CALVARY UNIVERSITY

15800 Calvary Road
Kansas City, MO 64147-1341

Syllabus

COURSE: SS223 D2/DN2 General Psychology
CREDIT: 3hrs
SEMESTER: Fall 2025 Session I
TIME: TR 8-9:20am
LOCATION: E. Ed. 116
INSTRUCTOR: Tressa Barnes
CONTACT INFO: Tressa.barnes@calvary.edu

I.   DESCRIPTION

An introduction to the various areas and aspects of psychology and a preparatory course in basic psychological concepts dealing with man's psychophysical development. Psychology is interpreted in the light of biblical teachings, and the course is aimed at helping the student understand his own behavior as well as that of others.

* This course is offered in two formats: in-person and online. Students registered for in-person attend the classes in person, online students attend the classes via the online classroom. For both in-person and online students, assignments and interaction outside of the class period are done in the learning management system.

II.   OBJECTIVES

General competencies to be achieved. The student will:
1. Understand the range of phenomena studied by psychologists.
    a. Program Objectives 3 & 4
    b. Assignments A, B,C
2. Learn what it means to be a whole person from a Christian psychology perspective.
    a. Program Objectives 1 & 2
    b. Assignments A,B,C, D
3. Understand the sensory processes.

Our Mission: "…to prepare Christians to live and serve in the church and in the world according to the Biblical worldview."

      a. Program Learning Objectives 2,
      b. Assignments: A,B,C,D

Specific competencies to be achieved. The student will:

1. Consider some Christian perspectives regarding the science of psychology.
   a. Program Objective 2
   b. Assignment A, B, D
2. Investigate the biological bases of behavior.
   a. Program Objective 4
   b. Assignments A, B,C,D
3. Comparative analysis of theories of motivation.
   a. Program Objectives 1 & 4
   b. Assignments A, B, C, D
4. Examine theories of socialization, learning, and behavior
   a. Program Objectives 2 & 3
   b. Assignment A, C, D, E
5. Become knowledgeable of physical, mental, and social developmental characteristics associated with the development of memory, thinking, and language.
   a. Program Objectives 1 & 4
   b. Assignments A,B, C, D, E

III. REQUIREMENTS

A. READING: Read each chapter completely and thoroughly.

B. DISCUSSION POSTS: Write a 700 word essay on a topic in the reading each week and compare it to a biblical worldview.
   a. Your report should contain an analysis and evaluation of the topic.
   b. You will then read two other classmmates essays and write a peer review.

C. Write a Topical Paper regarding an issue discussed in class.

This Research Paper should be 10 pages in length with 8 sources. The bible is allowed to be one source.
More information will be discussed in class.

D. Perspective Psychological Paper
After you have read chapter 10 in the textbook, reflect on your own personal growth and development, and write a six page double spaced history of your pilgrimage toward wholeness.

E. EXAMINATIONS: There will be two exams over the content discussed in class.

IV. METHODS

Lectures, discussions, reports, reading

Students missing more than 4 class sessions automatically receive an "EA" (excessive absence) or failing grade for the course. Online students will be marked present for each class after they watch the class session video and answer the questions that were discussed in class.

Grading: Late assignments will be *penalized 1% of the grade on that assignment per calendar day.*

Reading	24%
Perspective Paper	16%
Topical Paper	16%
Discussions/Attendance	20%
Exams	24%

See grading scale in the university catalog

V. MATERIALS

Lilienfeld, Scott; Lynn, Steven; Namy, Laura. Psychology, from Inquiry to Understanding. 4th Edition, Canada: Pearson. 2017. ISBN 978-0205001675. Cost $45.00.

VI. ACADEMIC STATEMENTS

PERSONAL DEVICES: The use of cell phones, laptops, tablets, and related devices is permissible for educational purposes only (i.e note-taking or researching information pertinent to discussion), with prior approval from the instructor. **Use of electronic devices outside of educational purposes is expressly prohibited.** When not being used according to the guidelines established, electronic devices should be stored in students' belongings and out of sight. If a student has an emergency and are awaiting for an urgent phone call, they should inform the instructor ahead of time.

Failure to adhere to these policies may result in the student being asked to leave class, and marked as absent for the first offense. A second offense may result in withdrawal from the course.

The Bible is a required textbook in every course at Calvary University. To facilitate academic level study, students are required to use for assignments and research an English translation or version of the Bible based on formal equivalence (*meaning that the translation is generally word-for-word from the original languages*), including any of the following: New American Standard (NASB), English Standard Version (ESV), New King James (NKJV), or King James (KJV). Other translations and versions based on dynamic equivalence (*paraphrases, and thought-for-thought translations like NLT and NIV*) may be used as supplemental sources. Please ask the professor if you have questions about a particular translation or version.

Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinator (aso@calvary.edu) of any disabling condition that may require support.

Plagiarism is defined as copying any content without identifying the source. This also includes taking another person's or AI entity's ideas or constructs and presenting them as your own. Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. Most assignments at Calvary require the student to produce original work. Therefore, unless specifically permitted by the instructor, the use of AI-generated content is prohibited (even if cited) as it does not represent original work created by the student and is an unreliable aggregate of ideas from other sources. AI, however, may be utilized in cases where the instructor has explicitly permitted its use to accomplish specific tasks. It is only in these cases that AI-generated (or modified) content may be submitted by the student. If there are any questions as to the permissibility of AI use for an assignment, please ask your instructor for clarification.

All class papers must follow the APA style according to the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 7ᵗʰ edition*.

The Clark Academic Center (learning@calvary.edu), located in the library building, is dedicated to providing free academic assistance for all students. Student tutors aid with all facets of the writing process, tutor in various subject areas, prepare students for exams, and facilitate tests. Please take advantage of this service.