



**Department of Psychology
College of Social Sciences, Arts, & Humanities
Florida A&M University**

**COURSE SYLLABUS
FALL 2023**

COURSE DETAILS

Course Number & Name:	PSY2012 – 014 Introduction to Psychology (3 Credit Hours)
Instructor:	Nkechinyelum Chioneso, PhD
Meeting Days & Time:	Tuesdays & Thursdays, 2:00 pm – 3:15 pm
Location:	Benjamin L. Perry Building, Room 208
Virtual Office Location:	Zoom Meeting ID: 407 749 1085 Link: https://famu.zoom.us/j/4077491085
Office Hours:	Tuesdays & Thursdays, 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Wednesdays, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm and by appointment
Email Address:	n.chioneso@famu.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Psychology 2012 is an introduction to the study of psychology as a science and the application of the scientific method in the understanding of behavior. This course examines basic research and theories in the field of psychology, including principles of learning, developmental and social psychology, and psychological measurement. Emphasis will be placed on such behavioral phenomena as cognition, development, emotions, motivation, personality, and psychopathology.

Lectures and assignments may be accessed through Canvas. Students registered for this course are automatically registered in Canvas. The official communication method is email which means students **MUST** have an active FAMU email address. Students are responsible for checking emails daily for current information that may be posted about the course. **The FAMU email address** associated with Canvas is the **ONLY** email address that will be used for correspondence.

COURSE GOALS

1. Students will be exposed to the general principles governing human behavior
2. Students will be introduced to the various areas within psychology
3. Students will be introduced to methods of scientific inquiry
4. Students will be introduced to the principles of learning
5. Students will be introduced to theories of motivation, emotion, and memory
6. Students will be exposed to the environmental and biological influences on behavior
7. Students will be exposed to psychological disorders and their treatment approaches

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Singleton, G., Robertson, J., & Robinson, J.C. (2012). *Core Concepts of General Psychology: Culture, Society, and Life*. Debuque, IA: Great River Technologies.

This is an **electronic textbook (eBook)**. Quizzes, PowerPoint slides, study guides, and interactive learning tasks are available on the eBook site. The highest grade possible **without** access to the eBook is a “D” grade.

You have **two (2) options** for gaining access to the eBook:

- 1) This eBook is a part of the **first-day access/Rattler pack program**. This means that each student will receive an access code to the eBook on the first day of classes from the bookstore.
- 2) If you opt out of the Rattler Pack program, purchase access to the eBook directly from the publisher at www.grlcontent.com
 - Click the “purchase access code now” option
 - Instructor name: Dr. Chioneso
 - Course section: 14

COURSE STRUCTURE & APPROACH

This in-person course provides an introduction to the study of psychology based on the scientific method. You are expected to attend classes with the exception of days when we may not meet (per the syllabus). All students are expected to participate in class discussions. Students are also encouraged to devote approximately three (3) hours per credit hour of outside time to this course.

The use of technology is imperative to succeed in the course. Please make sure that you have access to a computer and the internet, Canvas, and your FAMU email. All required course information will be posted on Canvas or communicated to you through email (as a secondary source). The course will also be web-assisted which means that PowerPoints and/or audio lectures to accompany the PowerPoint slides will be found on Canvas. Please check the Announcements, Course Documents, Discussion, Course Assignments, and Grades tabs on Canvas to maintain pace with the course. Online chapter quizzes and assigned chapter readings will be administered through the eBook site (GRTEP). Exams, written assignments, discussion blogs, and miscellaneous readings will be administered via Canvas.

