Wayne County Community College District

COURSE SYLLABUS

PSY 101   Introductory Psychology

CREDIT HOURS: 3.00

CONTACT HOURS: 45.00

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course introduces students to theories, principles, concepts and research in psychology. Topics include biological foundations of behavior and mental processes, learning and cognition, personality and social behavior, mental health and mental disorders and lifespan development. PSY 101 is the foundational course in psychology. It is a prerequisite for all other psychology courses.

EXPECTED COMPETENCIES:
Upon successful completion of this course, the student will:

1. Define psychology.
2. Explain why psychology is a science.
3. List and describe the major subfields of psychology.
4. Describe historical and contemporary perspectives of psychology.
5. Identify and distinguish correlation, descriptive, and experimental research methods.
6. Recognize differences between personal views and scientific evidence.
7. Identify and explain basic concepts, theories, and research represented in the following general content domains: learning and cognition; biological bases of behavior; development across the lifespan; personality and social behavior; mental health and mental disorders.
8. Identify applied areas of psychology.
9. Recognize major classifications of mental disorders.
10. Explain why empirical findings and conclusions may change or require adjustment.
11. Recognize and appreciate human diversity and understand that psychological explanations may vary across populations and contexts.
12. Discuss how psychological principles can facilitate personal, social, and organizational growth and change.

ASSESSMENT METHODS:
Student performance may be assessed by examination, quizzes, case studies, oral conversation, group discussion, oral presentations. The instructor reserves the option to employ one or more of these assessment methods during the course.

GRADING SCALE:
90%-100% = A
80%-89.9%= B
70%-79.9%= C
60%-69.9%= D
<60% = E