

Department:

Psychology

Course Description:

This general survey course provides a broad background in the principles and applications of scientific psychology. The course will focus on the principles and proponents of psychological theories and methods of scientific inquiry, as well as the biological basis of behavior, including physiology of the brain and nervous system and the accompanying sensory systems and perceptual processes. The course also covers learning theories and cognitive processes, theories and applications of motivation and emotion, the major phases of human life span development, and the major theories of personality, including disorders, treatments, therapies and how human interaction is influenced by the individual, group, and environment.

Course Competencies:

The learning outcomes and competencies detailed in this syllabus meet or exceed the learning outcomes and competencies specified by the Kansas Core Outcomes Groups for this course as approved by the Kansas Board of Regents. (Kansas Regents Shared Number Course and Title: **KRSN Course PSY 1010 Introduction to Psychology.**)

Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Identify historical foundations and current trends in psychology.
2. Distinguish methods of research in psychology.
3. Identify the biological basis of behavior including physiology of the brain.
4. Distinguish principles and theories of learning and cognition.
5. Recognize theories and applications of motivation and emotion.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of human life span development.
7. Identify the major theories of personality.
8. Recognize categories of psychological disorders and treatments.
9. Recognize the major theories and findings in social psychology.

Course Content:

- A. Introduction
- B. Psychology's Scientific Method
- C. Biological Foundations of Behavior
- D. Sensation and Perception
- E. States of Consciousness
- F. Learning
- G. Memory
- H. Thinking, Intelligence, and Language
- I. Human Development

- J. Motivation and Emotion
- K. Gender, Sex, and Sexuality
- L. Personality
- M. Social Psychology
- N. Industrial and Organizational Psychology
- O. Psychological Disorders
- P. Therapies
- Q. Health Psychology

Learning Assessments:

Competencies may be evaluated by multiple measures, including exams, papers, article reviews, research, experiments, and projects.

Instructional Materials:

Textbook: Gray, K., Arnott-Hill, E., & Benson, O. (2020). *Introduction to Psychology*. Pressbooks. October 1, 2025, <https://cod.pressbooks.pub/introductiontopsychology/front-matter/introduction/>

Guidelines for Requesting Accommodations Based on Documented Disability or Medical Condition

It is the intention of Highland Community College to work toward full compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, to make instructional programs accessible to all people, and to provide reasonable accommodations according to the law.

Students should understand that it is their responsibility to self-identify their need(s) for accommodation and that they must provide current, comprehensive diagnosis of a specific disability or medical condition from a qualified professional in order to receive services. Documentation must include specific recommendations for accommodation(s). Documentation should be provided in a timely manner prior to or early in the semester so that the requested accommodation can be considered and, if warranted, arranged.

In order to begin the process all students **must** complete the “Disabilities Self-Identification Form” on our [Disability Services website](#).

This form can also be accessed at the Highland Community College homepage under Students Services/Student Resources/Disability Service or by contacting the Disabilities Coordinator.

A Note on Harassment, Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct

Highland Community College seeks to assure all community members learn and work in a welcoming and inclusive environment. Title VII, Title IX, and College policy prohibit harassment, discrimination and sexual misconduct. Highland Community College encourages anyone experiencing harassment, discrimination or sexual misconduct to talk to report to the Vice President for Student Services, the Human Resources Director or complete an [online report](#) about what happened so that they can get the support they need and Highland Community College can respond appropriately.

There are both confidential and non-confidential resources and reporting options available to you. Highland Community College is legally obligated to respond to reports of sexual misconduct, and therefore we cannot guarantee the confidentiality of a report, unless made to a confidential resource. Responses may vary from support services to formal investigations. As a faculty member, I am required to report incidents of sexual misconduct and thus cannot guarantee confidentiality. I must provide our Title IX coordinator with relevant details such as the names of those involved in the incident. For more information about policies and resources or reporting options, please review our [Equity Grievance Policy](#).