

Psychology 2000: Psychology of Human Relationships

Weber State University

Syllabus

Professor: Theresa Stueland Kay, Ph.D.

Email: Via Canvas

Office Hours: TBA on Canvas Announcements Tool

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:

Miller, R.S. (2015). *Intimate Relationships, 7th Edition, McGraw-Hill*

**Please note that textbooks for this course are very different from each other. If you want to be successful in this course, you will need to purchase this book. Fortunately, you will be able to find use books through Amazon and other online bookstores. **

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this course is to become familiar with theories and research related to human relationships. It is my hope that this knowledge also relates to learning skills needed to have healthier, more enjoyable relationships. Such skills include increased self-awareness, increased awareness of others, listening, and expressing oneself.

OBJECTIVES:

1. **Knowledge:** It is hoped that you will gain knowledge of the theories and research on relationships. It is also hoped that you will gain increased understanding of how psychological research is conducted.
2. **Application:** It is hoped that you will be able to apply what you learn about how relationships work to improve your own relationships.
3. **Values/Ethics:** It is hoped that you will gain understanding of and appreciate the multiple areas of diversity in relationships. It is also hoped that you become more knowledgeable of ethical issues in psychology.
4. **Communication:** It is hoped that you will increase your oral and written communication skills.

GRADING:

All students will have a chance to earn an “A.” The instructor does not use a “bell curve” when determining grades. The following point system will be used.

Modality

Chapter Tests

Canvas Discussions

Weekly Journals

Signature Assignment

Grading Scale:

A 92%+, A- 90-91.9%, B+ 88-89.9%, B 82-87.9%, B- 80-81.9%, C+ 78-79.9%, C 72-79.9%, C- 70-71.9%, D+ 68-69.9%, D 62-67.9%, D- 60-61.9%, F 0-59.9%

Chapter Tests:

The tests are on ChiTester, and you can access them via Canvas. Due to pandemic-related restrictions, you can take these tests from any computer with internet access. Each test will have 20 items, and it can be taken only once and with a 20-minute time limit. You can complete each test as early as you like. If you miss the deadline noted in Canvas, you have 2 days to complete the test with a 20% penalty. After those 2 days, your score will become a zero.

Weekly Journals:

The purpose of the journals is for you to apply what we discuss in class to your own relationships. We will cover a variety of topics each week. You will need to pick a topic, describe it, and discuss how the topic applies to you. Feel free to be honest - you will not be graded on whether you agree with the instructor. The journals should be approximately 1-1.5 double-spaced pages of text. The font should be no larger than 12 point, and the margins should be no larger than 1. Please know that I have read thousands of student papers, so I can detect attempts to make a document look longer than it really is. Such attempts will result in point deductions. Additionally, since you have a great deal of flexibility in terms of completing these assignments, *late journal entries will receive a 10% deduction for each day it is late.*

Online Discussions:

I will post a discussion topic for each chapter. Please refer to Canvas for specific deadlines and directions. Some of the topics may be controversial or sensitive, so it is likely that you may not agree with viewpoints expressed by your classmates. You are free to express your disagreement as long as you do so in a respectful manner. Each discussion is due by the date noted in Canvas. Late submissions will receive a 10% deduction per each day they are late.

Signature Assignment:

You are enrolled in the WSU General Education course Psychology of Human Relationships. The signature assignment for this course is designed to tackle the following big question (BQ) *“How does scientific psychology help us understand our relationships?”* through a 350-400 word signature assignment (SA) Reflection Paper. Please refer to this assignment in Canvas for more information, directions, and a rubric.

MISCELLANEOUS:

While every effort will be made to adhere to the course outline, all times, topics, and subjects covered will be at the professor’s discretion and could change at any time. Advance notice will be given if a change is necessary.

While I have strict policies about deadlines, I do recognize that emergencies do arise and that accommodations under such circumstances are appropriate. However, I also need to be fair to the large majority of students who submit their work on time. In order to balance these principles, I am willing to consider making an exception to my policies in emergency situations if you contact me promptly. For example, if you are concerned that your illness or a loved one’s illness will prevent you from submitting an assignment on time, I would expect you to contact me as soon as you become aware of the issue. You would not “no-show” to a shift at your job without contacting your supervisor, and I will be expecting the same behavior from you.

Your instructor uses the WSU Online format Canvas extensively for this class. You can use it to access Powerpoint slides and lecture recordings, view email and announcements, and to check your grades on the online grade book. You are strongly encouraged to check your grades on a regular basis to ensure that you are properly receiving credit for your work. It is much easier to correct errors during the semester. If you notice an error, your instructor will be happy to correct it once you provide evidence of the mistake. Please keep everything your instructor returns to you, as this will be the necessary proof of an error.

Please make a habit of checking your Canvas Announcements regularly. You can also specify under Notifications that you want Canvas Announcements sent to your devices, and I encourage you to do so. You will be responsible for all information that is on Canvas.

Emergency Closure: If for any reason the university is forced to close for an extended period of time, we will conduct our class via Canvas. Look for announcements on Canvas. Code Purple is a good way to be alerted to campus closures, and you are encouraged to sign up for it.

It is the instructor's expectation that the work you submit is in fact **your work**. Cheating on exams will result **immediate failure of the course**, as well as other possible disciplinary action.

Appropriate classroom behavior is vital to a productive learning environment. Behaviors such as a) arriving late, b) leaving early, c) holding private conversations, d) sleeping, e) reading other material, f) allowing your pager or cell phone to be audible in class, g) receiving calls on your cell phone, or h) doing activities other than those that are part of this class are very rude and distracting to the instructor and your peers. **The instructor will intervene with such behaviors as appropriate. If they persist, offending students will be encouraged to drop the course.**

Disability Notice:

Any student requiring accommodations or services due to a disability must contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) in Room 181 of the Student Services Center (or Room 221 at the Davis Campus). SSD can also arrange to provide course materials (including this syllabus) in alternative formats upon request. Please refer to SSD's website for more information: <http://weber.edu/ssd>