

Psychology I (3300) Course Overview Curriculum Document			
Course Description			
This is a Fox Valley Technical College dual credit course. Students who take Psychology I and II are eligible to receive 3 credits of Introduction to Psychology credit from Fox Valley Technical College. This course is designed to give students the background information necessary for an understanding of their behavior and the behavior of others. The student will learn different psychological methods and will survey the essentials of Psychology, including the topics of: Cognition, States of Consciousness, Research Methods, Brain and Behavior, Learning and Conditioning, and Abnormal Psychology. (Note: Students may not take this course if they have taken or plan to take AP Psychology).			
Credits		Prerequisites	
.5		None	
Board Approved		Revised	
May 2003		June 2016, December 2022	
Required Assessments			
District-wide, standards referenced common assessments			
Textbooks/Resources			
Introduction to Psychology, University of Minnesota Libraries Publishing edition, 2015.			
Course Essential Understandings		Course Essential Questions	
As a result of successfully completing this course, students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be able to apply psychological perspectives and research methods to real-world scenarios. • Be able to analyze the interactions of sensation and perception including the biological processes of the five senses. • Be able to characterize biological, hereditary, and environmental influences on behavior including biology, brain structure, and neurological communication. • Be able to demonstrate effective cognitive, problem solving, memory, language, and learning processes. • Be able to apply principles of behaviorism and learning to human behavior. 		How does the human mind and its functions affect behavior?	
Unit Overviews			
Unit Name	Unit Description	Unit Essential Question	Instructional & Assessed Standards
Unit 1 - Foundations and Biological Bases of Behavior	In this unit students will learn the basis of psychological theory as the study of human and animal behavior and mental processes. Students will learn how psychologists design and conduct research. In the second part of the unit students will study behaviors and mental processes from a biological perspective and explore the effects of the interaction between human biology and our environment.	How do the results from psychological research drive our understanding of neurobiology?	Define Major Concepts (S.C.1): Define major concepts in written form to demonstrate mastery, depth, and interconnectedness of psychological terms. Applying Concepts (S.C.2): Apply all major concepts in written form to demonstrate mastery, depth, and interconnectedness of psychological terms. Develop an Understanding of the Foundations of Behavior (C.C.1) Identify Biological Bases of Behavior (C.C.2)
Unit 2 - Developmental foundations of Psychology (Learning, behaviorism, and cognitive psychology)	In this unit students will learn how we develop behaviors and mental schemas. Students will learn how the processes of memory formation through learned associations of stimuli as well as observed behavior. In the second part of the unit students will study how the mental processes involved in acquisition, storage, and retrieval of information.	How do the processes of cognition affect human behavior?	Define Major Concepts (S.C.1): Define major concepts in written form to demonstrate mastery, depth, and interconnectedness of psychological terms. Applying Concepts (S.C.2): Apply all major concepts in written form to demonstrate mastery, depth, and interconnectedness of psychological terms. (C.C.3) Develop an understanding of the differences between principles of classical conditioning, operant conditioning, and observational learning (C.C.4) Identify and evaluate the physiological and psychological processes involved in memory, thinking, and human intelligence.