice to implement.

· Religious Observance: Religiously observant students wishing to be absent on holidays that require missing class should notify their professors in writing at the beginning of the semester, and should discuss with them, in advance, acceptable ways of making up any work missed because of the absence. (See University Policy No. 1.9)

· Excused Absences for University Extracurricular Activities: Students participating in an officially sanctioned, scheduled University extracurricular activity should be given the opportunity to make up class assignments or other graded assignments missed as a result of their participation. It is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements with the instructor prior to any missed scheduled examination or other missed assignment for making up the work. (See 2018-2019 University Undergraduate Catalogue)

· Student Learning Outcomes: Please include in your syllabi all student learning outcomes, both those specific to your course, as well as those that satisfy major and general education requirements.

· Final Exams: Final course examinations shall be given in all courses where they are appropriate, and some form of final assessment is essential. Final exams or final assessments must be administered as specified in the official examination schedule, and shall not be administered during the last week of classes or during the Reading Period. Please state clearly in the syllabus the date/time and form of the final exam or assessment.