FLORIDA GATEWAY COLLEGE

PSY2012-0I4 – General Psychology I
Fall 2025 – B12 Syllabus
Asynchronous Online

Instructor Information
Name: Brooke Busscher, Psychology Instructor
Email: ashley.busscher@fgc.edu
Office Hours: Wednesday 11:00 – 11:30 (Phone or Facetime)
Office Phone: (386) 466-6381
Other Available Hours: By appointment reach out through email or Canvas to set up time.

Course Information
Credits: 3
Requirements Met: AATR, GE, GEC, GR
General Education Area: Group 2 Social Science
Prerequisites: Completion of ENC0025 and REA0017 with a grade of C or better, or ENC0027C with a grade of C or better, or score out on appropriate placement test.

Course Description
In this course, students will gain an introduction to the scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. Topics may be drawn from historical and current perspectives in psychology. Such topics might include: neuroscience; sensation and perception; states of consciousness; learning; memory; intelligence; motivation and emotion; personality; development; psychological disorders/treatment; and health psychology.

Required Texts/Learning Resources
Feldman, R.S. (2020). *Essentials of understanding psychology* (14th ed.). McGraw-Hill. ISBN-13: 978-1260233438 or ISBN-13: 978-1260829013.

General Learning Outcomes
- **Information Literacy:** Students will locate, evaluate, and use information effectively and ethically.
- **Critical Thinking:** Students will logically evaluate, analyze, and synthesize information.

State Course Learning Outcomes
- Students will be able to identify basic psychological theories, terms, and principles from historical and current perspectives.
- Students will be able to recognize real-world applications of psychological theories, terms, and principles.
- Students will be able to recognize basic strategies used in psychological research.

- Students will be able to draw logical conclusions about behavior and mental processes based on empirical evidence.

Critical Dates – Fall B12 2025

Date	Event
Monday, Sept. 15	Fall B12 classes start
Monday – Wednesday, Sept. 15-17	Add/Drop period for Summer A12, A6, and A4
Tuesday, Nov. 11	Veteran's Day – No Classes
Friday, Nov. 14	Deadline for student-initiated withdrawals – B12
Nov. 26, 27, & 28	Thanksgiving Holiday
Friday, Dec. 5	End of Classes

Schedule of Class Events

Please note: The schedule of class events is subject to change. Students will be notified promptly of any changes.

Module	Dates	Topic(s)	Coursework
START HERE	9/15	• Course Introduction	• Order your textbook if you haven't already • Read the information given to you in the Start Here module
1	9/15 – 9/21	• Introduction to Psychology • Subfields and Specialties in Psychology	• Read syllabus • Read Chapter 1 • Syllabus quiz Due (9/17) • Similarity scores and reading the questions • Writing assignment • Chapter 1 Reading Quiz • Exit Ticket
2	9/22 – 9/28	• Neuroscience and Behavior • Sensation and Perception	• Read Chapters 2 and 3 • Video Assignment • Chapter 2 Reading Quiz • Chapter 3 Reading Quiz • Exit Ticket
3	9/29 – 10/5	• States of Consciousness	• Read Chapter 4 • Chapter 4 Reading Quiz • Chapter 4 Power Point • Exit Ticket
4	10/6 – 10/12	• Learning	• Read Chapter 5

Module	Dates	Topic(s)	Coursework
		• Types of Reinforcement and Punishment	• Case Study • Chapter 5 Reading Quiz • Exit Ticket
5	10/13 – 10/19	• Memory	• Read Chapter 6 • Discussion: Memory • Chapter 6 Reading Quiz • Exit Ticket
6	10/13 – 10/19	• Thinking, Language, and Intelligence	• Read Chapter 7 • Writing Assignment • Chapter 7 Reading Quiz • Exit Ticket
7	10/20 – 10/26	• Motivation and Emotion	• Read Chapter 8 • PowerPoint Assignment • Chapter 8 Reading Quiz • Exit Ticket
8	10/20 – 10/26	• Developmental Psychology	• Read Chapter 9 • Discussion • Chapter 9 Reading Quiz • Exit Ticket
9	10/27 – 11/2	• Personality	• Read Chapter 10 • Writing Assignment • Chapter 10 Reading Quiz • Choose the disorder you will focus on for Chapter 12 and Chapter 13 • Exit Ticket
10	10/27 – 11/2	• Health Psychology	• Read Chapter 11 • Video with worksheet • Chapter 11 Reading Quiz • Exit Ticket
11	11/3 – 11/9	• Disorders	• Read Chapter 12 • Infographic Assignment • Chapter 12 Reading Quiz • Exit Ticket

