

Core Competencies Assessment 2009-2010: Area IV Courses

Mesalands Community College
Psychology 101- Introduction to Psychology

Social and Behavioral Sciences Competencies
PSYC 1113

<u>State Competencies</u> (Learning Outcomes Being Measured)	<u>Assessment Procedures</u> (Process/Instrument named or described – rubric attached)	<u>Assessment Results</u>	How Results Will Be Used <u>To Make Improvements</u>	(Optional) Recommendations/Goals/ Priorities
<p>1. Students will identify, describe and explain human behaviors and how they are influenced by social structures, institutions, and processes within the contexts of complex and diverse communities. Students should: Develop an understanding of self and the world by examining content and processes used by social and behavioral sciences to discover, describe, explain, and predict human behaviors and social systems.</p>				
<p>2. Students will articulate how beliefs, assumptions, and values are influenced by factors such as politics, geography, economics, culture, biology, history, and social institutions. Students should: Enhance knowledge of social and cultural institutions and the values of their society and other societies and cultures in the world.</p> <p align="center">(Continued)</p>	<p>All students will be required to prepare a five-page biographical study on a major contributor in the field of psychology. Subjects such as Freud, Maslow, and Erickson are obvious choices. While stories about their lives are interesting and informative in understanding these giants in psychology, their theoretical models are what is important and should be emphasized in the students' paper. The purpose of this</p>	<p>Reading and grading of papers that are done by students demonstrate mixed outcomes. It is not that clear that the theories of major psychologists are better understood by studying the lives of their authors. However, childhood and early life might better explain why Freud proposed his theories of unconscious and irrational drives. The influence of Freud on other psychologists who adopted</p>	<p>After papers are type-written there should be individual presentations by students on the theories presented by their subjects. The students can include in their presentations both the positive and the negative sides of their subject's theories; they should mention how the theories were received when first presented and how popular they are today. Students should also show how their subject's theories have influenced contemporary values and beliefs.</p>	

	<p>assignment is to use the background of the subject of the paper to better explain and understand the lasting influence of their theories and the importance of their contexts, when the theories were first proposed and their effects on the discipline of psychohistory – this should be all emphasized in the paper. Just as psychologists used to study the lives of historical figures, like Fremont and Hitler, this assignment requires the use of history to study the theories of Freud, Maslow, and Erickson. The effect and influence of their theoretical perspectives on culture and society should be described by the student. If the study of the lives of Maslow and Rogers provides a window for better understanding of humanism and client-centered counseling, then the assignment will have achieved its goals.</p>	<p>his theories might be explained by where they went to study psychologists, the context of their times, and the popularity of their psychodynamic perspectives. The historical perspective does demonstrate that the popularity of Freud initially would create later refutations by psychologists. It is clear that the student can use the life of an important figure to introduce the person's theories and how they affect society and culture. Also, as society changes over time, views that are popular may become very unpopular. This is a good lesson for students to learn.</p>		
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<p>3. Students will describe ongoing reciprocal interactions among self, society, and the environment. Students should: Understand the interdependent nature of the individual, family/social group, and society in shaping human behavior and determining quality of life.</p>				
<p>4. Students will apply the knowledge base of the social and behavioral sciences to identify, describe, explain, and critically evaluate relevant issues, ethical dilemmas, and arguments. – Students should: Articulate their role in a global context and develop an awareness and appreciation for diverse value systems in order to understand how to be good citizens who can critically examine and work toward quality of life within a framework of understanding and justice.</p>				
End – Social/Behavioral Sciences				

Area IV Assessment Contact Person _____ *Name* _____ *Date* _____ Phone number _____