Core Component 1: Foundational Areas of Knowledge

Community and Identity

**Description:** Students will gain a greater understanding of themselves and the communities in which they live and work, and how identity is formed through the interaction of the individual and larger society.

**Learning Outcomes** - Students will work to:

- explore dimensions of human experience with regard to perceptions of self
- understand how individuals interact to form communities and social structures
- analyze the practical and ethical implications of interactions between individuals and those social structures

**Text:** Feldman, R.S., *Essentials of Understanding Psychology*, (10th Ed)  
McGraw/Hill, New York, NY  
ISBN-10: 0078035252  

**Course Description:**

An introduction to the systematic study of human cognition, emotion, and behavior with an emphasis on the scientific method. Fundamentals of behavior, learning, conditioning, development, cognitive processes, perception, emotion, personality, and psychopathology are among the content areas studied. Particular emphasis is placed on the use of the scientific method for the study of human nature. Students successfully completing the course will demonstrate a general understanding of the knowledge established in these areas, as well as the methods used by psychologists to acquire that knowledge.

**Learning Objectives**

At the conclusion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Describe dimensions of the human experience from a psychological and neurological lens
2. Critically examine research findings linking dimensions of the human experience to the field of psychology.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of concepts of psychology through a research-based presentation.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of general terms and concepts of the discipline of psychology through

Learning Strategies:

1. Students will complete all course readings, including the textbook and additional readings from current research as assigned;
2. Students will develop a 10 – 15 minute presentation about an issue connecting the human dimension to the field of psychology. Students will use the textbook and additional information from research for the presentation.
3. Students will complete homework assignments. Homework assignments are due before the start of the class. Homework will not be accepted after class has started.

Attendance

Because of the intensive nature of Doane-Lincoln classes, attendance is critical. Students are also expected to participate in discussions. There is no way to make up for a missed class, so no make-up work is offered. Students are graded on attendance and participation each week.

Technology Policy

To enhance and facilitate student learning, the use of cell phones and laptop computers is not allowed during class time. Students who use their cell phone during class time will lose their attendance and participation points for that class meeting.

Evaluation:

Students will be evaluated on:

- Attendance/Homework 25%
- Presentation 25%
- Midterm Examination 25%
- Final Examination 25%

Course Format:

This will be an interactive course that includes an elevated level of classroom participation, including lecture and instruction, learning guides, work sheets, videos, and case studies.

Course Assignments:

All students are required to complete course assignments including readings from the text, discussion exercises, and homework.
Grading Scale:

100 – 97 = A+
96 – 94 = A
93 – 90 = A-
89 – 87 = B+
86 – 84 = B
83 – 80 = B-
79 – 77 = C+
76 – 74 = C
73 – 70 = C-
69 – 67 = D+
66 – 64 = D
63 – 60 = D-

Academic Integrity Policy

The Doane College Academic Policy is adhered to in this class. All projects will represent your own work. Any use of others’ ideas and words without proper citation of sources is plagiarism and will result in penalties determined by the instructor and/or the dean of undergraduate studies.