Module	Dates	Topic(s)	Coursework
12	11/10 – 11/16	• Social Psychology	• Read Chapter 14 • Case Study • Chapter 14 Reading Quiz • Exit Ticket
13	11/17 – 11/23	• GLO Essay	• **Submit essay before 11:59 p.m. on Nov. 23. No late essays accepted.** • Exit ticket
14	11/24 – 11/30	• Treatments (Thanksgiving Break 11/26-28) *We still have work due 11/30!	• Read Chapter 13 • Case study • Chapter 13 Reading Quiz • Exit Ticket
15	12/1 – 12/5	• Finals Week	• **Submit your Creative Project video presentation by 11:59 p.m. Dec. 5. No late entries accepted.**

Student Expectations

Attendance

While attendance itself doesn't count as a "grade" in this class, it's still important for you to be here and be engaged because the more actively engaged you are in your courses, the stronger learning and better grades you tend to earn. Even though this is an online course, you will need to spend a substantive amount of time in our course (think around 3 hours per module). Be sure to show up for yourself this semester!

You might be wondering what attendance looks like in an online class like ours, so let's set up some definitions. For official purposes, attendance in our class is tied to assignment submissions. If you have submitted an assignment for that module, you've attended class for that module. This primarily affects you being dropped from the class during the Add/Drop period, the date for a potential withdrawal, and a date I will have to put with your final grades if you earn a D/F.

Unofficially, I will be monitoring how much time you are spending in our course and how frequently you access our Canvas course. This doesn't directly affect your grade (you don't have to spend X number of hours in the course to get an A, for example), but it will help me see if you are or are not accessing parts of the course like lectures. If you are just completing the tasks on your To-Do List and not fully engaging with the course materials, I am able to see that and your grade may be affected if you are not fully engaging with the materials.

Courtesy and Student Conduct Code

When having discussions in person or online I expect conversations to be respectful. Remember that discussions are to be respected as places for academic freedom. Input can, and likely will,

have differing viewpoints. Faculty, and other students, will respect the speaker's right of expression. Speakers are expected to also be respectful in their dialogue. It is okay to disagree with an opinion, but this should not become an attack on the speaker. Whenever possible, even with opinions, use scientific data to support your stance.

Late Work
Remember that a "due" date is not the same as the "do" date so pace yourself according to your scheduling needs. All due dates can be found in the "Calendar" within this Canvas course, the "Home" page in Canvas, the "Syllabus" page in Canvas, and in **this actual syllabus**. I take the late policy seriously in order to honor the students who have worked so hard to submit on time. You have a 48-hour grace period in which assignments can be submitted late but they will receive a 20% penalty for tardiness. Late assignments are not accepted after a full week of the due date has passed. **This grace period does not apply to the final essay or the final project or exit tickets.**
*If there is an extenuating circumstance please contact me prior to the due date. This is generally open to one assignment per semester.

Plagiarism
This is absolutely unacceptable in this course. **Assignments will receive a zero** and depending on the infraction, you could fail the course. Plagiarism will also be reported.

Gordon Rule Requirement
This course is a Gordon Rule course. In accordance with the State of Florida's Rule 6A-10.030, all courses designated as Gordon Rule ("GR") in the college catalog will include the requirement that students demonstrate the ability to produce college-level, discipline-based writings. Such courses include, but are not limited to, those in the Communications, Humanities, and Social Sciences categories. This requirement will be met in each class through the student's successful completion of multiple and substantive college-level writing assignments as designed and assessed by the instructor in such a way as to measure both course-specific learning and development of writing skills over the progress of a given semester. In addition to demonstrating a satisfactory understanding of the written English language, all such assignments submitted by a student should exhibit critical thinking skills and be directly related to the discipline's specific General Learning Outcome(s).

Grading Policies (Student Performance Measures)
Learning Activities
- **Participation (5%):** This ensures being an active participant in the course. This will consist of attendance exit tickets, and online exit tickets.
- **Quizzes (15%):** Quizzes will be given during the course for most chapters. It is important you read the chapter before the quiz. You may take the quiz a second time if you wish to try for a higher score. The grade book records your highest attempt.
- **Writing Assignments (25%):** These will consist of essays of 350-500 words focused on a specific topic defined within the module.
- **GLO Essay (20%):** You will choose a documentary from the professors list of approved documentaries (see course assignment for details) and write 1250-1500 words supported

by at least 5 data points from the textbook, and supported by at least two scholarly resources from the FGC database. **Failure to complete this assignment will result in automatic failure of the class.**

- **Final Assignment (10%):** The final consists of a creative project which will then be presented to the class.
- **Other (25%):** These will consist of various worksheets, reports, projects, and other works that do not fit into the other learning activity categories.

