**General Psychology: Group Project (150 points possible)**

Instructions

Your instructor will determine how you select your group of fellow students, who must come from this particular section of General Psychology. Each group should have 5 people. Each individual can expect to complete approximately six of the following activities.

Throughout the semester, you will work with these same people to complete as many of the following activities as possible. Each individual activity is worth 5 points per person, and if all members of your group complete any of the listed activities, your group earns an additional 5 points. Group activities are worth 30 points.

At the time of each scheduled exam, and at the end of the semester, your instructor will tally the number of activities that have been completed by each group. At various points throughout the semester, your instructor will update the class “leaderboard.” The total points earned by your group will be awarded to each member at the end of the semester.

Your first task as a group will be to give yourselves a group name and create a social media site (Facebook, Weebly, tumblr, Blogspot, etc.) to which all users of your group may contribute content, but also give your instructor permission to view the page. You will share the link with your instructor at the beginning of the semester and update your social media site every time someone in your group completes an activity. A selfie or action-shot (if permitted by the service location) with a caption is sufficient for the service-type activities. For each writing-type assignment, be sure to label each post with the writer’s name.

Do your homework. Each time that each of your group members completes a homework assignment on time, your group will earn a “badge” for that assignment. Badges are not worth points, but the team with the most badges at the end of the semester will earn something extra.

Participation is important! As part of the final exam, you will each assess your own performance and that of your teammates. This will contribute to the “participation” grade (worth 50 points!), which is a separate grade from the group project itself.

**Required Activities**:

Create and Update Social Media Site, and share the link with your instructor. (10 points)

Each individual will generate a final “report” on your media site explaining how the activities you did helped you understand psychology better. (5 points per person)

**Individual Activities**

Each completed item is worth 5 points per person. You should aim for a variety of activities; items in this category may only be completed twice for credit unless otherwise noted. For each activity completed by every one of your team members, you earn 5 additional points. All activities must be documented in a post on your site, which should also include each participant’s name, the location or activity, and a brief writeup about the experience.

--Follow your professor/department on Twitter or Facebook (One “follow” per individual).

--At the beginning of the semester, create a list of your own “strengths” according to the link below. Do you agree with the results from this assessment? How can you put these strengths to use during this group project? Throughout the semester, compile a list of one another’s “strengths” as you see them in action. Post one report of your team’s individual strengths, and your observations of the strengths in action, on your site at the end of the semester. Please note that this activity is for your own use, and there is no need to spend money on the “detailed information report” or any other such products.

 <http://freestrengthstest.workuno.com/free-strengths-test.html>

--Volunteer for 2 hours at a local clothing drive, children’s museum, animal rescue shelter, nursing home/retirement community. Many of these entities require application or interview, so be sure to call and make an appointment with the volunteer coordinator. Post a picture from your experience if possible and allowed by the entity, and write a brief (100 word) summary reflecting on your experience.

--Participate in a Psychology department research project, attend one Psychology club/Psi Chi meeting, or attend a guest speaker related to behavioral sciences (psychology or criminal justice), then post a picture from your experience if possible, and write a brief (100 word) summary reflecting on your experience.

--Locate, link to, and write about one news article related to psychology. (300 words)

--Choose your favorite “school of thought” within psychology, list its defining features and important founders, and write about why it stands out to you more than the others. (300 words)

--Choose one topic in psychology that (a) doesn’t make any sense to you, or (b) you’ve always wanted to know more about. Find three sources online about this topic (be sure to cite them using APA style in your post) and summarize your findings. (500 words)

--Watch a movie related to psychology, and write a brief description (350-500 words) of the movie and how the concepts are related to General Psychology. (For ideas, search the Internet or check out the following links. Check carefully for any “troubling” material before you commit to watching a movie! Common Sense Media is a good resource.)

 <http://www.imdb.com/list/ls006294202/>

 <http://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/fulfillment-any-age/201201/psychologys-best-movies>

--Take a personality test (links below) and briefly describe your results. Please note that the links below are to unvalidated approximations of the official personality inventories. Write about the following: Is this accurate? What should you do with this information? What would be some potential concerns with using a “knockoff” version compared to the legitimately researched version of these personality inventories?

 MBTI: <http://www.humanmetrics.com/cgi-win/jtypes2.asp>

 Big Five inventory: <http://www.outofservice.com/bigfive/>

 Implicit Association Test: <https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html>

**Group Activities**

Successful completion of these activities MUST involve each member of the group. Each item is worth 30 points and may be completed once per group, unless otherwise specified.

--Set up a meeting time for your group before each exam and generate 10 multiple choice questions related to the relevant chapters. Post these questions to your social media site the night before each exam. (5 points for each time this is successfully completed.)

--Do an in-class activity or demonstration for the “Sensation and Perception,” “Learning,” “Memory,” “Thinking,” “Language,” “Emotion,” “Motivation,” or “Social” chapters. This activity must be cleared and scheduled with your professor ahead of time.

 -Suggested references for activities and demonstrations:

Benjamin, L. T. (Ed.). (2008). *Favorite activities for the teaching of psychology*. American Psychological Association, Washington DC.

Brannigan, G. G. (2002). *Experiences in social psychology*. Boston, MA: Allyn & Bacon.

Instructor’s Resource Manual for your Introductory Psychology textbook (see your professor)

--Create a list entitled “Someone should really do a study about this” (topics must be related to psychology in some way). Be as specific as possible.

--Describe five learning and/or social behaviors that occur during a social event you attend as a group, such as a religious service, a sporting event, or other similarly populated activity.

--Develop a list of 15 questions to ask a psychology professor or professional psychologist about their training and career. Check with your instructor for more details.

--Develop your own out-of-class activity related to psychology (must be cleared with your professor before points will be awarded).