Welcome to DE PSYC 201!

Dear Distance Education Student,

Hello and welcome to Introductory Psychology 201 for Spring 2019 (CRN: 34362)!

I'm Fionnuala (Fin-noo-la) Butler and I will be your instructor for this course. Thank you for your interest in this course. Introductory Psychology is a foundation course which lays the groundwork for the discipline as a whole. Psychology is an extraordinary discipline and it is my great hope that after taking this course that you will find it as fascinating as I do.

This course is a 3-unit course that is conducted completely online. There are NO face-to-face class meetings for this course. Its start date is January 21st and it finishes on February 28th, 2020.

I'm looking forward to getting to know you through the course.

Best,

Fionnuala

Who is a DE Intro Psych class for?

As a rule of thumb, you should expect to spend about 27 hours per week on this 6-week class alone.

Where does this estimate come from?

The units allotted for course completion are based on what are known as Carnegie units. For a 3-unit class, like this one, you can expect 3 hours per week to devote to lecture and 6 hours per week to devote to homework (assignments, reading, quizzes) during a typical 18-week semester. Thus, the accelerated pace of a 6-week class amplifies an already demanding course as we cover 3 weeks of 18-week material in one

week of 6-week class. Because this class is completely online, you may find it more demanding than a face-to-face course. There is a significant amount of reading in this class as the information that you will need to succeed is presented in written form via your textbook, and the Canvas pages. If you have difficulty reading and understanding what you have read, this is not the class format for you. However, if you consider yourself a good reader who retains information that you have read, you should not have a problem with Distance Education as a modality for Psychology.

You will also spend significant time viewing videos, contributing to class discussions, and answering comprehension questions about your reading. If this sounds like a challenge to you, I strongly recommend enrolling in a traditional face-to-face classroom section of this course. Additionally, if this is your first class in college ever or after a long hiatus, perhaps you should consider a face-to-face course instead to help you build strong habits and accountability before moving to a faster paced more self-directed online course.

Computer literate students who are self-motivated tend to perform well in distance education classes. If you are unsure whether distance education is a fit for you, please try an online self-assessment at:

http://www.cuesta.edu/student/aboutacad/distance/forwhom.htmlLinks to an external site.

Additional student readiness resources may be found at: http://apps.3cmediasolutions.org/oei/Links to an external site.

Accessing the course via Canvas

For this course we will be using the Canvas Learning Management system. You can access Canvas and the course website at this address: https://auth.cuesta.edu/idp/Authn/UserPasswordLinks to an external site.

A quick reference guide for canvas may be found here:

http://www.cuesta.edu/student/documents/distance_ed_students/Canvas_Quick_Reference_Students.pdfLinks to an external site.

If you are unable to login, technical support may be found here: http://www.cuesta.edu/student/aboutacad/distance/technical_support.htmlLinks to an external site.

Contact Information

I am accessible via email (Monday through Friday) at fionnuala_butler@cuesta.edu and will respond to emails within 24-hours. Zoom conferencing is available for online office hours. Please email to request. Alternatively, you may also confer in-person during office hours as posted on the syllabus.

Special accommodations

If you have a disability and need accommodations (support services) in this class, please contact DSPS at (805) 546-3148 or via email at dspsinfo@cuesta.edu. Once you obtain support, I will need a copy of your DSPS accommodation. Please pursue your accommodations through DSPS as soon as possible as they can be quite busy at the beginning of the semester. It is your responsibility to ensure that I have programmed your accommodations into Canvas. Please follow up with a personal email after DSPS has sent out your automated letter of accommodation.

http://www.cuesta.edu/student/servs_classes/dsps/index.htmlLinks to an external site.

Required textbook

Grison, S., Heatherton, T. F., Gazzaniga, M. S., & Halpern, D. F. (2017). *Psychology in your Life* (2nd ed.). New York, NY: Norton. ISBN-13: 978-0393265156

You may purchase the textbook from the Cuesta's Barnes and Noble bookstore or from online sellers. However, I highly recommend renting a paperback copy from Amazon. The book usually costs ~$15 to rent for a semester from Amazon, which is the most affordable price I've found. You do not need "access" to any publisher resources (usually offered as a book + access package). Do not pay extra for access as you will not use it.

Student Learning Outcomes:

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

1. Describe the basic concepts, theoretical perspectives and definitions of vocabulary necessary for the understanding of psychology.
2. Compare and contrast the different research methods utilized by psychologists in the analysis of behavior.
3. Apply the basic theoretical perspectives to the scientific analysis of their own and others' behavior and personality, as well as psychological disorders and treatment methods.
4. Analyze the role of cognitive, physiological, heredity, social, multicultural, and emotional factors in determining the complexity and diversity of human behavior.

Distance education course policies

Attendance

This course has NO required on-campus meetings. You are expected to log-in on the first day of the class and log-in at least twice per week until the end of the semester. If

you fail to log in on the first day of the course before midnight, you will be dropped from the course.

Log-ins are counted through authentication via the Cuesta Canvas portal. Access via the Canvas app will not record your login for the purposes of attendance.

How to add a course

https://www.cuesta.edu/student/studentservices/admrreg/arpolicies/addcourse.html

How to drop a course

https://www.cuesta.edu/student/studentservices/admrreg/arpolicies/dropcourse.html

How the waitlist works

https://www.cuesta.edu/student/studentservices/admrreg/arpolicies/Waitlist.html

Cuesta's Code of Conduct

https://www.cuesta.edu/about/documents/vpss-docs/StudentConducttrifold-brochure_2017.pdf