

Course Information



Psy as a Science & Profession

PSY 2010-003

Fall 2025

Course Section Information

Asynchronous Online

Course Description

Prereq: PSY 1010 and ENGL 1010. Students learn and develop skills in critical thinking and critical analysis of basic research in psychology, information gathering in psychological research, basic APA format for writing and references, and course and career options for pursuing the field of psychology.

Semester: All

Course Prerequisites/Co-requisites

PSY 1010 and ENGL 1010.

Instructor Information

Name: Justice Morath

Email: justice.morath@slcc.edu

Phone: 801-957-3072

Office Location: SCM 3-186G and Virtual

Office Hours: 8am-1pm Mondays by Zoom. email for appt.

Textbooks, Readings, and Course Materials

Title: OER materials will be shared in Canvas

For more information on textbook accessibility, contact Accessibility & Disability Services at ads@slcc.edu.

Course Student Learning Outcomes

- Learn to gather psychological information that is connected with research, therapy and psychology related issues.
- Students will gain skills in library and internet literature searches that focus on different areas of psychology.
- Demonstrate knowledge of different fields of psychology, and given basic information about career options and related psychology degrees.
- Learn about and discuss various courses in psychology and allied fields that will assist the students in their career pursuits.
- Have a better understanding of what psychology can offer them in life, whether they continue their careers directly in psychology or related field, or pursue a very different area.
- Learn basic APA-style formatting in writing, especially in terms of how to cite sources.
- Demonstrate psychological knowledge and methods of oral and written delivery that prepares them for upper level psychology courses and careers in psychology.
- Demonstrate the ability to organize information orally and in writing using key concepts from psychology and applying them to an analysis of psychological research, APA formatting, and career in psychology.
- Analyze various research projects and data, and be able to understand the methods used, the short comings of data collection, and more effective techniques

implications of this data.

- Develop skill in critical thinking related to psychology and social science research and information.
- Read, discuss, and critique classic research in psychology as a way to hone these skills.
- Develop their skills in theory evaluation and to enhance their knowledge of research in psychology.
- Demonstrate the ability to reason effectively using available evidence and the tools of critical thinking to present in-depth information demonstrating knowledge of the scientific method, research design, and “healthy skepticism” and analysis of research.
- Learn to critique sources of information, and become more informed consumers of psychological information.
- Understand the psychological contexts of marginalized groups within U.S. society, and will learn to use newly learned terms and language that will prepare them for polite and appropriate discourse of sensitive issues in the realm of psychology and psychological thought.
- Apply their knowledge to the importance of social change and psychological adaptation.

Assignment Schedule

Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
	Free Extra Credit Points	Assignment	0
	Free Extra Credit Points	Assignment	0
	Introductions	Discussion	0
	Meme Stream	Discussion	0

Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
	PEP: Attendance	Assignment	66
	PEP: Poster Workshop	Assignment	6
	PEP: Teaching Demo	Assignment	6
	Student-Only Discussion Forum	Discussion	0
8/29/25	Quiz: Syllabus	Quiz	5
9/2/25	PEP: The Lifelong Learner	Assignment	6
9/5/25	Personal statement final draft	Assignment	12

Coursework & Assignment Descriptions

Grading & Evaluation.

PEP Points. PEP stands for Participation, Effort, and Preparation. PEP is collected in a variety of assignments that total 90 points. Everyone gets the lowest 2 scores dropped at the end to account for all absences and misses. Pay close attention to the time and date of the deadlines. Late PEP assignments are not accepted.

Tests. There are two tests throughout the semester, each worth 30 points (30 x 2=60 Points). And one pre-course questionnaire (5 points). They are done on Canvas during specified windows of time. Late tests and re-takes are not allowed.

Papers and projects. These will be discussed in class in more detail. (Total 145 Points). Papers and projects lose 10% for each 24-hour period late, including weekends and holidays.

Extra Credit. Everyone gets 5 free extra credit points. That's equivalent to about 1.5% of your grade. This is more than enough to bump you up if you are on the cusp of a better letter grade. To keep them all you have to do is never ask for any more extra credit. That's it. This is my tongue in cheek way of teaching how unprofessional it is to ask professors for extra credit at the end of a semester. Take initiative and do the work when it is due.

Total Points. As it stands the total points are 300. This is open to change as I reserve the right to add or remove assignments or adjust point systems throughout the semester.

Grading Scale

Final Grades are rounded to the nearest whole number.

93+ is an A, 90-92 is an A-, 87-89 is a B+, 83-86 is a B, and so on...Until below 60 is an E

Engagement Plan

Canvas messaging is best way to get a hold of me. I will typically respond within 48 hours.

How to Navigate to Canvas

This course uses the Canvas course management system. All students must use Canvas to retrieve course readings, access web pages, upload assignments, receive course announcements, and review the class section's syllabus.

How to Succeed in the Course

Class Etiquette

Due to the nature of some of the subject matter, we will occasionally touch on uncomfortable and controversial subjects. I will do my best to forewarn the class of any potentially triggering material in advance. I hope for quality discussion of these in class with critical analysis and quality introspection. And I require the utmost of respect for other's viewpoints and opinions. So please be mindful of these guidelines to create a productive and safe space in our classroom:

-Move up, Move Back: If you find yourself talking a lot, move back, and if you realize that you haven't spoken up at all, move up.

