

**NOVA COLLEGE-WIDE COURSE CONTENT SUMMARY
PSY 202 - INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY II (3 CR.)**

Course description

Examines human and animal behavior, relating experimental studies to practical problems. Includes topics such as sensation/perception, learning, memory, motivation, emotion, stress, development, intelligence, personality, psychopathology, therapy, and social psychology. Part II of II. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose

To provide the student with a basic understanding of psychological concepts and principles. PSY 200 and PSY 201-202 contain similar course content. Students who take PSY 200 cannot receive credit for either PSY 201 or PSY 202. Students who take either PSY 201 or PSY 202 cannot receive credit for PSY 200.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites

Prerequisite: PSY 201. English 111 and 112 are suggested

Course Objectives

Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:

- Explain how organisms learn through classical conditioning, operant conditioning, and observational learning
- Identify processes involved in the encoding, storage, and retrieval of information and how these processes impact the student's memory
- Explain how people think using concepts, solving problems, and making judgments
- Describe varying conceptualizations of intelligence and identify genetic and environmental influences on intelligence; recognize the principals involved in test construction
- Define stress and describe its effect on health; identify coping strategies and explain how stress and health relate to the student's life
- Identify the major theoretical perspectives of personality and articulate their similarities and differences; describe psychological findings on the self and recognize the influence of the self in the student's behavior
- Differentiate between abnormal and normal behavior; identify the symptoms of major psychological disorders and explain what roles biological, psychological, and sociocultural factors play in causing these disorders
- Identify the major psychotherapy and biomedical therapies used to treat psychological disorders and articulate their effectiveness
- Explain the major social psychological concepts involved in how people think about, influence, and relate to one another and describe how these relate to the student's life

Major Topics to be Included

- Learning
- Memory
- Cognition
- Intelligence
- Language
- Personality
- Psychological Disorders
- Psychotherapy
- Social Psychology

Optional Topics

- Health psychology
- Careers in psychology