PSY 201: General Psychology | Syllabus | Fall 2023

## **Instructor Information and Availability**

**Instructor name**: Monica J. McKirdy, M.S.

**E-mail address:** [mckirdm@linnbenton.edu](mailto:mckirdm@linnbenton.edu)

**Office hours: Mondays**, 8am to 10am. (Or email anytime!)

**Office number:** IA 216

### Course Information

Course name: General Psychology

Section number: PSY 201

CRN: 20981

Scheduled time/days: ONLINE

Number of credits: 4

Classroom(s): Located in Moodle!

### Course Materials

**Required:**

Myers, D., DeWall, N. (2023). *Psychology in Everyday Life. Sixth Edition.* Worth Publishers, New York.

* Reading and chapter quizzes will be done through the Achieve Read and Practice website (<https://achieve.macmillanlearning.com/courses/b5fqbg/mycourse>).
* The ISBN is 978-1-219-44718-2

**Free copy of Microsoft 365 if you want it**:

<https://libhelp.linnbenton.edu/subjects/guide.php?subject=shd#tab-3>

### Course Description

Discusses biological and scientific aspects of psychology including history, methodology, biological foundations of behavior, human development, sensation, perception, learning, memory, language and problem-solving. Recommended: Placement at or above the ALS 115 Advanced College Reading and Learning Strategies and WR 115 Introduction to College Writing levels are highly recommended for success in this course.

### Course Communication

You will be receiving an email from your instructor on Monday morning of each week. This email will outline what you can expect in the course that week. Emails may come to you from your instructor at other times during the week as well. **It is imperative that you check your LBCC email every day or you will miss important information.**

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### Statewide General Education (AAOT) Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the Social Science course, students should be able to:

* Apply analytical skills to social phenomena in order to understand human behavior.
* Apply knowledge of experience to foster personal growth and better appreciate the diverse social world in which we live.

In addition, this course includes Cultural Literacy (DPR) content. Pursuant to that, students should be

able to:

* Identify and analyze complex practices, values, and beliefs and the culturally and historically defined meanings of difference.

### Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion the student will be able to:

* Demonstrate knowledge of scientific methodology.
* Demonstrate knowledge of basic nervous system anatomy and function.
* Explain the role of heredity, evolution, culture and environment in human behavior and development.
* Explain the process of physical, cognitive, and social change over the human lifespan.
* Explain the role of biology, culture, and environment on perception, learning, memory, reasoning, problem solving and language.

# **Class Policies**

### Behavior and Expectations

You are held accountable to the [Student Code of Conduct](https://www.linnbenton.edu/about-lbcc/administration/policies/student-rights-responsibilities-and-conduct.php), which outlines expectations pertaining to academic honesty (including cheating and plagiarism), classroom conduct, and general conduct.

### Guidelines for communication

Send email correspondence to your instructor directly at [mckirdm@linnbenton.edu](mailto:mckirdm@linnbenton.edu). You may also use the chat feature built into Moodle, but a direct email will get you a faster response. **Because I teach more than one course, it is very handy if you include which course you are referring to when you email me.** I am very prompt at responding to emails.

**Expect weekly emails each Monday morning** that introduce you to the week’s topic and tell you what’s due that week.

### Attendance

You will need to login to the Moodle classroom several times per week to meet weekly due dates for discussion forums and assignments. See the weekly due dates below.

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### How This Class is Structured

Our course has a Moodle classroom. Our reading and quizzes are tackled through an interactive website called Achieve and Practice. There is a link in our Moodle classroom to take you straight to the assigned book sections.

As a general rule, college guidelines suggest that for every credit per course, you should expect 3 hours of time studying and doing homework for that course. Because ours is a 4-credit course, **students should expect to spend no more than 12 hours per week** working on this course and its materials.