-Comfort Zone: Step a little out of your comfort zone.

-The Vegas Rule: Like Las Vegas, any personal disclosure that happens here, stays in here.

-Sssshhhh...Respect each other when speaking. Interruptions and side talking isn't tolerated. Also do not invalidate or bulldoze. Listening to you yourself talking isn't a very effective learning tool.

-Oops and Ouch: We want to acknowledge the intent of the words that are said while also addressing the impact those words might have on others.

-Facts. You are entitled to opinions based on logic, reason, evidence. But you are not entitled to your own facts.

-Absolutely no audio or visual recording in the classroom unless approved by the DRC and me.

- Be present. While on task laptop and phone use is approved, distracting use (social media, other homework, video games, etc.) is disrespectful and disruptive.

Note that every faculty member has the right to remove any student from the class whenever a student has compromised the instructors' ability to teach and/or other students' rights to learn.

Course Content Advisory

Please be advised that this course may include discussions, readings, and other content that some students might find distressing or triggering. Specifically, the course may cover topics such as:

- Violence or traumatic events
- Sensitive social and political issues
- Discussions of mental health, including depression and anxiety
- Graphic or explicit descriptions and imagery
- Any other specific content relevant to the course

Our aim is to explore these topics thoughtfully and respectfully, understanding their importance in our field of study. However, we recognize that such material can be challenging. If you have concerns about your ability to engage with certain course materials due to past experiences or personal reasons, please feel free to discuss this with me privately. We can explore alternative ways for you to engage with the material while ensuring your educational experience is not compromised.

Your well-being is important, and support services are available through the college's counseling support services should you need them.

Academic Integrity

Academic Honesty. Plagiarizing, cheating, or violating other standards of academic behavior will not be tolerated. Any student who engages in academically dishonest behavior will receive an "F" for the course grade. All incidents of academic dishonesty will be reported for college-level disciplinary proceedings, the results of which can include probation, suspension, expulsion, the assignment of HV (honors violation) to the student's permanent transcript, etc. While complete definitions are available in the course catalog, the following are particularly relevant to this course:

Plagiarism: representing, by paraphrase or direct quotation, the published or unpublished work of another person as one's own in any academic exercise or activity without full and clear acknowledgment. Plagiarism also includes using materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in the sale of term papers or other academic materials. Passing off words generated by AI tools like ChatGPT as your own is considered cheating.

Cheating: (a) depending on the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; (b) substituting for another student, or permitting another student to substitute for oneself, in taking an examination or preparing academic work; (c) submitting substantially the same work for credit in more than one class except with prior approval from the instructor.

Intellectual Property: All lecture slides, material published on Canvas, tests, etc. that are created and/or shared by the instructor is not to be shared with anyone else- either in person or on websites designed for sharing course materials.

Anti-plagiarism software will be utilized to screen all submitted work in this course. The software generates reports that: "...identify exactly which sections of text are taken verbatim from Internet sources without proper documentation..." In addition, the software enables "Every student-submitted paper to be thoroughly matched against his or her institution's database to prevent peer-to-peer cheating."

Institutional Policies

As members of our academic community, we would like to invite you to review the Institutional Syllabus which covers important policies and procedures. This document contains important links for students on the code of student rights and responsibilities, academic integrity, and grading policies, Title IX and other important acknowledgements. By familiarizing yourself with this information, you can help us create a safe and respectful environment for everyone.

For more information, navigate to the Institutional Policies tab on the [Institutional Syllabus](#) page.

Learning Support and Tutoring Services

We are pleased to offer a range of tutoring and learning support services to help you achieve your academic goals. Whether you need assistance with a specific subject or want to improve your study skills, you have many options for tutoring or other support.

To learn more about the services we offer and how to access them, visit the [Institutional Syllabus](#) page under the Tutoring and Learning Support tab. We encourage you to take advantage of these resources to help you succeed in your studies. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a tutoring session, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. We are here to support you in any way we can.

Online Tutoring

Students at SLCC have access to online tutoring through Canvas. From your Canvas course click Online Tutoring in the course navigation and follow the steps to set up an appointment. If this is your first time using the Online Tutoring we recommend you click "Take a Tour" to familiarize yourself with the service.

Note that students only receive 480 minutes of tutoring time each semester. After that we encourage you to use the resources found through this link:

<https://www.slcc.edu/tutoring/index.aspx>

If you have any additional questions reach out to elarningsupport@slcc.edu.

Advising and Counseling Support Services

At our institution, we are committed to supporting your academic and personal growth. That's why we offer a range of advising and counseling services to help you navigate the challenges of college life. To learn more about the resources available to you and how to access them, visit the [Institutional Syllabus](#) page under the Advising and Counseling Support Services tab. Our advising team and the support centers across campus are here to support you in achieving your goals and overcoming any obstacles you may face.

Transfer, Certification, Licensure, and Employment Information

This course is intended for students that know they are going into psychology or a closely related field. It is a prerequisite for the next series of research courses at all USHE

psychology degrees.

Student Academic Calendar

As students you should be aware of all important dates in the semester, such as the day that courses begin and end, as well as the drop date and the last day to withdraw. To learn more about those dates, navigate to the Student Academic Calendar below:

[SLCC Student Academic Calendar](#)

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