ACADEMIC LEARNING COMPACT (ALC)

The learning competencies associated with the Department of Psychology’s ALC are as follows:

Specific Content Knowledge

1. Differentiate between major psychological approaches to the study of behavior and mental processes to include the socio-cultural, nature, and nurture influence
2. Differentiate between types of psychological research and describe their associated limitations and ethical issues
3. Apply knowledge of learning, personality and psychological theories to explain human behavior and development of psychological problems

4. Explain and trace the sequence of events from an external stimulus to its representation in the brain and behavior
5. Accurately classify psychological disorders based on symptom presentation
6. Apply knowledge of psychological treatments and how they are used in treatment of psychological disorders
 - Assessment methods – quizzes, written assignment, and examinations

Critical Thinking

3. Apply knowledge of learning, personality and psychological theories to explain human behavior and development of psychological problems
6. Apply knowledge of psychological treatments and how they are used in treatment of psychological disorders
 - Assessment methods – quizzes, written assignment, examinations

Cultural Competency

1. Differentiate between major psychological approaches to the study of behavior and mental processes to include the socio-cultural, nature and nurture influence
 - Assessment methods – quizzes, written assignment, examinations

Communication Skills

4. Explain and trace the sequence of events from an external stimulus to its representation in the brain and behavior
5. Accurately classify psychological disorders based on symptom presentation
 - Assessment method – quizzes, written assignment, and examinations

Ethical Values

2. Differentiate between types of psychological research and describe their associated limitations and ethical issues
 - Assessment methods – quizzes, written assignment, examinations

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- **Exams (6):** There will be six (6) exams. For Exams 1 – 5, the lowest exam grade will be dropped. The Final Exam is required; it is a cumulative exam that will cover all chapters. If the Final Exam is missed, students will be penalized. All exams will be posted on Canvas.
- **Quizzes (13):** Students will have access to 13 quizzes through their eBook website. Quizzes help students prepare for exams. Please note the chapter quiz due dates. Once it passes the due date, students will no longer have access to the chapter quizzes.

- **Village Class Presentation (1):** As a village, students are expected to prepare one (1) class oral presentation that covers an assigned chapter in the required course textbook. Please see Canvas for further details.
- **Village Peer Evaluations:** Students are expected to complete evaluations of each village member's contributions to the development of their village competencies and overall success. **Due date:** November 16, 2023 by 5:00 pm. Please see Canvas for further details.

EXAMS

Questions will be in multiple choice, multiple answer, and true/false format. There will be approximately 50 – 75 questions per exam. To avoid being kicked out of the online exams:

- Avoid using laptops
- Do not have other windows open
- Do not spend excessive time on any question

Depending upon the length of the exam, you will receive approximately 1 – 2 hours to complete the exam. **All exams will be online and accessed through Canvas.** If you are unfamiliar with Canvas, please visit the Instructional Technology Center in Coleman Library and register on one of their computers. If you need assistance with accessing Canvas documents, please contact Mr. Danny Malone at the Instructional Technology Center: (850) 599-3460.

QUALIFYING FOR A MAKE-UP EXAM

Students should bring a signed, excused absence form from their Dean's office (for the college of your major) in order to take a make-up examination. The make-up exam will be individually scheduled within one week of your return to class. **Make-up exams are not given early** (i.e., before the class exams are given). If an examination is missed and it is an unexcused absence, you will receive a grade of zero (0) for that exam. However, since you need to complete only four (4) of the five (5) exams, one missed exam will not jeopardize your grade—you can drop the exam. **Remember, you must have five (5) exam grades (including the final exam) to receive the maximum number of points allotted for exams.** An incomplete (I) is only assigned, if after conferring with me, it is determined that officially excused absences have resulted in your inability to complete course requirements.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

A grade of **-5 points per day** will be deducted for assignments submitted after the due date and time.

EXTRA CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES

There will be no extra credits.

WITHDRAWALS

Please follow the university withdrawal procedure if you decide not to continue in the course. Often students simply stop coming to class and fail to officially withdraw from the course. Consequently, they

receive zeros for the missed exams and receive a failing grade for the course. If you follow the official university procedures for withdrawing from a course, you can avoid this problem.

