HIBBING COMMUNITY COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE NUMBER & TITLE: PSYC 1205: General Psychology
CREDITS: 4 (4 Lec / 0 Lab)
PREREQUISITES: College level reading ability.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:
General Psychology is an introduction to the scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. Students will become familiar with the concepts of the major sub-disciplines of psychology and the foundational research behind each perspective. Students will also learn how scientific methodology is utilized in psychological research and develop well-reasoned questions and arguments regarding explanation and description of behavior, using empirical data as the primary authority. Students will develop their critical thinking skills through a wide array of subjects to better understand themselves, their relationships, and others in our diverse world. General Psychology is a prerequisite for Lifespan Development and Abnormal Psychology.

OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:

1. Science of Psychology
   A. Contemporary approaches
   B. Scientific method
   C. Psychological research
2. The brain & behavior
3. Sensation & perception
   A. How we sense & perceive the world
   B. Visual, auditory, skin, chemical senses
4. States of consciousness
   A. Sleep & dreams
   B. Psychoactive drugs
5. Learning
   A. Associative & observational learning
   B. Cognitive, biological, culture & psychological factors in learning
6. Memory
   A. Encoding
   B. Storage
   C. Retrieval
7. Thinking, intelligence, & language
8. Human Development
   A. Physical, cognitive & socioemotional development
   B. Death, dying & grieving
9. Motivation & emotion  
   A. Major theories  
   B. Everyday Life  
10. Personality  
   A. Major theoretical perspectives  
   B. Assessment  
11. Social Psychology  
   A. Cognition  
   B. Behavior  
   C. Close relationships  
   D. Social influence & group processing  
12. Psychological disorders  
   A. Defining & explaining abnormal behavior  
   B. Overview of major psychological disorders  
   C. Causes & treatment  
13. Therapies  
   A. Psychotherapy  
   B. Biological therapy  
   C. Sociocultural therapy  

**COURSE GOALS/OBJECTIVES/OUTCOMES:**  
1. Students will recognize major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, historical and ethical trends in psychology.  
2. Students will describe the basic principles of the scientific method, locate primary source scholarly documents, and effectively use APA style.  
3. Students will summarize research methods used in the field of psychology.  
4. Students will practice critical thinking in the context of psychological inquiry and theoretical application, and formulate applicable self-reflection.  
5. Students will design, conduct, and assess simple psychological research.  
6. Students will apply psychological principles to better understand, recognize, and appreciate personal, social, and cultural issues.  

**MNTC GOALS AND COMPETENCIES MET:**  
History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences  
Human Diversity  

**HCC COMPETENCIES MET:**  
Working Productively and Cooperatively  
Communicating Clearly and Effectively  
Thinking Creatively and Critically  
Social/Civic Responsibility
STUDENT CONTRIBUTIONS: Students are expected to attend all lectures and working sessions, participate and contribute to class discussion, complete all assignments and tests in time and request assistance when needed. Students should spend at least six hours per week preparing for class. Attendance is crucial in this class. Student will develop work habits and ethics to succeed in academic and interpersonal settings.

STUDENT ASSESSMENT SHALL TAKE PLACE USING INSTRUMENTS SELECTED/DEVELOPED BY THE COURSE INSTRUCTOR.

Curriculum Committee Approval Date: March 5, 2019

AASC APPROVAL DATE: March 20, 2019
REVIEW DATE: March 2024