



MASTER COURSE OUTLINE

A. PSYC 1260 Introduction to Forensic Psychology

B. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This introductory course explores the various ways in which psychological principles, theories and research are being applied to the legal system. Students will discuss the application of psychology to forensic populations and situations, including (but not limited to) criminal behavior, crime victims, false confession, interrogation, jury behavior, and eyewitness testimony.

(2 Cr – 2 lect, 0 lab)

C. **Core Theme: Ethical and Civic Responsibility

D. RIVERLAND INSTITUTIONAL LEARNING OUTCOMES:

This course addresses the following Riverland Institutional Learning Outcome(s):

- ☐ ILO 1: critical thinking (*Core Theme Goal 2*)
- ☐ ILO 2: awareness of the larger global community (*Core Theme Goal 7 or 8*)
- ☒ ILO 3: ethical, engaged citizenship (*Core Theme Goal 9 or Goal 10*)
- ☐ ILO 4: communication and collaboration (*Discipline Goal 1 and by any learning outcome(s) involving communication or collaboration*)

E. MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:

- Definitions of Forensic Psychology
- Forensic Psychology's Relationship to Law Enforcement
- Forensic Psychology and Criminal Investigation
- Insanity and Competency
- Risk Assessment
- Forensic Psychology and "Syndrome" Evidence
- Child Sexual Abuse and Child Custody
- Eyewitness Identification
- Interrogations and Confessions
- Trials, Witnesses and Jury Selection

F. GOAL TYPE, OBJECTIVES, AND OUTCOMES:

<u>GOAL TYPE</u>	<u>OBJECTIVES</u>	<u>OUTCOMES</u>
	Students will be able to	The student will successfully
** <u>Ethical and Civic Responsibility</u>	analyze and reflect on the ethical dimensions of legal, social, and scientific issues.	1. describe ethical perspectives of the legal, social and scientific issues in relation to social

		psychology theories and/or practices.
<u>CS</u>	become familiar with the basic terminology related to forensic psychology.	1. define the terminology related to forensic psychology.
<u>CS</u>	describe and discuss various psychological principles, theories and research which can be directly applied to forensic situations.	1. discuss ways in which psychological principles, theories and research can be used to help us understand forensic populations and criminal behavior. 2. discuss ways in which psychological principles, theories and research are used in the legal process.

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION:

This course may require use of the Internet, the submission of electronically prepared documents and the use of a course management software program. Students who have a disability and need accommodations should contact Accessibility Services at the beginning of the semester. This information will be made available in alternative format, such as Braille, large print, or current media, upon request.

H. COURSE CODING INFORMATION: Course Code A/Class Maximum 48; Letter Grade.

Revision date: 2/27/13; 9/1/16; 9/16/22

AASC Approval date: 9/20/16; 10/18/22

*Riverland Community College Disciplines	MnTC Goal Number
Communication	1
Natural Sciences	3
Mathematics/Logical Reasoning	4
History and the Social & Behavioral Sciences	5
Humanities and Fine Arts	6

**Riverland Community College Core Themes	MnTC Goal Number
Critical Thinking	2
Human Diversity	7
Global Perspective	8
Ethical and Civic Responsibility	9
People and the Environment	10

*These five MnTC Goals have been identified as Riverland Community College Disciplines.

** These five MnTC Goals have been identified as Riverland Community College Core Themes.

***The Minnesota Transfer Curriculum “10 Goal Areas of Emphasis” are reflected in the five required discipline areas and five core themes noted in the Riverland Community College program of study guide and/or college catalog.