



The mission of Concord University is to provide quality, liberal arts based education, to foster scholarly and creative activities and to serve the regional community (<http://www.concord.edu/academics/>).

## **Course Prefix, Number and Title: PSY 101, General Psychology**

**Course CRN # and Section 20375. Section 02**

**Semester Taught (including year): Spring 2019**

**Professor: Adriana M. Falco**

**Credit Hours: 3**

**Office Location: Administration A115**

**Prerequisites: None**

**Office Hours: MWF 11-12 pm**

**TR 2-3 pm**

**Course Time (if applicable): MWF 10:00-10:50 am**

**Email: [amfalco@concord.edu](mailto:amfalco@concord.edu)**

**Building and Room Number (if applicable): Administration 300**

**Phone: 304-384-5232**

**Office Fax: 304-384-8091**

**College/Department Website:**

**<http://www.concord.edu/social-sciences/>**

**Course Description/Rationale: Course Description/Rationale:** This course will provide an introductory survey to core concepts of the science of psychology. As this is an introductory course, numerous topics will be discussed, though the course discussion of each topic is not designed to be in-depth. Prime objectives are for students to begin to develop critical thinking and writing skills as they apply to the fields of psychology and other sciences.

**Course Management System** (Blackboard/Moodle or other systems): Blackboard

**Hardware/Software Needed:** N/A

**Text requirements:** Gerrig, Richard J. (2013). Psychology and Life (twentieth edition). Pearson Publishing Company.

## Concord University Educational Goal(s) #1 Skills

**National Standards** (if applicable): N/A

**Specific Learning Outcomes: #3** An ability to employ appropriate methods and technologies for conducting empirical and scholarly research, to interpret research findings, and to use insights gained from such research as a basis for informed decision making. (General Studies criteria)

**Course Requirements:** The main portion of points from the course will come from exams. There will be four semester exams and one cumulative final. The exams will be mainly multiple choice, though other question types such as short answer are possible. Test questions may be comprised of any material covered in lecture, the text, or any assigned reading.

In addition to exams, you will be expected to complete one paper. The assignment is a 4 page (typed, double spaced) article comparison on a legitimate news article versus a non-legitimate news source on a topic in psychology of your choosing. The goal of this assignment is to begin to become familiar with topics in psychology that interest you, compare and contrast how different sources of information approach psychological topics, and to gain skills in formal writing at a college level. Details will be provided in class or on Blackboard. Late papers will be penalized 5% off the total score for each day they are late, including weekends, until they are deemed unacceptable by the instructor. **PAPERS ARE TO BE SUBMITTED ON BLACKBOARD.**

The final category applies to “active learning” experiences. You will be required to take part in **four (4)** of the activity types below and write a 1-2 paragraph synopsis of what you did and how it applies to psychology. You may do one (1) additional activity for extra credit. All activities are due by the last day of class, in class, no exceptions. If an option is not on the list below, just check with Dr. Falco. Some options:

- Watch a TED talk that we haven't seen in class that is related to psychology (**you may only watch and report on one talk**)
- Take part in a research project
- Go to an event (such as a talk or a film or a play) on campus
- Volunteer work with a campus group
- Research a psychological phenomenon and discuss it in your paper (**you may only do this project once**)

**ACTIVITIES ARE ALSO TO BE TURNED IN ON BLACKBOARD!!**

Finally, please check your mycu.concord.edu email on a regular basis as I will communicate class changes or inclement weather assignments in this way.

### **Grading Policy and Scale, Make-up Policy, Late Work:**

Exam 1 (100 points) + Exam 2 (100 points) + Exam 3 (100 points) + Exam 4 (100 points) + Final (200 points) + Article Comparison (100 points) + Active Learning (4 assignments at 20 points each for total of 80) = 780 points

Grades will be assigned via the following breakdown:

- A: 702 and above points
- B: 624-701 points
- C: 507-623 points
- D: 429-506 points
- F: below 428 points

Make-up Policy: You may make up ONE semester exam regardless of reason missed (if you have a university approved excuse, contact me individually). **ALL MAKE-UPS WILL TAKE PLACE ON THE FINAL DAY OF CLASS, NO EXCEPTIONS.** There are no make-ups for final exams. If an exam needs to be canceled for inclement weather, it will take place on the next class period.

Late Work: Your article comparison will be accepted late but will be penalized 5% for each day late, including weekends. Activities will not be permitted to be accepted late under any circumstance.

### **Course Timeline (Schedule of Assignments/Assessments/Presentations)**

<b>Class(es)</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Chapter</b>
1/14	Syllabus/Intro	1
1/16-18	Research Methods	2
<b>1/21</b>	<b>NO CLASSES—MLK DAY</b>	
1/23-30	Evolutionary & Biological Psychology	3
2/1-6	Sensation and Perception	4
<b>2/8</b>	<b>Exam #1</b>	
2/11-20	Psychological Disorders	14 & 15
2/22-2/25	Consciousness	5
2/27-3/6	Learning	6
<b>3/8</b>	<b>Exam # 2</b>	
<b>3/11-15</b>	<b>NO CLASSES—SPRING BREAK</b>	
10/18-20	Motivation	11
<b>3/22</b>	<b>ARTICLE COMPARISON DUE</b>	
3/22-27	Emotion and Health	12
3/29-4/5	Lifespan Development	10

