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

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.

PSY 117 is required for Human Relations majors and fulfills a co-requisite for Health Sciences and RN-BSN majors. It also fulfills the Doane Plan Psychology/Sociology requirement and the Undergraduate Core Community & Identity requirement.

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

Learning Objectives:
At the conclusion of the course, students will be able to:
1. Demonstrate an understanding of general terms and concepts of the discipline of psychology.
2. Describe dimensions of the human experience from a psychological and neurological lens.
3. Critically examine research findings linking dimensions of the human experience to the field of psychology.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of concepts of psychology through a research-based presentation/paper.
**Learning Strategies:**

1. Students will complete all course readings, including the textbook and additional readings from current research as assigned, and be able to discuss the material;
2. Videos, articles and additional materials will be provided via Blackboard and your Doane email account.
3. Students will complete homework assignments and quizzes.
4. Students will develop research paper (5-15 pages) on an issue connecting the human dimension to the field of psychology. Students will use the textbook and additional information from research for the presentation.

**Course Format:**

This class is online and will include readings, videos, discussion boards, quizzes/exams and writing exercises to engage students to gain a foundation in Psychology.

**Attendance:**

This is an online class with no regular class meetings. Students must respond to an email from the instructor during the first week of the term. If not, student(s) will be dropped from the course. Because of the intensive nature of Doane’s 8-week classes, attendance/checking your email is critical. Students are also expected to participate in discussions. Students are graded on items being turned in each week. If there is going to be an absence the student is expected to contact the instructor prior to the absence and complete the required quizzes, exams, assignments, papers and presentation earlier than the due date.

**Technology Policy:**

You MUST have access to the following:

1. A computer equipped with Microsoft Word or access to Google Docs through your Doane email account.
2. An internet connection (since much of the class involves visiting graphics-intensive websites, a fairly fast connection (e.g. DSL, cable, etc.) rather than dial-up is recommended). Internet access is available at all Doane campuses. Check each campus for hours.
3. Computer must have camera. Presentation will be done via Skype, Zoom, or Google Hangout.
4. Capability to view videos.
5. A Doane email account

Much of the course work and discussion will be performed via blackboard and emails between you and me. As per Doane policy, I can ONLY accept work submitted for a grade from your Doane email account. So, please make sure your Doane email account is activated and functioning before beginning this class. In addition, common course resources (course documents, PowerPoint presentations, some assignments, etc.) will be posted on Doane’s Blackboard website. If you are not familiar with using Blackboard, contact the instructor to set-up an meeting to review the site.

**Course Expectations:**

As this class is conducted online, students are responsible for monitoring the class Blackboard site for updates and information, along with their Doane email accounts. I encourage your questions and input as the class progresses to help make it an effective and interesting learning experience for everyone. Your effort and ability to incorporate the information are important elements in your grade.
**Evaluation:**

Students will be evaluated on:

- Discussion Boards  (may or may not be incorporated as homework)
- Homework/Quizzes
- Exams (2)
- Research Paper (1) and Presentation (1)

**Late Work Policy:**
Assignments are due by the specified date and time. Student work received within 48 hours after the assigned time will receive half-credit. After that, late work will not be accepted.

**Grading Scale:**

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**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.