GRADING SYSTEM

Assignment	Details	Points
Exams (5)	The lowest of the five (5) exam grades will be dropped.	400
Quizzes (13)	Students have one (1) week to complete each quiz.	390
Final Exam	A required cumulative exam.	100
Village Class Presentation	As a village, students are expected to prepare one (1) class oral presentation that covers an assigned chapter in the required course textbook.	60
Village Peer Evaluations	Students are expected to evaluate each village member's contributions made throughout the semester to the development of your village's overall success.	20
Attendance & Activities	Students are expected to attend classes regularly, be on time, and participate in class activities.	10
Total Points		980

COURSE EVALUATION

- At the end of each semester, FAMU requests that students complete an online course evaluation for each course. Your feedback is anonymous (i.e., your names and student numbers are not linked to your responses). Your feedback helps instructors understand the strengths and needed areas of improvement in their courses.
- If 75% of students in this course complete the short online course evaluation, every student in the course **will receive +2 points at the end of the semester.**
- Please Note:** Grades will **not** be rounded up (e. g., 79.99% = C and 80.00% = B)

Final Grade Allocation	
Grade	Score
A	90 – 100%
B	80 – 89%
C	70 – 79%
D	60 – 69%
F	0 – 59%

COURSE POLICIES & EXPECTATIONS

Keep this syllabus, it is the contract between you and the instructor and will be adhered to closely. A copy is always available in Canvas under “Syllabus.” Please download it and follow the schedule as printed. You are expected to be prepared for exams and other responsibilities as outlined whether or not there are additional announcements made in class or via Canvas regarding these deadlines and responsibilities. Please remember that the syllabus is my plan for how the course will precede. Inevitably, things occur during the semester that are not under my control and that may require some deviation from the syllabus. In that case, I will attempt to inform you of the changes as they occur.

Classroom Behavior & Wearing Hats. Students are expected to behave in a courteous and respectful manner in class. Excessive and unnecessary talking and other disruptive behaviors (e.g., cell phone usage, texting, surfing the net, and coming and going during class) are not acceptable behaviors. Students who engage in these kinds of behaviors may be penalized and in extreme cases, asked to drop the course. Please do not wear hats in class.

Attendance. Students are expected to attend class regularly and to be on time. **Three (3) unexcused absences are permitted** in keeping with the university’s class attendance policy. Excessive absences may result in a reduction in the student’s final grade. Lateness will result in forfeiture of points (i.e., 50% deduction) for attendance for that class period. Early departures will also be penalized.

Cell Phones. The use of cellular phones for the purpose of talking or texting is prohibited in class. Please turn off cellular phones before entering the room. Do not answer your phone during class as it poses an annoyance and disrespects the rights of others. Computers may be used to view PowerPoint slides or lecture notes during class. Do not use cellular phones or computers for surfing the internet or other activities (checking emails, playing games, etc.). Students who violate this policy: the first warning, a student will be marked absent from class; subsequent warnings, students risk receiving a reduction in their grade.

Technology & Confidentiality Guidelines. To ensure we have a successful semester, please adhere to the guidelines outlined below:

- **Technology Requirements**
 - Use a laptop or desk top computer
 - Ensure you have internet access

- **Course Content**
 - FAMU’s Canvas site will be used to deliver course content
 - FAMU’s Zoom site will be used to interact with students during office hours
 - Teaching videos may be delivered through YouTube or other multimedia channels

- **Recording**
 - Students are **not** permitted to record an instructor’s lecture
 - Students are **not** permitted to post an instructor’s lecture on any social media
 - Mutual consent from the instructor and students **must** be obtained to record a class or portion of a class session

- **Confidentiality**
 - Students' data and privacy are protected through FAMU's licensure with Zoom and Canvas and faculty professional ethics
- **Technical Support with Zoom and Canvas**
 - Office of Instructional Technology (OIT) 525 Orr Drive, Coleman Library, Room 104
Phone: (850) 599-3460
Email: oit@famuedu

