

Saint Louis Christian College  
GPY 201 - General Psychology  
Eric McPherson, LPC  
Three Credit Hours

Fall, 2014  
**GPY 201 – General Psychology**

Meeting Days: Wednesday & Friday  
(August 20 – December 10) 7:15-8:30 am.

### MISSION STATEMENT

*Saint Louis Christian College equips men and women as leaders who impact the world for Christ.*

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

A general introduction course to the scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. The student will explore the basic psychological concepts, research methods and the fundamental theories in understand human behavior and mental processes.

### COURSE RATIONALE

To demonstrate a foundational knowledge base to promote critical thought and build a more informed worldview. Given instruction in the social and behavioral sciences, the student will be able to identify and evaluate the interrelationships between individuals, families and organizations. This course is important in helping each student develop a clear perspective toward his/her own identity, understanding why and how he/she and others choose to act or respond and integrating a Biblical perspective about behavior and choice within oneself and toward others.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES - Upon conclusion of this course, the learner should be able:

1. Define and explain psychological terms, principles and theories.
2. Identify societal issues and their impact on the developing person.
3. Define, describe and evaluate the major therapeutic theories.
4. Understand and identify the major psychological disorders.
5. Understand and identify the major perspectives on personality.
6. Discuss the psychology of emotion.
7. Understand theories behind motivational theory.
8. Describe thinking, language and intelligence processes.
9. Define and describe theories of learning and memory.
10. Describe sensation and perception and states of consciousness.
11. Develop a theory of personal development through integration of theology and the theories of human development.
12. Define, describe and explain the physiological components of human development.
13. Determine an integrated opinion of psychology and theology through class activities, reading and assignments.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Attendance and Class Participation: Nightly attendance is expected and will be recorded by Prof McPherson. Class attendance expectations will follow the SLCC attendance policy. Prior approval for excused absences can be made with Eric McPherson, though students have the responsibility to arrange for early makeup of tests or assignments where possible.
2. Students will read assigned chapters (see class schedule) prior to coming to class. Our text, Essentials of Psychology Fourth Edition by Stephen Franzoi (2010) will be the textbook in print used for this class along with a supplemental book, The Greatest Therapist Who Ever Lived by Dr. Mark Baker which will be used with the essay project. Students are recommended to use their text book for note taking, case studies and preparation for tests and case studies. On each test, students will be asked to account for what percent was read from the assigned text. Assigned reading from text will be tracked by highlighting in textbook or taking notes from text totaling 10% of final grade. Students will be expected to take notes from lecture and

for 10% of total grade. Prof McPherson will check textbooks and notes twice for grade, see class schedule for dates.

3. Exams: There will be 3 exams over the chapters and lectures throughout the semester. Exams may have multiple choice, true/false, short answer and short essay questions. Test dates are provided on the course schedule. Students should inform the instructor beforehand to make preparations for missed tests.
4. Essay Project: Each student will complete an essay project (6-8 pages). The essay will pair a psychology theory, topic, or issue with a chapter from The Greatest Therapist Who Ever Lived by Dr. Mark Baker along with one other source. Papers will be graded based upon the MLA format, including citations and bibliography page. Research reports are due by December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014.
5. Case Studies: Topical studies will be assigned throughout the semester (see course schedule).

## COURSE ASSESSMENT

1. Attendance: Nightly attendance is expected and will be taken. If students miss up to seven classes, the student will be academically withdrawn from the class by the academic office. Prior approval for excused absences can be made with Prof McPherson, though students have the responsibility to arrange for early makeup of tests or assignments where possible.
2. Assigned Reading (20% of grade): Students can highlight significant words and descriptions in textbook or take notes definitions and significant descriptions from text totaling 10% of final grade. Students will be expected to take notes from lectures for 10% of total grade. Mr. McPherson will check textbooks and notes twice for grade, see class schedule for dates.
3. Case Studies (25% of grade): Topical studies will be assigned throughout the semester (see course schedule).
4. Research Project (20% of grade Essay Project: Each student will complete a essay project (6-8 pages). The essay will pair a psychology theory, topic, or issue with a chapter from The Greatest Therapist Who Ever Lived by Dr. Mark Baker along with one other source. Papers will be graded based upon the MLA format, including citations and bibliography page. Research reports are due by December 10, 2014.
5. Tests make up 35% of final grade. There will be 3 tests over the chapters and lectures throughout the semester. Tests may have multiple choice, true/false, short answer and short essay questions.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

### August 20, 2013

Introduction of General Psychology Objectives and Philosophy of class.

Chapter One - Text: Franzoi, Stephen L (2008). Essentials of Psychology

### Homework

- 1) Read pp 13-33

### Class

Chapter 1 "Psychology as a Science" pp. 13-33

### 8/22

Class – Chapter 1 continued

### 8/27

### Homework

- 1) Read Chapter 2
- 2) Case Study #1– My thoughts on Psychology and Religion (One Page Minimum).

