South Plains College Common Course Syllabus: PSYC 2301, Section 604

Revised 01/2025 **Spring 2025**

Department: Behavioral Sciences

Discipline: Psychology

Course Number: PSYC 2301 **Course Title**: General Psychology

Available Formats: Conventional, Online

Campuses: Levelland, Lubbock Downtown Center, Plainview, and Dual Credit Campuses

Course Description: Survey of the essential subject areas, major theories and approaches to the scientific study of

behavior and mental processes.

Prerequisites: None

Credit: 3 Lecture: 3 Lab: 0

Textbook: At instructor's discretion you will use **one** of the following open source textbooks:

• OpenStax College, *Psychology, 3e.* OpenStax College. 8 December 2018.

(http://cnx.org/content/col11629/latest/)

OR

• R. Biswas-Diener & E. Diener (Eds), *Noba Textbook Series: Psychology*. Champaign, IL: DEF Publishers.

DOI: nobaproject.com (specific URL provided by your instructor)

Supplies: none unless specified in the specific instructor information

This course partially satisfies a Core Curriculum Requirement:

Social and Behavioral Science Foundational Component Area (080)

Core Objectives addressed:

- **Communication skills** to include effective written, oral and visual communication.
- **Critical thinking skills** to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
- **Empirical and Quantitative skills** to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.
- **Social Responsibility** to include the demonstrated intercultural knowledge and competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national and global communities.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)/Competencies:

- 1. Upon successful completion of this course, students will:
- 2. Identify various research methods and their characteristics used in the scientific study of psychology.
- 3. Describe the historical influences and early schools of thought that shaped the field of psychology.
- 4. Describe some of the prominent perspectives and approaches used in the study of psychology
- 5. Use terminology unique to the study of psychology.
- 6. Describe accepted approaches and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation.
- 7. Identify factors in physiological and psychological processes involved in human behavior.

Student Learning Outcomes Assessment: Dr. Alicia Barr is the faculty member who is responsible for the assessment of the student learning outcomes. She will be sending a list of which SLOs will be assessed for each semester. There are 6 outcomes and these are rotated. Dr. Barr is also the person responsible for the entry of the data into Weave for documentation.

Course Evaluation: See the instructor's course information sheet for specific items used in evaluating student performance. However, all courses will have multiple exams and a written assignment that is designated by the instructor.

Attendance Policy:

Instructors will create an attendance policy that is consistent with the "Class Attendance" policies stated below in the SPC General Catalog:

Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus.

When an unavoidable reason for class absence arises, such as illness, an official trip authorized by the college or an official activity, the instructor may permit the student to make up work missed. It is the student's responsibility to complete work missed within a reasonable period of time as determined by the instructor. Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at the time of registration. Should a student, for any reason, delay in reporting to a class after official enrollment, absences will be attributed to the student from the first class meeting.

Students who enroll in a course but have "Never Attended" by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester, may be administratively withdrawn from that course and receive a grade of "X" or "F" as determined by the instructor. Instructors are responsible for clearly stating their administrative drop policy in the course syllabus, and it is the student's responsibility to be aware of that policy.

It is the student's responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through MySPC using his or her student online account. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment.

Additional attendance information might be included in the specific instructor's part of the syllabus.

Plagiarism and Cheating: Students are expected to do their own work on all projects, quizzes, assignments, examinations, and papers. Failure to comply with this policy will result in an F for the assignment and can result in an F for the course if circumstances warrant.

Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1. Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, downloaded from another student, an online term paper site, a mail order term paper mill, or generated by an artificial intelligence tool;
- 2. Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation;
- 3. Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them; or
- 4. Missing in-text citations.

Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

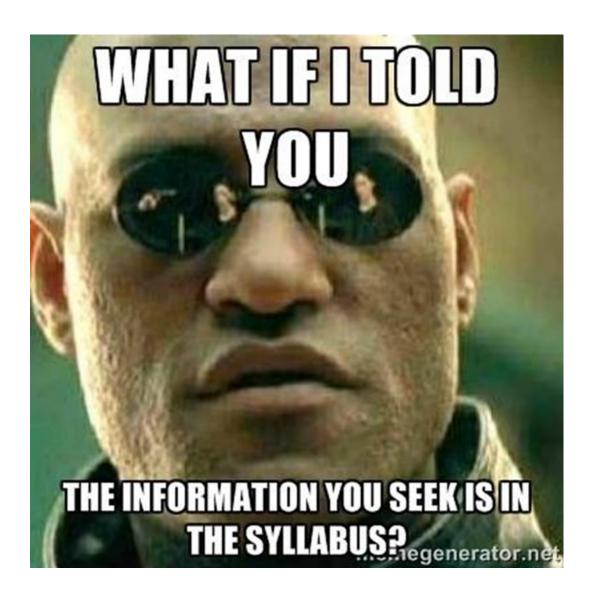
- 1. Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion;
- 2. Discovering the content of an examination before it is given;
- 3. Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, text messaging, internet, apps) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment;
- 4. Entering an office or building to obtain unfair advantage;
- 5. Taking an examination for another;
- 6. Altering grade records;
- 7. Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment;
- 8. Rewriting another student's work in Peer Editing so that the writing is no longer the original student's;
- 9. Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper.

Student Code of Conduct Policy: Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect on the part of the student and the instructor. Neither instructor nor student should be subject to others' behavior that is rude, disruptive, intimidating, aggressive, or demeaning. Student conduct that disrupts the learning process or is deemed disrespectful or threatening shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.

For information regarding Intellectual Exchange, Disabilities, Non-Discrimination, Title IX Pregnancy

Accommodations, CARE (Campus Assessment, Response, and Evaluation) Team, and Campus Concealed Carry, please use the following link: Syllabus Statements (southplainscollege.edu).

Note: The instructor reserves the right to modify the course syllabus and policies, as well as notify students of any changes, at any point during the semester.



Every semester I receive numerous e-mails from students regarding information readily available in THIS SYLLABUS. E-mails containing such questions as "when is this assignment due?" or "when is the exam?". These repetitive e-mails can become extremely frustrating to faculty. I have worked diligently to supply you with as much accurate information as I can in the syllabus, in the assignment handouts, and on the Blackboard page for this course. Please LOOK FOR YOURSELF prior to asking me. If you have looked and still need to e-mail me, by all means do so. Please make sure your e-mail contains your NAME, YOUR COURSE (e.g.,

psyc-2301, psyc-2314, huma-2319), and your class time/day of the week. This will help reduce the frustration level and benefit both of us. Thank you.

"I am <u>Bob</u> in your <u>9:30 am</u> class <u>Mondays</u>"

"I'm in your online Lifespan class, my name is Shakira"

"I am <u>Jane Doe</u>. I am in your <u>psyc-2314</u> on <u>Thursday at 9:30 am</u>. I am emailing concerning

Any of the above examples provide me with enough information to begin looking for the information you are seeking. I have zero "psychic ability". If I did, I would have already won the lottery and be secluded somewhere far from the chaos that is my life currently.

PSYC-2301
General Psychology
Section 604
Spring 2025
Monday & Wednesday 1:00 – 2:15 pm

Instructor: Professor Rick Herbert

E-mail: rherbert@southplainscollege.edu ← BEST METHOD OF CONTACT!

Office: Room 2002, SPC Downtown Center

Office Hours:

Monday & Wednesday: 9:00 am - 9:30 am & 12:15 pm - 1:00 pm & 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm Downtown Room 2002

Tuesday & Thursday: 9:00 am - 9:30 am & 12:15 pm - 1:00 pm Plainview PC124

Friday: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm Downtown Room 2002

AND BY APPOINTMENT - CONTACT ME AND I WILL MAKE TIME!

Office Phone: (806)716-4039

South Plains College (SPC) has switched telephone systems several times since our move into the Lubbock Downtown Center (LDC). The voicemail system has some "issues". I also travel between campuses so I do not have access to our phone system on a regular basis. Voicemail generally not received for 24 hours due to travel between campuses. I cannot save voicemails in the same fashion as I can emails, so emails are preferred.