Email Etiquette. Please note, I do not communicate with students via non-FAMU email addresses. It is important for students to develop professional communication skills. When you communicate with me via email, please make every attempt to follow the recommended email etiquette guidelines below:

- **Subject:** Use a descriptive subject line that consists of the course number (“PSY2012 Section 14”) followed by a very brief phrase that summarizes the focus of your message (e. g., “Quiz 1).
- **Salutation:** Begin the body of your email with a proper greeting, such as “Dear Dr. Chioneso”
- **Introduce yourself:** My name is [First and Last] SID: [5555555555] in your [PSY2012-14] course.
- **Comprehensible:** Compose your email in paragraph form using concise and clear sentences. Your reason for emailing should be clear (e.g., a question to be answered by the Instructor).
- **Closing:** Use a proper closing, such as: “Sincerely” or “Yours truly,” then provide your name.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Policy Statement on Non-Discrimination. It is the policy of Florida A&M University to assure that each member of the University community be permitted to work or attend classes in an environment free from any form of discrimination including race, religion, color, age, disability, sex, marital status, national origin, veteran status, and sexual harassment as prohibited by state and federal statutes. This shall include applicants for admission to the University and employment.

Academic Honor Policy. Florida A&M University is committed to academic honesty and its core values, which include scholarship, excellence, accountability, integrity, fairness, respect, and ethics. These core values are integrated into this academic honesty policy. Being unaware of the Academic Honesty Policy is not a defense for violations of academic honesty. Additional detail on FAMU Academic Honesty Violations are provided in University Policy 2.012 (10.)(s). If you have any questions, please see your Academic Advisor.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). “Individuals who need a reasonable accommodation must notify the Office of Equal Opportunity Programs at 599-3076.” It is the responsibility of the FAMU Equal Opportunity Programs (EOP) Office, through the ADA Coordinator, to ensure FAMU is in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you have any questions, please contact your Academic Advisor or the University EOP Officer, Equal Opportunity Programs, 674 Gamble Street, Tallahassee, FL 32307, (850) 599-3076.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Note: This course schedule is a general outline and is subject to change. Alterations to the course schedule will be announced (in class and/or via Canvas) and should be adjusted on your syllabus.

Week & Dates	Topic	In-Class Meetings/Exams/Due Dates
Week 1 August 27 – September 02, 2023	Review Syllabus Community Building	<i>August 29, 2023</i> Class Activity <i>August 31, 2023</i> Class Activity
Week 2 September 03 – 09, 2023	Chapter 1: The History and Science of Psychology Overview of Services: Office of Counseling Services	<i>September 05, 2023</i> Lecture/Read Chapter 1 <i>September 07, 2023: Guest Speaker</i> Dr. Teion Wells Harrison Office of Counseling Services, FAMU
Week 3 September 10 – 16, 2023	Chapter 2: Memory/How We Learn	<i>September 12, 2023</i> Lecture/Read Chapter 2 <i>September 14, 2023</i> Village 1: Class Presentation
Week 4 September 17 – 23, 2023	Chapter 3: The Biological Basis of Psychological Functioning	<i>September 19, 2023</i> Lecture/Read Chapter 3 <i>September 21, 2023</i> Village 2: Class Presentation
Week 5 September 24 – 30, 2023	Chapter 4: Sensation and Perception	<i>September 26, 2023</i> Lecture/Read Chapter 4 <i>September 28, 2023</i> Village 3: Class Presentation EXAM 1: Chapters 3 – 4 Online: Sep.22nd@9am- Sept.24th@11:59pm
Week 6 October 01 – 07, 2023	Chapter 5: Varieties of Consciousness	<i>October 03, 2023</i> Lecture/Read Chapter 5 <i>October 05, 2023</i> Village 4: Class Presentation