### Class

Chapter 2 "Neurological and Genetic Basis for Behavior"

**8/29**Class – Chapter 2 continued**9/3**Homework

- 1) Read Chapter 3

Class

Chapter 3 “Human Development”

**9/5**Class – Chapter 3 continued**NO CLASS 9/10 and 9/12****9/17**Homework

- 1) Read Chapter 4

Class

Chapter 4 “Sensation and Perception”

**9/19**Homework

- 1) Case Study – Case Study #2: Describe yourself
- 2) Exam 1 Chapters 1-4

Class

Exam 1 Chapters 1-4

**9/24**Homework

- 1) Read Chapter 5 196-230
- 2) Case Study #3- Self Discovery Questionnaire 5-1 p. 208 and 5-2 p. 210
- 3) Note Check

Class

Chapter 5 “Consciousness

**9/26**Class – Chapter 5 continued**10/1**Homework

- 1) Read Chapter 6 p.236-251
- 2) Case Study #4 – Write about one characteristic you inherited from a parent or grandparent.

Class

Chapter 6 - “Classical Conditioning”

**10/3**

Class - Chapter 6 continued**10/8**Homework

Read Chapter 7 p. 274-311

Class – Chapter 7 “Memory”

**10/10**Class – Chapter 7 continued**10/15**Homework

- 1) Read Chapter 8 p.318-373
- 2) Case Study #5– Self Discovery 8-3 p. 356

Class

Chapter 8 “Language, Thinking , and Intelligence” &amp; Table 8-2 (p.351) give Biblical men/women examples.

**10/17**Class – Chapter 8 continued**10/22**Homework:**Exam 2** over Chapters 5-8Class – Exam 2 Ch.5-8**10/24**Class

Choose topics for essay &amp; Notebook check (This is not a class to skip).

**10/29**Homework

- 1) Read Chapter 9 (pp.382-426).
- 2) Case study #6: Read Self-Discovery 9-1 (p.387) read and make a comment..

Class

Chapter 9 “Motivation and Emotion”

**10/31**Class – Chapter 9 continued**11/5**Homework

- 1) Read Chapter 10 (pp.432-456) Read Chapter 10 (pp. 456-471) Read pp. 478-487.
- 2) Case Study #7 Complete Meyers-Briggs Personality Test online at [www.humanmetrics.com](http://www.humanmetrics.com) (click on the Jung Typology Test). Bring results to class

Class

Chapter 10 “Personality”

**11/7**Class – Meyers-Briggs results and Chapter 10 continued**11/12**Homework

1) Read Chapter 11 (pp. 488-508). Read Chapter 11 (pp. 508-529)

Class

Chapter 11 “Psychological Disorders and their Treatment”

**11/14**Homework

1) Exam 3 over Chapters 9-11

**11/19**Homework

- 1) Read Chapter 12
- 2) Case Study #8 Self-Discovery Questionnaire 12-3 p. 554

ClassChapter 12 “Essentials of Psychology**11/21**

Class – Chapter 12 continued

**11/26 & 28** NO CLASS**12/3**Homework

Read Chapter 13 Social Learning

2 Bonus Points for showing up for class

Class – Chapter 13

**12/5****Notebook check and Doughnuts or Starbucks (2 Bonus points for showing up for class)****12/10****Essay due**

## COURSE STUDENT LEARNING RESOURCES

1. Text: Franzoi, Stephen L. (2010). Essentials of Psychology 4<sup>th</sup> edition. Cincinnati: Atomic Dog Publishing.
2. Johnson, Eric L. & Jones, Stanton L. (2000) Psychology & Christianity: Four Views. Downers Grove, IL: Intervarsity Press.

3. Nouwen, Henri (1979). *The Wounded Healer: Ministry in Contemporary Society*. Image Book.
4. Minrith, Frank & Meier, Paul (1991). *Introduction to Psychology and Counseling*, Second Edition. Baker Books.

## COURSE POLICIES

1. Homework assignments turned in late or incomplete will be graded one complete grade lower for every week (one to seven days) late. Exams will also be graded one complete grade lower for every week late unless prior arrangements have been made with Mr. McPherson
2. If you have a diagnosed learning disability, please see the professor privately to discuss assessment measures that would enhance your ability to learn.
3. Please understand that the Eric McPherson reserves the right to modify this course plan by changing topics, due dates, or even an assignment as long as it does not add to the students' work load.

## COURSE INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

1. Eric McPherson can be reached at: [emcpherson@cfserve.org](mailto:emcpherson@cfserve.org) or by phone: 314-304-4831.