

PSY 101: Introduction to Psychology (ONLINE)  
Mercer County Community College

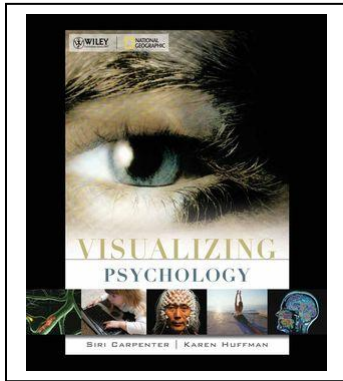
Professor Heather Jennings

Email: [jenningsh@mccc.edu](mailto:jenningsh@mccc.edu)

Phone: 609-586-4800 ext.3450

Office: LA 129

Course Textbook: Visualizing Psychology/Carpenter & Huffman/2008



Welcome to Introduction to Psychology!

This class will serve as an introduction to the basic principles of psychology. For many of you, this may be the only course you take in psychology in order to satisfy your general education requirements or as a general elective. However, some of you will decide to pursue further coursework in psychology by electing psychology as a major. A portion of you might even pursue graduate work in psychology down the road. Whatever your motivation was for signing up for this course, I sincerely hope this will be a

wonderful experience for you, as you are introduced to the fascinating, controversial, and always intriguing, world of psychology.

This course is just like a traditional face-to-face course and will move at a fast pace. It is crucial that you stay focused on the course material and dedicate the same amount of time to this course as you would to a classroom-based course. Many students do not realize the amount of work that is required for this course. I want to just put it out there that online learning is not for everybody. It is a difficult transition for many students. Unlike a traditional classroom course, I will not meet with you weekly and keep you on track. **This will be your sole responsibility.** I will send out email reminders and updates throughout the course, but this cannot substitute for your own initiative and motivation

You will be required to produce work in this class. This is not an “easy A course”- the grading and assessment will be identical to what I expect from my classroom courses. If you are having trouble adapting to this learning environment, please contact me early so I can help you as much as possible.

So what is the upside to taking this course online?

Taking this course online will allow you to learn about psychology from your home! All the modes of assessment and grading for this course can be done at your home, or anywhere you have computer access. This class will also allow you to learn on your own schedule (as much as possible) and give you more flexibility. We may never meet but we

will still be in contact quite often, and I am available to you much more than a traditional course.

Feel free to contact me at any time (day or night) with questions or concerns. Emails are the preferred method of contact, but **PLEASE remember that just because you are online does not mean I am.** I will get back to you within 24-48 hours. If you do not hear back, please email me again in case I did not receive the original message.

### **Communication is KEY:**

During this short semester it is absolutely crucial that you effectively communicate your needs with me. Email will be the most common form of communication, so let's all be on the same page.

- When you send me an email pretend you are talking to me in person. In any face-to-face meeting, you would say hello and goodbye...and most likely tell me your name. It would be strange for you to just walk in and start talking and then abruptly leave the room! This should apply when writing an email. Please do not send me emails with a short paragraph without a hello or good bye...it's just plain rude!
- Also, since written communication is the basis of this class, be conscious of your grammar and spelling. I will do as much as I can to help each student, but if I can't figure out what you're trying to say then the help you receive is limited.
- There may be times when you feel frustrated, but please keep in mind that I am your Professor (just like in a classroom) and respectful dialogue is required at ALL TIMES. Many online students lose sight of this because we will not meet in person. I compare this phenomenon to "telephone tough-guys." Don't be that student. Respect is required towards your classmates and me at all times during this class.
- Use good netiquette- please use lowercased letters where applicable. If you don't already know, typing an email or discussion posting in all capital letter is the same as YELLING at the person you are writing!

### **Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct**

Plagiarism or cheating on any assignment is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense. Academic dishonesty (plagiarism, cheating, etc.) will not be tolerated and will be handled according to MCCC policy.

**Attendance and Conduct** As college students you choose to be here. You have elected to register for this course and YOU will determine your overall experience in this class. Although this class does not meet face-to-face, you are still required to attend...online that is. You should be logging into the course at least twice per week, as well as devoting additional time to your course reading. Participation is monitored through your activity on the discussion board...just because you don't come to campus, doesn't mean you cannot interact with your classmates.

Without question, students who are more engaged in class perform better than those who are not. If you rarely log into the course or participate on the discussion board, it should lead you to ask the question, “Why did I register for this course?” You will not hurt my feelings if this class is not for you, but please don’t just disappear- drop the class as soon as you realize you don’t want to be here. If you choose to not return without officially dropping the course, you will receive an “F” on your transcript.

### **Course Content:**

Learning modules will be available throughout the course, which will contain material selected from your textbook. You must read the appropriate material and you may access additional resources for each learning module under the “Lesson” section of the site. Take some extra time to acclimate yourself to the layout of the course and the materials available to you on the Angel course page.

### **Online Module Exams:**

#### **Exams**

Each student will be required to take online exams for each learning module. Grades will be based on eight 25 question multiple-choice exams. Students can access the online exams through the icon labeled “Exams” which appears on the homepage as well as the course menu.

The exams will be available accessible ONLY during the time the module is active. All due dates appear on the course calendar and on the course schedule. Once the exam deadline has past, students will not have access to the exam for the remainder of the course. Please make sure you complete the exam on time as NO make-up exams will be given.

#### **Mid-term and Final exams**

The remainder of your grade will be based on a mid-term and final exam. These exams will also be available ONLINE. The **mid-term exam** will cover ALL information from Modules 1-4. The final exam will be cumulative and cover all the information from the semester, modules 1-8.

Both exams will consist of 50 multiple choice questions and you will have 90 minutes to complete the exam. Any questions submitted after 90 minutes will not receive credit. Please read the instruction page, which will appear before you enter the exam. This will provide you with all the information related to the exam and submission. Once you begin the exam you CANNOT stop. Each student will only be allowed to take the exam one time, so do not enter the exam until you are ready to take it!

### Course Grading is as follows:

Your final grade for this class will be calculated on a point system. Your grade will be based on exam totals for a total of 300 possible points for the course. Each exam question will contribute 1 point towards your final grade. Use the space below to keep track of your cumulative points from the exams and extra credit.

<u>Exam Points</u>		<u>Extra Credit Points</u>	
Module 1 Exam	/25 points	Discussion board 1	/3 points
Module 2 Exam	/25 points	Discussion board 2	/3 points
Module 3 Exam	/25 points	Discussion board 3	/3 points
Module 4 Exam	/25 points	Discussion board 4	/3 points
Module 5 Exam	/25 points	Discussion board 5	/3 points
Module 6 Exam	/25 points	Discussion board 6	/3 points
Total Exam Points		Total Points	

How to Calculate your Final Grade	
Total Exam Points	/200 points
Total Mid-term Points	/50 points
Total Final Exam Points	/50 points
Total Extra Credit Discussion Board Points	/24points
TOTAL EARNED POINTS	/300 points

The final grades can be computed as follows		
<u>Points</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
279 +	A	93%
270	A-	90%
261	B+	87%
249	B	83%
240	B-	80%
231	C+	77%
210	C	70%
180	D	60%
Below 180	F	

For students to succeed in this course you must be aware of all the content posted above. Stay on top of your reading and assignments. The grade you receive in this class is what YOU will have EARNED, not what I will give you. Grades are NOT negotiable.

I sincerely hope that you find this subject to be interesting and enjoy this psychology course. It is my goal for each of you to successfully learn in this class, as well as, think critically about issues related to Psychology. Please feel free to contact me at any time during the semester in class, during office hours, by phone or email with any questions.