<u>Email</u>: please send all correspondence and course work, with the sole exception of your Discussion Boards posts and responses, to my official, SPC email: rherbert@southplainscollege.edu. I collect and save all electronic correspondence between students and myself in a single folder and keep these for the duration of the semester. I do so because it allows me access to all conversations I have had with students at the end of the semester when I am calculating grades. I am less likely to remember a verbal exchange, so I rely on these emails. L cannot save the messages sent through Blackboard, so please, **DO NOT MESSAGE ME THROUGH BLACKBOARD!**

A. GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION:

PSYC 2301 General Psychology

General Psychology is a survey of the major psychological topics, theories and approaches to the scientific study of behavior and mental processes.

Approval Number	42.0101.51 25
maximum SCH per student	3
maximum SCH per course	3
208	
maximum contact hours per course	48

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- 1. Identify various research methods and their characteristics used in the scientific study of psychology.
- 2. Describe the historical influences and early schools of thought that shaped the field of psychology.
- 3. Describe some of the prominent perspectives and approaches used in the study of psychology.
- 4. Use terminology unique to the study of psychology.
- 5. Describe accepted approaches and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation.
- 6. Identify factors in physiological and psychological processes involved in human behavior.

B. Syllabus Statements:

All South Plains College (SPC) policies and Syllabus Statements may be found at the following location, www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements

These Statements and Policies are updated regularly and this location always has the most accurate information regarding SPC Policies.

C. Artificial Intelligence Statement:

- Purpose of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Applications:

Al applications such as ChatGPT, OpenAl, Bard, Grammarly, WordTune and others are advanced language models designed to aid and engage in meaningful conversations, as well as, generate and revise content. All is intended to supplement learning, stimulate critical thinking, and enhance academic discourse. However, its use comes with certain responsibilities.

· Academic Integrity:

Using AI to generate academic work, including essays, reports, or assignments, without proper attribution is a violation of SPC academic integrity policies. Plagiarism undermines the learning process and is strictly prohibited. Students must ensure that their work reflects their own ideas, research, synthesis, and analysis and appropriately cites all sources, including AI.

- Collaboration and Consultation:

While AI can be a valuable resource, it is essential to strike a balance between seeking assistance and maintaining personal responsibility. Collaboration with peers, consulting instructors, and utilizing other approved learning resources should be prioritized. Overreliance on AI for solutions without actively engaging in the learning process is discouraged and can be grounds for academic integrity violations. Utilizing AI as a tool for brainstorming or research is allowed but the writing should be the student's own work and thoughts.

· Critical Thinking and Originality:

Al usage can provide suggestions and information, but it is essential to critically evaluate the responses and exercise independent thought. Relying solely on Al for answers deprives students of the opportunity to develop their analytical and problem-solving skills. In assignments where originality, creativity, and independent thinking are valued, Al would be detrimental to the student learning process. Critical thinking and originality emphasize the importance of independent thinking in all academic endeavors as part of the student's learning experience apart from outside influence and offers the student the opportunity to refine their unique, individual voice through academic discourse with other students and faculty.

· Ethical Use and Bias Awareness:

Al is trained on large amounts of data from the internet, which may include biased or inaccurate information. Be mindful of the potential for bias and critically evaluate the responses provided by Al. Therefore, when using Al, just like with using any other database, students must verify that the information is from reliable sources, question any potential biases, and ensure that the information and sources used in the paper are neutral, peer-reviewed sources.

· Responsible Engagement:

Students should engage with AI in a respectful and responsible manner and avoid using offensive language, discriminatory remarks, or engaging in any form of harassment or inappropriate behavior. Students should also uphold the standards of respectful communication in addressing both AI and fellow classmates.

- Compliance with South Plains College Policies:

Policies regarding the appropriate use of AI in South Plains College courses are set by instructional departments and individual instructors. Appropriate use of AI may range from strict prohibition to assignments that may require the use of AI. Misusing or violating the guidelines outlined in this syllabus warning may result in disciplinary action, including academic penalties. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with the specific course policies regarding the use of AI and adhere to them throughout the semester.

• Remember, Al can be a tool to support your learning in certain courses and assignments, but it cannot replace the critical thinking, creativity, and independent work that are integral to your overall academic growth.