Grading Scale
A – 90% - 100%
B – 80% - 89.9%
C – 70% - 79.9%
D – 60% - 69.9%
F – 59.9% or below

Student Support and Tech Needs

This course requires students to have access to a computer and the internet. For those students who do not own a computer, computer labs are available on the FGC campus and in public libraries. Students without internet can come to the FGC campus, go to local public libraries, coffee shops, etc.

Minimal technical skills require for this course include the ability to use Microsoft Office products and navigate the Internet.

If you have any additional questions, please contact IT at 386-754-4408. You can also email the Florida Gateway College helpdesk at helpdesk@fgc.edu.

Florida Gateway College Policies and Statements
The Library
The Wilson S. Rivers Library is located in Building 200 and also includes millions of e-books and articles (https://www.fgc.edu/academics/library/). The library has more than 70 computers with 50 pages daily of free B&W printing for students. There are also small and large study rooms available for two hours at a time. Click the link above for more information. Librarians are available to assist with research help, and there are helpful videos on library searching and citation help here: (https://www.fgc.edu/academics/library/research-help-and-guides/).

Phone- 386-754-4401
Email- library@fgc.edu
Ask-A-Librarian text and chat

Fall & Spring Semester Library Hours
Monday – Thursday: 7:30 am – 7:30 pm
Friday: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Saturday: 1:30 pm – 5:30 pm
Sunday: CLOSED

Summer Semester Library Hours
Monday – Thursday: 7:30 am – 6:30 pm
Friday: CLOSED
Saturday & Sunday: CLOSED

Student Success Center (SSC)

The Student Success Center (SSC) is located in Building 008. The SSC offers a variety of resources for students and faculty. Access to computers and limited printing is available. Copies of reference books, textbooks, access to course specific software, and access to tutors for all levels of math and writing are available in the SSC. Tutoring in other subjects is also offered. The SSC provides space for students to study in subject specific learning groups. Stop by or call the Student Success Center to request the most current tutor schedule (386-754-4382).

Fall Semester SSC Hours
Monday & Thursday: 8:00am – 6:00 pm
Tuesday & Wednesday: 8:00am – 8:00 pm
Friday: 9:00am – 4:30pm

Spring Semester SSC Hours
Monday--Thursday: 8:00am – 6:00 pm
Friday: 9:00am – 4:30pm

Summer Semester SSC Hours
Monday – Thursday: 7:30 am – 5:00 pm

If you have any questions, you may contact the center by phone at 386-754-4479, 386-754-4382, or by emailing Christina Slater at christina.slater@fgc.edu.

EAB Navigate

The SSC initiates student progress reports to the entire campus through EAB Navigate. EAB Navigate is an early-alert tool designed to identify students who may be susceptible to falling behind in their course before they actually do.

Twice during the semester, we provide instructors with the opportunity to ALERT students of their course progress. This is done through the FGC Wolves email account. Students may receive an email stating their success may be at risk in a specific course. If you receive this email, DO

NOT PANIC. Please contact your instructor directly, your academic advisor, and the SSC. Your instructor's information is provided in the email.

Navigate Student is a mobile app designed to support students during their academic careers at FGC. Navigate Student is the ultimate student resource that acts as a personal advisor and provides students with the information they need, when they need it. Additionally, students may make an appointment with an advisor, view campus events, be alerted on important to-do's, view class schedules, explore their major, and much more.

Please do not allow yourself to struggle. We are here to help you achieve success. The mission of the SSC is to help encourage and promote your educational journey here at FGC and beyond.

Class Recording
A student shall not make a recording in class unless the recording is limited to the class lecture, and
1. the recording is made for the student's personal educational use,
2. in connection with a complaint to the college, **or**
3. as evidence in or in preparation for a criminal or civil proceeding.

Students are not permitted to record in class, through any means over any medium, any academic or other activity that is not a class lecture. A recording of any meeting or conversation between students, or between students and faculty, is strictly prohibited unless all parties have consented to such recording. A recording of a class lecture may not be published without the prior express written consent of the recorded faculty member.