<b>4/8</b>	<b>Exam #3</b>	
4/10-15	Intelligence Testing and Assessment	9
4/17-4/24	Social Psychology	16
<b>4/26</b>	<b><u>ALL ACTIVITIES ARE DUE BY THIS DATE!!!</u></b>	
4/26	Catch-up/Review	
<b>4/29</b>	<b>Exam #4</b>	
5/1	Review	
<b>5/3</b>	<b>MAKE-UP EXAM DAY</b>	
<b>Friday, May 10th, 9:00-11:15 AM, Final Exam</b>		

### **Accessibility/Accommodations:**

Concord University is committed to responding to the needs of students with disabilities as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please inform your instructor at the beginning of the class semester if you have a disability and are requesting accommodations. It is your responsibility to self-disclose that you are requesting accommodations. The University and instructor will provide you with a reasonable accommodation. You should register with CU's Disability Services Office, located in the Athens campus Jerry and Jean Beasley Student Center, Bottom Floor, across from the Campus Post Office. The Disability Services Office phone is 304-384-6086 or you can email the Director, Nancy Ellison, at nellison@concord.edu for assistance.

### **Academic Dishonesty**

Academic dishonesty is morally unacceptable as well as destructive to the learning and teaching atmosphere. Academic dishonesty includes the giving or receiving of improper help on examinations or assignments, falsifying documents, and plagiarism (the act of stealing and using, as one's own, the ideas or the expression of the ideas of another). Such dishonesty can lead to a variety of penalties — including but not limited to failure of assignment, failure of course, loss of institutional privileges, or dismissal from the University. (See University Catalog Academic Policies and Procedures.)

### **Concord University Honor Code**

A Concord University Honor Code was approved by students, staff, faculty, administration, and the CU Board of Governors. The Code states:

*"As a member of the Concord University Community I will act with honesty and integrity in accordance with our fundamental principles and I will respect myself and others while challenging them to do the same."*

The Honor Code is intended to unite the Concord community behind a culture of honesty, integrity, and civility.

## **Class/Online Attendance Policy**

Regular class attendance is part of a student's academic obligation at Concord. Irregular attendance may affect academic performance adversely and is detrimental to the atmosphere of a class. (See University Catalog Academic Policies and Procedures.)

## **Emergency Alert System**

In an effort to increase safety and security on our campus, Concord University encourages everyone to register for instant text message alerts. Alerts will only be used for security and safety notices. All students, faculty, and staff are eligible to receive text message alerts on their cell phones or email alerts. Please contact the IT Help Desk for further assistance (304-384-5291).

## **Emergency Information**

Emergency/courtesy telephones are located at the main entrance of each residence hall and at various other locations on campus. Emergency telephones can be identified by the flashing blue light and will provide the user with a direct link to Public Safety at the press of a button. To report an on-campus emergency, call 304-384-5357 or 911. The Office of Public Safety is located on the bottom floor of the Rahall Technology Center. For further emergency information go to:  
<http://www.concord.edu/administration/office-public-safety>.

## **Inclement Weather Policy**

As a general policy, the University will remain in normal operations during adverse weather conditions. In the event of severe weather conditions, the following may occur:

### University Closure

No students or employees are to report.

### Classes Cancelled

Students do NOT report BUT employees are expected to report to work at their normal time.

### Operating on an Inclement Weather Delay

Under this schedule, all 8 a.m. classes will start at 10 a.m. Students and faculty will follow the Inclement Weather Schedule. (See <http://www.concord.edu/emergency-alerts> for Athens/Beckley Inclement Weather Schedules.)

*\*Announcements invoking the late schedule or other options referenced above are aired on area radio and television stations and are sent as text and email messages to those enrolled for this service.*

## **Student Conduct**

In classrooms, online, laboratories, and during any activities that are part of course requirements, students are expected to observe reasonable rules of conduct.

## **Sexual Harassment & Assault**

Federal law, Title IX, and Concord University policy prohibits discrimination, harassment, and violence based on sex and gender (including sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic/dating violence, stalking, sexual exploitation, and retaliation). If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can

receive confidential counseling support through the Concord University Counseling Center (304-384-5290). Alleged Violations can be reported non-confidentially to the Concord University Title IX Coordinator at 304-384-6327 or [titleix@concord.edu](mailto:titleix@concord.edu). Reports to Campus Security can be made at (304-384-5357). As an employee at Concord University, I am a mandatory reporter which means I must report any sexual misconduct I am made aware of. This includes verbal or written (such as in an assignment) disclosures of sexual harassment or sexual assault.

### **Technology Services**

Contact the CU Help Desk at extension 5291 from campus or 304-384-5291 off campus. You may also e-mail [cuhelpdesk@concord.edu](mailto:cuhelpdesk@concord.edu).

**Use of Technology in Classroom:** Laptops may be used in class in order to take notes ONLY. However, if this policy is deviated from, or if they become a distraction, the use of laptops will be revoked. Cellphones should never be used in class. Repeated or continued use of cell phones in class may result in you being asked to leave the classroom. The use of any laptop or cellphone during an exam will result in an automatic zero. Contact Dr. Falco with concerns about technology use.

### **Syllabus Disclaimer**

**"This syllabus is subject to change based on the needs of the class. Please check it regularly."**