D. Student Conduct:

Rules and regulations relating to the students at South Plains College are made with the view of protecting the best interests of the individual, the general welfare of the entire student body and the educational objectives of the college. As in any segment of society, a college community must be guided by standards that are stringent enough to prevent disorder, yet moderate enough to provide an atmosphere conducive to intellectual and personal development.

A high standard of conduct is expected of all students. When a student enrolls at South Plains College, it is assumed that the student accepts the obligations of performance and behavior imposed by the college relevant to its lawful missions, processes and functions. Obedience to the law, respect for properly constituted authority, personal honor, integrity and common sense guide the actions of each member of the college community both in and out of the classroom.

Students are subject to federal, state and local laws, as well as South Plains College rules and regulations. A student is not entitled to greater immunities or privileges before the law than those enjoyed by other citizens. Students are subject to such reasonable disciplinary action as the administration of the college may consider appropriate, including suspension and expulsion in appropriate cases for breach of federal, state or local laws, or college rules and regulations. This principle extends to conduct off-campus which is likely to have adverse effects on the college or on the educational process which identifies the offender as an unfit associate for fellow students. Any student who fails to perform according to expected standards may be asked to withdraw.

Rules and regulations regarding student conduct appear in the current Student Guide

The student handbook clearly defines appropriate classroom conduct (see previous three paragraphs). A student can be asked to leave the class for inappropriate conduct. You should not disrupt the class since you interfere with the learning process for your peers. Talking, sleeping, cell phones ringing, or other disruptive behaviors will result in a warning and then can result in the student being dropped from the class. If you must leave the classroom for a bathroom break by all means do so. You do not need to raise your hand and ask permission, you are an adult and capable of deciding for yourself. However, excessive entrances and exits for the classroom are disruptive. If you an issue that requires constantly leaving the classroom, it would be better to not attend that specific class period.

E. <u>Electronic Device Policy</u>: (Face-to-Face sections)

Our regularly scheduled class time is specifically structured for you to learn the course material required to successfully complete the class. It is NOT an opportunity for you to use your cell phone, laptop, or other electronic device for socializing, gaming, or listening to music. If you choose to use our class time for such activity, you are not utilizing class time for its intended purpose, so you are NOT PRESENT. That means you ARE ABSENT. You may be physically in the classroom, but you are not mentally present. I will count you as absent and deduct those points from your attendance grade. Five absences may get you dropped from my class. Wearing earbuds or headphones is not only a distraction for you, it is a distraction for other students in the classroom as well. On top of the distraction, it is incredibly disrespectful to me, as well as your fellow students. If you have no interest in learning the course material, do not enroll in the class. You are wasting my time, your time, and taking up space that someone who wants to learn is being denied.

F. Specific Instructor Requirements:

1. Attendance: (Face-to-Face sections)

Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus.

Role is taken by students signing a role sheet in EVERY class meeting. Failure to sign in will result in being counted absent. It is the **STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY** to insure they sign in for EVERY class. Having a classmate sign in for you when you are not present may result in you being **DROPPED** from the class **WITH A ZERO!**

I will award each student 100 points for attendance at the beginning of the academic term, after the first week (drop – add period). At the conclusion of the initial add/drop period, every absence a student has will result in a deduction of 10 points from this score. Since I am not nearly as wise as Solomon, there no excused absences. If your name does not make it onto the roll sheet for the class meeting, you will be counted as absent and have the points deducted from your attendance grade.

2. Assignments:

You will have two paper assignments as well as Discussion Boards activities. Both of these assignments are detailed in separate handouts available on the Blackboard page for our class. These handouts are currently available and will remain so for the entire semester.

Your Papers will be turned in via email, to my SPC email address, <a href="mailto:rhere-emailto:rher

Your Discussion Board posts and responses MUST BE made on Blackboard. There will be fifteen Forums, one per week, beginning the first week of the semester. I will open the Forum at 12:00 am on the Sunday of the week and it will remain open until 11:59 pm of the Friday of the week. The "Prompt" I post will have several questions in it. You will need to make three original posts and respond to three classmates' posts to earn half (five points) the available points (ten points). To earn more points, you must make more posts/responses, better posts/responses, or incorporate, and cite, credible outside resources. Examples can be found on the Discussion Board handout on Blackboard.