Week/Dates	Topic	In-Class Meeting/Assignments/Due Dates
<p>Week 7 October 08 – 14, 2023</p>	<p>Chapter 6: Learning</p>	<p>October 10, 2023 Lecture/Read Chapter 6</p> <p>October 12, 2023 Village 5: Class Presentation</p>
<p>Week 8 October 15 – 21, 2023</p>	<p>Chapter 7: Higher Cognitive Processes</p>	<p>October 17, 2023 Lecture/Read Chapter 7</p> <p>October 19, 2023 Village 6: Class Presentation</p> <p>EXAM 2: Chapters 5 – 7 Online: Oct.13th@9am - Oct.15th@11:59 pm</p>
<p>Week 9 October 22 – 28, 2023</p>	<p>Chapter 8: Development Throughout the Lifespan</p>	<p>October 24, 2023 Lecture/Read Chapter 8</p> <p>October 26, 2023 Village 7: Class Presentation</p>
<p>Week 10 October 29 – November 04, 2023</p> <p>November 02 – 03, 2023 14th Annual African/Black Psychology Conference</p>	<p>Chapter 9: Motivation and Emotion</p>	<p>October 31, 2023 Village 8: Class Presentation</p> <p>November 02, 2023 Audio-Lecture/Read Chapter 9 No Class Meeting</p> <p>EXAM 3: Chapters 8 – 9 Online: Nov.03rd@9am- Nov.05th@11:59pm</p>
<p>Week 11 November 05 – 11, 2023</p>	<p>Chapter 10: Stress and Physical Health</p>	<p>November 07, 2023 Lecture/Read Chapter 10</p> <p>November 09, 2023 Village 9: Class Presentation</p>

Week/Dates	Topic	In-Class Meeting/Assignments/Due Dates
Week 12 November 12 – 18, 2023	Chapter 11: Social Psychology	<i>November 14, 2023</i> Lecture/Read Chapter 11 <i>November 16, 2023</i> Village 10: Class Presentation <i>November 16, 2023 by 5:00 pm</i> DUE: Peer Evaluations & Village Responses to Final Exam Review Questions EXAM 4: Chapters 10 – 11 Online: Nov.17th@9am- Nov.19th@11:59pm
Week 13 November 19 – 25, 2023	Chapter 12: Personality	<i>November 21, 2023</i> Audio-Lecture/Read Chapter 12 No Class Meeting <i>November 23, 2023</i> No Class: Thanksgiving Break
Week 14 November 26 – December 02, 2023	Chapter 12: Personality & Chapter 13: The Psychological Disorders	<i>November 28, 2023</i> Village 11: Class Presentation <i>November 30, 2023</i> Lecture/Read Chapter 13 EXAM 5: Chapters 12 – 13 Online: Nov.24th@9am - Nov.26th@11:59pm
Week 15 December 03 – 09, 2023	Chapter 13: The Psychological Disorders Review	<i>December 05, 2023</i> Village 12: Class Presentation <i>December 07, 2023</i> Review Chapters 1 - 13
Week 16 December 10 – 16, 2023	Exam Week	FINAL EXAM: ALL CHAPTERS (Cumulative) Online: Dec.12th@9am – 5pm

DISCLAIMER

This syllabus is intended to provide student guidance on the type of content and activities that will be covered in this course throughout the semester. The syllabus will be followed to the extent possible. However, modifications may be made to supplement and/or enhance student learning.

ACADEMIC RESOURCES

Academic Advisors

Academic Advisors serve as initial contact representatives for undergraduate students' advisement and play a fundamental role in students' academic success. Academic advisors monitor students' academic progress, and provide regular feedback and guidance toward the successful completion of the Psychology major and minor degree programs. Academic advisors are assigned based on the alphabet.

Academic Coaches

The mission of the Academic Coaching Office is to help all students reach their academic potential and function as independent scholars. Academic coaches are support staff trained in evidence-based strategies to facilitate each session. The academic coach works to empower the student towards positive behavior change and improved academic performance. Students typically meet with an academic coach weekly throughout the duration of the semester by an appointment-based system. The goal of coaching is to promote an individual's self-efficacy and confidence during their time at Florida A&M University.