Resource Information
If you think you might benefit from the guidance of a professional counselor for any school, work, or life issue, take advantage of the **free, confidential resources of BayCare Behavioral Health.** If you would like to speak to a counselor over the phone, please call **800- 878-5470**. It is a safe and secure way to get short-term counseling (up to 3 sessions) on issues including: managing stress and school, work or life issues, relationship issues, family concerns, anxiety, depression, grief, trauma, loss, self-esteem, or substance abuse. **Counseling sessions are completely confidential.** If you are in the need of additional resources please contact the Director of Student Life, Amy Dekle, at amy.dekle@fgc.edu, or by visiting Building 007.

Florida Gateway College has partnered with **BetterMynd**, (https://www.bettermynd.com/students) an online therapy platform for college students, to offer our students access to free video-therapy sessions with their diverse network of licensed mental health counselors.

Florida Gateway College students can now access free online therapy sessions on the BetterMynd platform with the counselor of their choice. These 50-minute, live video-sessions are private, confidential, and can take place from the convenience of your laptop, smartphone, or tablet. Sessions are available during the day, at night, and on the weekends.

To register and get started with a counselor that's a good fit for you, sign-up here. (https://app.bettermynd.com/register)

If you have any questions about these services, you can email BetterMynd at students@bettermynd.com.

Academic Appeal; Grievances; General Complaint
If a student wishes to file an academic appeal, grievance, or general complaint, please visit the college's website. Under Students and the Complaints & Appeals section (https://www.fgc.edu/students/complaints-and-appeals/), information regarding policy, procedure, and forms related to these topics is provided.

College Course Withdrawal and Drop Process
A course may be dropped only during the published add/drop period. After add/drop, students must withdrawal from their course. Please visit the College Catalog for more detailed information about the drop and withdrawal process.

Students are responsible for withdrawing by the published deadline. Students must allow sufficient time for the process to be completed. **The fully approved withdrawal form is due to Enrollment Services by 4:30 p.m. on the deadline posted on the** Academic Calendar **or it is considered late**.

To withdraw from a course, the following steps must take place:
1. The student obtains the instructor's authorization and last date of attendance in person or via email.
2. The student meets with an academic advisor, who will sign the form (Building 14). Or, if an online student, emails the advisor a statement requesting a withdrawal from the course. The email must include the instructor's email with the last date of attendance.
3. The advisor will complete a withdrawal form, attach the emails from the student and instructor in lieu of signatures and forward the form to Financial Aid.
4. A Financial Aid representative will complete and sign the form and forward the form to Enrollment Services to be processed.

Students are strongly encouraged to begin the withdrawal process the day **before** the withdrawal deadline to allow sufficient time for the process to be completed by all offices involved (Instructor, Advising Services, Financial Aid, Enrollment Services).

It is the student's responsibility to understand all financial and academic implications of the withdrawal. Students are permitted a maximum of two (2) withdrawals per course. Upon the third attempt, a student must receive a grade for the course. Absence from class or merely notifying the professor does not constitute withdrawal. A student who stops attending class without withdrawing will receive a grade from the instructor.

Incompletes

Incomplete grades are reserved for students who are unable to complete a course and the withdrawal date has passed. A student should only be issued an incomplete if at least 75% of the course assignments have been submitted and the student can reasonably complete the remaining assignments **within the first three weeks** of the next term to earn a passing overall grade. Otherwise, students should be issued the earned letter grade in the course at the end of the current term.

The **Incomplete Grade Request Form** must be completed and submitted for approval by the **FIRST day of Final Exams and BEFORE** issuing the "I" grade. The instructor will describe the circumstances leading up to the requested "I" for the course, and list the missing assignments, quizzes, exams, and any other course requirements needed to satisfactorily complete the course **within the first three weeks** of the next term. The form must be signed by the instructor, student, and the Dean/Executive Director over the program. Once all participants have signed, an approval email will be sent to the instructor for authorization to assign the "I" grade.

Student Communication Standards

You are expected to communicate in a professional and respectful tone with the instructor and fellow classmates. All written communication (in email correspondence, discussion forums, assignments, quizzes and exams, etc.) must use proper written English. Please refrain from using online and texting abbreviations and language. Oral communications, if applicable, must be made with a respectful tone and body language. Use proper netiquette throughout!

Academic Honesty

At Florida Gateway College, we value the development of critical thinking, effective communication, and academic growth. To ensure fairness and uphold the principles of academic integrity, any instances of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating, plagiarism, bribery, misrepresentation, fabrication, unauthorized use of AI technologies, etc.) are not permitted and will be dealt with severely. Students should make themselves aware of the student code of conduct found in the Student Handbook. We believe in your ability to think critically and develop your own unique perspectives. By adhering to these guidelines and committing to the principles of academic integrity, you will not only enhance your learning experience, but also foster an environment of trust and respect within our academic community.