Plan to tackle the weekly activities in the following order:

1. Read the assigned LearningCurve book sections on the Achieve website as soon as the week becomes available. This should be the *first* thing you do each week, and it will ensure that you can post a thoughtful and thorough discussion post. I *recommend* you complete the reading by Tuesday night.
2. Head into the discussion board when you complete the reading and get your first post done by Wednesday night. (This is a due date, not a recommendation!)
3. At any time after you’ve read all of the assigned sections, go back into the LearningCurve activities and click “Begin Activity” on the website. This is where you will earn the points for the assignments. You have the option of clicking to read the section again if you don’t know an answer to a question. These are due by Thursday night.
4. Head back into the discussion board and respond to two classmates by Friday night.
5. Your blog posts are due by Sunday night of each week.

### Assignments and Assessments

* ***Achieve, Read and Practice Website****:* Reading and chapter quizzes will be completed through the achieve Read, and Practice website. You will accumulate points through your reading and quizzes on this site. Each of the LearningCurve activities is worth 10 points, and the grade will transfer automatically to the Moodle grade book. There are 17 total LearningCurve activities, and these are worth a total of 170 points toward your final grade. **The assigned activities in *Achieve* are due by Thursday of each week.**
* **Weekly online discussion** posts are *required*. A discussion question will be provided. You must post one answer to the question that is at least 200 words and uses a scholarly source as a way to back up or support your answer. All references, whether the course text or otherwise, must be listed at the end of this post. This first post is due no later than Wednesday at Moodle midnight (11:59 pm). **These original posts are worth 6 points.**
  + **You also must respond to at least two of your classmates’ posts.** These responses do not need to have citations and just need to be a paragraph or so. Quality response posts are those that further the discussion by presenting opposite viewpoints, adding to the viewpoint presented, or asking thoughtful questions. Your response posts must be posted by Friday at Moodle midnight (11:59 pm). These response posts are worth 2 points each. **Online discussion is worth a total of 100 points (10 total discussion points per week for 10 weeks).**
* **Self-Reflection blog assignment**: Through the course, you will work on a Self-Reflection Blog assignment. [Please see the instructions here.](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1lh_ZY0OBCSmnnRFtcSwD45xYYr9i0qxFkmuXsmsFcpI/edit?usp=sharing) You will write a blog each week for weeks 1 through 9, each worth 10 points. These are due by Sunday night of each week. For week 10 you will compile all of your blog entries into one document, with one final reflection written at the end. This final reflection is worth 30 points. **This entire assignment is worth 120 points toward your final grade.**
* **Research Consumer Project**: Over the term you will explore and analyze consumer behavior in a research paper; see details here. This research paper is due by the end of Week 8. **This is worth 100 points toward your final grade.**
* **Exams:** There will be two exams worth 50 points each. These exams are open-note and take place in Moodle. One is during week 6; the other is during finals week.
* **Extra Credit:** Students can earn up to 2 points of extra credit each week by commenting on their classmates’ blog posts. See the Self-Reflection Blog Assignment Instructions for more details. Students can earn a maximum of 18 extra credit points. *These points will be self-reported in your final Self-Reflection Blog assignment submission.* See instructions for details.

**Grading Points Summary**:

Achieve Reading & Quizzes 170 points

Self-Reflection Blog Assignment 120 points

Discussion Forums (10) 100 points

Research Consumer Project 100 points

Exam 1 50 points

Exam 2 50 points

590 possible points

**Final Grades:**

Grades will be figured on a straight percentage based on the total number of points possible. I encourage you to check in with me about your progress throughout the term to maximize your success and minimize any surprises.

A= **90.0-100%**

B= 80-89%

C= 70-79%

D= 60-69%

F= 59% or below

# **College Policies**

## **LBCC Email and Course Communications**

You are responsible for all communications sent via Moodle and to your LBCC email account. You are required to use your LBCC provided email account for all email communications at the College. You may access your LBCC student email account through Student Email and your Moodle account through Moodle.

**Disability and Access Statement**

LBCC is committed to inclusiveness and equal access to higher education. If you have approved accommodations through the Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR) and would like to use your accommodations in the class, please talk to your instructor as soon as possible to discuss your needs. If you believe you may need accommodations but are not yet registered with CFAR, please visit the [**CFAR Website**](https://www.linnbenton.edu/cfar) for steps on how to apply for services or call (541) 917-4789.