Academic Coaches work with students in achieving their personal, academic, and professional goals. Academic Coaching empowers students to:

- Identify barriers that may impede academic success
- Improve time management and organizational skills
- Learn how to balance the demands of school and social life
- Identify and utilize academic support services and resources
- Learn how to establish rapport and build relationships with professors
- Become self-aware and emotionally intelligent
- Become active learners and create S.M.A.R.T goals

Contact Information

Phone: (850) 412-7994

Email address: Studentsuccess@famu.edu

Link: <http://www.famu.edu/index.cfm?retention&AcademicCoaching>

To schedule an appointment with an academic coach, complete the referral form at:

http://famu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0wEqgw9Eqk8bYfH

Learning Centers

The Centers provide academic support in various subject areas at no cost to students. They also offer subject-specific one-on-one tutorial sessions as well as group study sessions. Working closely with department heads and professorial faculty allows the center coordinators to train tutors to tailor sessions to lesson plans and syllabi.

The Undergraduate Student Success Centers (USSCs) consist of four centers:

1) [Gaither Learning Center](#)

The Gaither Tutorial Center offers tutoring services for courses offered in the following areas: Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities, English/Writing and Math.

Contact Information

Phone: (850) 412-7958

Email address: Studentsuccess@famuedu,

Link: <http://www.famuedu/index.cfm?retention&GaitherTutorialCenter>.

2) **[Math Center on the Set](#)**

The Math Center offers tutorial services in: Developmental Math I and II, Liberal Arts Math I and II, College Algebra, Intermediate Algebra, Algebraic & Trigonometric Functions, Precalculus, Calculus I, II, and III, Business Calculus, Differential Equations, and Introduction to Probability & Statistics.

Contact Information

Phone: (850) 599-8568

Email address: Studentsuccess@famuedu

Link: <http://www.famuedu/index.cfm?retention&MathTutorialCenter>.

3) **[Science Tutorial Center](#)**

The Science Tutorial offers tutorial services in the following courses: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Biochemistry.

Contact Information

Phone: (850) 412-7126

Email address Studentsuccess@famuedu

Link: <http://www.famuedu/index.cfm?retention&ScienceTutorialCenter>.

- 4) **[Writing Resource Center](#)**: The Writing Resource Center offers tutorial sessions in the following courses in English: Freshman Communication Skills I and II, Developmental Writing I and II, and Improving Writing General Writing Assignments.

Contact Information

Phone: (850) 599-8391

Email address: Studentsuccess@famuedu

Link: <http://www.famuedu/index.cfm?retention&WritingResourceCenter>

The Career Center

The Career and Professional Development Center offers a variety of ways to work together with the faculty and staff at FAMU to meet the career needs of our students via services, programs, resources, and communications:

- [Drop-In Career Assistance](#)
- [Mock Interviews](#)
- [On-Campus Interviews](#)
- [Workshops](#)
- [Career Expos & Fairs](#)

Contact Information

Phone: (850) 599-3700

Email Address: careercenter@famu.edu

Link: <http://www.famu.edu/index.cfm?careercenter>

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY ORGANIZATIONS

Participation in student organizations is encouraged. Students may become involved in the following organizations in the Department of Psychology:

Psychology Club: This is the voice of students in the Department; it offers student support, workshops, graduate preparation, and social activities for psychology majors.

Psi Chi: An Honor Society for students with a GPA of 3.0 or higher and at least 12-hours in Psychology.

SACD: Student Alliance for Cultural Development (SACD) provides opportunities for students to examine cultural issues and needs through discussions, films, and presentations.

ABPsi Student Circle: The Association of Black Psychologists' (ABPsi) Student Circle is a component of the National Association of Black Psychologists. ABPsi addresses the mental health needs of Africana people and provides local and national networking and training opportunities.

To learn more about the Department of Psychology's student organizations, please visit the department's website at: <http://www.famu.edu/psychology>.