3. Grading Policy/Procedure:

You will have three (3) exams, each worth one hundred points (300 points total), there will be two paper assignments, each worth fifty points (100 point total), your Milgram paper worth one hundred points (100 points), the Discussion Boards assignment worth one-hundred-fifty points (150 points), and the attendance grade (Face-to-Face sections) worth 100 points. This gives you a complete total of seven-hundred-fifty points (750 points) over the course of the semester. Your grade will be based upon a percentage of the total points with 90% = A, 80% = B, 70% = C, 60% = D, and below 60% = F. No one exam or assignment is "grade adjusted" or "curved". Every section of my courses is evaluated at the end of the semester once all grades are complete.

G. Special Considerations:

- If you have to miss an exam or an assignment deadline for emergency reasons, I will do my best to accommodate
 you IF YOU CONTACT ME PRIOR TO DUE/TEST DATE. Only extreme situations, military necessity, and/or
 family emergencies, will be considered.
- 2. **The last to drop a course is Thursday, April 24, 2025**. Any students who have missed lectures, had difficulty completing projects, or anticipates difficulty in completing the course to their satisfaction or expectation are encouraged to consider the withdrawal option. Students are asked to discuss his/her progress with the instructor prior to making such a decision.

H. Use of Language:

This is a college course, you are expected to use proper college-level English in this course. To this end, South Plains College has developed the following policy:

All written assignments should be presented using the conventions of Standard Written English. South Plains College requires all students to become proficient in "academic English," a form of English that is typically used in academic, professional, and business contexts. While slang, regional idioms, and informal kinds of self-expression are appropriate in some contexts, they are out of place in academic writing. Writing instructors and professors in courses across the campus expect all students to demonstrate proficiency in using the conventions of academic English in their written work, whether it is in-class exams or take-home essays. Each instructor may also add additional requirements regarding written assignments that are contained in your syllabus.

All material turned in, with the exception of any in-class writing assignments, <u>MUST BE TYPED</u>, <u>PROOFREAD</u>, <u>AND ORIGINAL</u> (not plagiarized material originating from anyone other than the student without proper referencing).

When saving your paper on your hard drive, SPC's "One Drive" a disc, a "jump drive", or USB device, please look at the dialog box carefully. Click on "SAVE AS" from your operating system. When the dialog box opens it has two fill-in-the-blank spaces you can access. The first box is "File name:", please put your **seven digit South Plains College student ID number** (beginning with zero) in this box. The second box is located directly below the first and it is "Save as type:",

please click on the drop-down menu button on the far right-hand side of this box. The drop-down menu will open and you will select "Rich Text Format (*.rtf)". You may have to scroll through the choices until you find "Rich Text Format (*.rtf)" but you should find it. If you need assistance, the Student Help Desk is designed to provide such help.

Failure to submit your paper as an e-mail attachment to the instructor in this format will be considered as "not following the instructions" and the PAPER MAY NOT BE ACCEPTED AND YOU MAY RECEIVE A GRADE OF ZERO! If you send your submission in an iOS format, I will not be able to open it. SPC supplies us with Windows software so I can only print those submissions in a Windows format. If I cannot open and print your submission, I cannot read it, and grade

I will always send you a confirmation email stating I have received and printed your submission. Since I travel between campuses and my opportunities to print student submissions is limited to my office, I may not send you the confirmation email within twenty-four hours of your submission. However, I will always send confirmation within seventy-two hours. If you do not receive this confirmation email, I have not received and printed your submission.

I. Expectations/Responsibilities:

This syllabus provides you with my expectations of you and what is required for successful completion of this course. You are expected to read the syllabus and be familiar with its contents. You are responsible for all material covered in class. I am willing to make myself available to help any student that requests help. It is my goal for every student to take some useful knowledge away at the end of this course. Although not everyone will work with children, teens, and adults as professionals, we are all humans on the same small and irreplaceable planet and we are all responsible for learning more about each other. To that end, I will go to all reasonable means to help any student in any way I can. Please do not wait too long to ask for assistance. If you do, I will be unable to help.

