

NorthWest Arkansas Community College
Division of Social and Behavioral
Sciences, Education and Wellness,
Legal and Protective Services

PSYC 2003 (General Psychology)

Catalog Description:

An investigation into basic principles and theories of behavior in the areas of learning, memory, perception, development, biological basis of behavior, motivation and emotion, personality, stress, abnormal behavior, and social and interpersonal relationships.

Prerequisites:

None.

Credit Hours/Contact

Hours/Load hours: 3/3/3

Target Audience:

General Psychology is a course designed to serve as an introduction to the field of psychology, highlighting its breadth and diversity. It is a transferable course within the Arkansas State transfer system, and will transfer to most colleges and universities as the basic introduction to psychology course.

Learning Outcomes:

Theory and Content of Psychology

- Explain why psychology is a science and describe the different research methods used by psychologists
- Demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in psychology

Application of Psychology

- Apply psychological theories and principles to everyday life and contexts

Critical Thinking Skills in Psychology

- Respect and use critical thinking, skeptical inquiry, and the scientific approach to solve problems related to behavior and mental processes
- Identify and evaluate the source, context, and credibility of information and distinguish between research designs that permit causal inferences from those that do not.

Topics:

This course begins with the history of psychology as a science and an overview of commonly used research methods.

Various topics under the following content areas are covered:

- History of Psychology and Research Methods
- Theories of Personality
- Life Span Development
- Biological Basis of Behavior
- Consciousness
- Sensation and Perception
- Thinking and Intelligence
- Memory
- Learning
- Social and Cultural Influences on Behavior
- Psychological Disorders and Treatment
- Emotion, Stress, and Health
- Motivation

These topics are presented with a special emphasis on critical thinking skills.