Use of AI Technologies

The use of AI technologies to generate or assist in the creation and completion of assignments is strictly prohibited, unless explicitly allowed by the instructor as described in the course syllabus. It is your responsibility to read this thoroughly and carefully at the beginning of the semester.

Your assignments should reflect your own thoughts, analysis, and original work. Florida Gateway College employs the use of AI detection tools to assess the authenticity of your assignments. These tools are designed to identify instances of cheating and plagiarism, including the use of AI technologies. Any submissions that violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the use of AI technologies in your courses, please review your course syllabus or reach out to your instructor for clarification.

Civil Rights and Compliance Statement

Florida Gateway College does not discriminate in education or employment related decisions on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, gender, religion, disability, age, marital status, genetic information, sexual orientation, pregnancy, or any other legally protected status in accordance with the law. The Civil Rights & Compliance Officer is Cassie Buckles, Executive Director of Human Resources, Building 001, Room 116, 149 SE College Place, Lake City, FL 32025, and may be reached at cassandra.buckles@fgc.edu or by phone at 386-754-4313.

Disability Statement

The Office of Accessibility Services (OAS) is a resource for both students with disabilities as well as faculty. Students with disabilities in need of academic accommodations must first be registered with the OAS to verify the disability, establish eligibility, and determine reasonable academic accommodations.

After registering with the OAS, students must request their academic accommodation letters be sent to them each semester to share with their instructors. Upon receipt of the letter, the instructor will be available during office hours or via email to discuss the accommodations a student will need during the course.

Students with disabilities who are not registered with the OAS or faculty who may have questions or concerns regarding an accommodation, please contact the office at the following:

> **In person:** Building 007, Room 107
> **Phone:** (386) 754-4393
> **Email:** Accessibility.Services@fgc.edu

FERPA Statement

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) provides certain privacy rights to students related to educational records. This information can be found in the College Catalog, at the Office of Enrollment Services in Building 015 or on the Florida Gateway College website (www.fgc.edu/students/registration-and-records/ferpa/).

SACSCOC Statement

Florida Gateway College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award baccalaureate and associate degrees. Florida Gateway College also may offer credentials such as certificates and diplomas at approved degree levels. Questions about the accreditation of Florida Gateway College may be directed in writing to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097, by calling (404) 679-4500, or by using information available on SACSCOC's website (www.sacscoc.org).

Honorlock Statement

Florida Gateway College has partnered with Honorlock, an online testing proctoring service. If off-campus remote proctoring is required during any course, Honorlock will be the online proctoring service that allows you to take your exam. You **DO NOT** need to create an account,

download software or schedule an appointment in advance. Honorlock is available 24/7 and all that is needed is a computer, a working webcam, and a stable Internet connection.

To get started, you will need to download the Honorlock Chrome Extension using Google Chrome. You can download the extension on the Honorlock website (www.honorlock.com/install/extension/). When you are ready to test, log into the LMS, go to your course, and click on your exam. Clicking **Launch Proctoring** will begin the Honorlock authentication process, where you will take a picture of yourself, show your ID, and complete a scan of your room. Honorlock will be recording your exam session by webcam as well as recording your screen. Honorlock also has an integrity algorithm that can detect search-engine use, so please do not attempt to search for answers, even if it's on a secondary device.

Honorlock support is available 24/7/365. If you encounter any issues, you may contact Honorlock by live chat, by phone at 844-243-2500, and/or by email at support@honorlock.com.

If you encounter a Canvas issue, please contact Canvas via the Canvas Help menu or by clicking the **Canvas Support** link within your course(s).

Turnitin Statement
Instructors may require writing assignments to be submitted to Turnitin when uploaded to Canvas. Turnitin is an internet-based service that looks for similarities and potential plagiarism by comparing your assignment submissions with its massive database of student work (including previous student submissions at Florida Gateway College), the Internet, and its entire archive, books, and journal and reference publications. Turnitin generates a similarity report, which can help you and your instructor determine whether you used sources fairly and ethically, cited correctly, and paraphrased effectively.

You are encouraged to submit your written work to Turnitin prior to assignment deadlines, whether through Canvas or Draft Coach. If needed, that would allow you time to review the library's research and help guides or seek writing assistance from your instructor or a tutor in the Student Success Center.

Mission Statement
The mission of Florida Gateway College is to provide superior instruction, nurture individual development, foster career readiness, and enrich the diverse communities it serves through affordable, higher quality education programs and lifelong learning opportunities.