## MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**UTICA and ROME, NY**

**COURSE OUTLINE**

PY 101- Introduction to General Psychology Cr- 3.0

This course introduces the many and varied facets of psychology. Emphasis is on interactions of individuals in their cultural, social, and economic environments as determined by their cognitive, behavioral, and emotional experiences and training.

Three class hours

Pre-requisite (s)/Co-Requisite(s): none

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The purpose of this course is to provide the student with a general introduction to the field of psychology in the areas of neuroscience, sensation and perception, states of consciousness, development, learning, memory, thinking and intelligence, emotion and motivation, stress, health and well-being, personality and abnormality and therapy.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this course a student will be able to:

* Demonstrate a command of the basic vocabulary of psychology.
* Explain the goals of psychology.
* Describe the major areas in the field (such as developmental, industrial, forensic, cognitive, abnormal, personality, assessment, perception, social, health, and neuroscience) and identify the parameters of this discipline.
* Use authoritative sources and accepted stylistic conventions to describe the contributions of major figures in the field. ​
* Discuss the historical development of psychology and describe how factors involving race, class, and gender may have contributed to this development.
* Discuss the ​major research studies in the field including their implications and limitations.
* Discuss the biological bases of behavior on both the micro (such as neurocellular, neurophysiological, and neurochemical) and macro (central and peripheral nervous system) levels.
* Distinguish between the major perspectives (such as behavioral, psychoanalytic, cognitive, humanistic, learning, physiological, and sociocultural) on human thought and behavior.
* Analyze the role that psychological perspectives and theories played in the creation and perpetuation of the dynamics of power, privilege, oppression, and opportunity.
* Identify scientific techniques used by psychologists to develop theories and guide practice and their limitations.
* Apply psychological theories to describe, understand, predict, and control or modify behavior.
* Apply the principles of rights, access, equity, and autonomy to explore how psychological theories may interact with race, class, and gender in their relationship to behavior.
* Describe the historical and contemporary societal factors that shape the development of individual and group identity involving race, class, and gender.
* Analyze the role that complex networks of social structures and systems play in the creation and perpetuation of the dynamics of power, privilege, oppression, and opportunity.
* Apply the principles of rights, access, equity, and autonomous participation to past, current, or future social justice action.

MAJOR COURSE TOPICS:

1. Vocabulary of Psychology
2. Goals of Psychology
3. Major areas in the field of Psychology
4. Major figures and their contributions to Psychology
5. Historical development of Psychology
6. Major research studies
7. Biological bases of behavior
8. Major Perspectives on human thought and behavior
9. Scientific Techniques used by Psychologists that guide practice and include limitations
10. Apply theories to the goals of research
11. Psychology and diversity

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