## **Statement of Inclusion**

To promote academic excellence and learning environments that encourage multiple perspectives and the free exchange of ideas, all courses at LBCC will provide students the opportunity to interact with values, opinions, and/or beliefs different than their own in safe, positive and nurturing learning environments. LBCC is committed to producing culturally literate individuals capable of interacting, collaborating and problem-solving in an ever-changing community and diverse workforce.

## **Title IX Reporting Policy**

If you or another student are the victim of any form of sexual misconduct (including dating/domestic violence, stalking, sexual harassment), or any form of gender discrimination, LBCC can assist you. You can [report](https://linnbenton-advocate.symplicity.com/public_report/index.php/pid073717?) a violation of our sexual misconduct policy directly to our Title IX Coordinator. You may also report the issue to a faculty member, who is required to notify the Coordinator, or you may make an appointment to speak confidentially to our Advising and Career Center by calling 541-917-4780.

**Public Safety/Campus Security/Emergency Resources:**

In an emergency, call 911. Also, call LBCC Campus Security/Public Safety at 541-926-6855 and 541-917-4440.

From any LBCC phone, you may alternatively dial extension 411 or 4440. LBCC has a public safety app available for free. We encourage people to download it to their cell phones. Public Safety also is the home for LBCC's Lost & Found. They provide escorts for safety when needed. Visit them to learn more.

# **Changes to the Syllabus**

I reserve the right to change the contents of this syllabus due to unforeseen circumstances. You will be given notice of relevant changes in class, through a Moodle Announcement, or through LBCC e-mail.

**Class Calendar**

| **Week 1** | Instructor bio & Syllabus video  LearningCurve 1a  LearningCurve 1b | * Discussion post due Wednesday * 2 Achieve lessons due Thursday * Responses to peers due Friday * Blog #1 due Sunday night |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Week 2** | LearningCurve 2a  LearningCurve 2b | * Discussion post due Wednesday * 2 Achieve lessons due Thursday * Responses to peers due Friday * Blog #2 due Sunday night |
| **Week 3** | LearningCurve 2c  LearningCurve 3a | * Discussion post due Wednesday * 2 Achieve lessons due Thursday * Responses to peers due Friday * Blog #3 due Sunday night |
| **Week 4** | LearningCurve 3b  LearningCurve 3c | * Discussion post due Wednesday * 2 Achieve lessons due Thursday * Responses to peers due Friday * Blog #4 due Sunday night |
| **Week 5** | LearningCurve 4a  LearningCurve 4b | * Discussion post due Wednesday * 2 Achieve lessons due Thursday * Responses to peers due Friday * Blog #5 due Sunday night |
| **Week 6** | **Exam 1 is located in Achieve.** It covers chapters 1 through 4. | * Discussion post due Wednesday * Responses to peers due Friday * **Exam 1 due Friday night** * Blog #6 due Sunday night |
| **Week 7** | LearningCurve 5a  LearningCurve 5b | * Discussion post due Wednesday * 2 Achieve lessons due Thursday * Responses to peers due Friday * Blog #7 due Sunday night |
| **Week 8** | LearningCurve 6a  LearningCurve 6b | * Discussion post due Wednesday * 2 Achieve lessons due Thursday * Responses to peers due Friday * Blog #8 due Sunday night * **Consumer Research Paper due Sunday night** |
| **Week 9** | LearningCurve 7a  LearningCurve 7b | * Discussion post due Wednesday * 2 Achieve lessons due Thursday * Responses to peers due Friday * Blog #9 due Sunday night |
| **Week 10** | LearningCurve 8a | * Discussion post due Wednesday * 1 Achieve lesson due Thursday * Responses to peers due Friday * **Self-Reflection Blog Assignment final compilation due by Sunday night.** |
| **Week 11: Exam 2** | **Exam 2 is located in Achieve.** It covers chapters 5 through 8 only. | **Exam must be completed by 11:59 pm on Wednesday of this week.** |