J. The "Whoopsie!": I have incorporated a new option in all my syllabi for all of my classes. The "Whoopsie!" Each student is allotted one "Whoopsie!" per semester. The "Whoopsie!" allows a student to make up an online exam that they may have missed, without penalty. My exams are on Blackboard and open for twenty-four hours. If a student missed this window of opportunity, they may contact me and use their "Whoopsie!" I will then reopen the exam, only for twenty-four hours, and the student may then make it up. There are written assignments, with due dates, on the schedule. These written assignments are due via email attachment to my SPC email (rherbert@southplainscollege.edu) by 11:59 pm on the day scheduled. If a student misses that window of opportunity, and has not previously used their one "Whoopsie!", they may turn in that written assignment up to two weeks late, with no penalty. No student is allowed more than the one, singleuse, "Whoopsie!" per semester. The "Whoopsie!" MAY NOT BE USED TO REOPEN DISCUSSION BOARD FORUMS! I have tried to make the Forum Prompts tie into the course material being covered during that particular week. The Forums will only be open, from 12:00 am on Sunday until 11:59 pm on Friday, of the week in question. I have been the recipient of "second chances". Because of these "second chances" my current life is drastically different then my earlier life was. The "Whoopsie!" is one way I try to "pass on the second chances to others". I feel that "good Karma" requires one to "pay forward" the good things one has been given by the Universe. Please do not try to abuse the "Whoopsie!" I think most students will not but invariably someone will. This is the first semester for this option so how you respond to this will influence my decision to allow future students to use the "Whoopsie!"

Course Schedule

<u>Date</u> Monday	<u>Topic</u>	Reading
January 13 (1)	introduction	none
Wednesday January 15 (2)	Unit One : Psychology as Science Why Science	chapter 1
Monday January 20	DR MARTIN LUTHER KING JR, HOLIDAY	
Wednesday January 22 (3)	Research Designs	chapter 3
Monday January 27 (4)	History of Psychology	chapter 7

Wednesday January 29 (5)	Unit Two : Biological Basis of Behavior Brain & Nervous System	chapter 12
January 29 (3)	Diam & Nervous System	chapter 12
Monday February 3 (6)	Evolutionary Theories	chapter 15
Wednesday February 5 (7)	Unit Three : Sensation & Perception Sensation & Perception	chapter 20
Monday February 10 (8)	Eyewitness & Memory Biases	chapter 29
Wednesday February 12 (9)	EXAM I	all above
Monday February 17 (10)	Unit Four : Consciousness & Language States of Consciousness	chapter 39
Wednesday February 19 (11)	Intelligence	chapter 43
Monday February 24 (12)	Language Use	chapter 45
Wednesday February 26 (13)	Unit Five : Learning & Memory conditioning	chapter 48
Monday March 3 (14)	Memory	chapter 49
Wednesday March 5 (15)	PSYC RESEARCH PAPER DUE Social Cognition & Attitudes	chapter 54
Monday March 10 (16)	Unit Six: Social Psychology Social Comparison	chapter 57
Wednesday March 12 (17)	Conformity & Obedience	chapter 59
Monday March 17	SPRING BREAK	
Wednesday March 19	SPRING BREAK	
Monday March 24 (18)	Conformity & Obedience	chapter 59
Wednesday March 26 (19)	EXAM II	all above
Monday March 31 (20)	Unit Seven: Personality Personality Traits	chapter 72

Wednesday April 2 (21)	MILGRAM PAPER DUE Personality Assessment	chapter 76
Monday April 7 (22)	Unit Eight : Emotions Functions of Emotions	chapter 82
Wednesday April 9 (23)	Emotional Intelligence	chapter 84
Monday April 14 (24)	Unit Nine : Disorders History of Mental Illness	chapter 89
Wednesday April 16 (25)	Schizophrenia Spectrum	chapter 91
Monday April 21 (26)	Anxiety Disorders	chapter 92
Wednesday April 23 (27)	Mood Disorders	chapter 93
Monday April 28 (28)	Disorders	chapter 93
Wednesday April 30 (29)	Disorders	chapter 93
	MAY 5 TH -6 TH – FINAL EXAM (Exam III)	