General Instructions for written homework reports:

Please note that these are general instructions which must be followed for completing the written assignments except for assignment #3 & assignment #6 where some slightly different instructions are given.

All assignments must be double-spaced. The papers for written assignments should be double-spaced, that is, a blank line should be left between printed or written lines.

Length: If typed, length should be a minimum of one full page. If handwritten, papers should be a minimum of two pages in length. A title page or cover sheet for homework reports is not required, but is acceptable if desired.

Reference sources: A minimum of two reference sources should be used to write the paper; the textbook must be used as one of the reference sources for all reports except assignments #3 and #6.

Reference sources must be listed at the end of the paper: The two reference sources need to be listed at the end of the paper as they would in a bibliography or on a reference page at the end of a research paper. For internet sources, both the date of access of material and date of the last update of the material needs to be noted in the reference listing.

Either a rough draft or some type of information on the reference source or sources used other than the textbook must be turned in with the paper. If an internet source is used as the second reference source, a printout of the internet source material must be obtained, as websites are subject to updates and there needs to be a printed record of the material as it existed when it was employed as a reference; you may elect to use the selection option on the print manager and print only the portion of the website or webpage you used as source material for your paper. If the reference source (other than the textbook) is not an internet source, there are several choices as to the type of documentation which may be turned in with the homework assignment. One choice is to turn in a rough draft (must be a rough draft and not just a second printout of the report). Another choice would be to make photocopies of the pages of a book or journal used as a reference. A third choice would be to make notes from the source other than the course textbook as a method of documenting the reference.

Keep a photocopy of the paper in the event that the original is misplaced or damaged.

The font size for the paper should be no larger than a 12 point.

Assignment 1: Pick a topic from the material covered in Chap. 7, Thinking and Intelligence to write about. You may wish to write about some area of intelligence testing, cognitive ability in animals, metacognition, creativity,
thought processes and reasoning, elements of cognition, etc. Due date: **Wed., Feb. 02, 2005.**

**Assignment 2:** Write a report related to the material covered in Chap. 10 in the textbook, *Behavior in Social and Cultural Context.* Topics to pick from include entrapment, the power of roles, social cognition, social and environmental influences on individual attitudes and beliefs, how the individual behaves in the group situation, group identity, prejudice, and stereotypes. Due date: **Wed., Feb. 16, 2005.**

**Assignment 3:** Turn in plans for the semester project for doing either service learning or a research paper. Due date: **Wed., Feb. 23, 2005.** Please follow the instructions given here for Assignment #3 rather than the general instructions above.

*If you are doing service learning,* you will need to go the service learning online site at [http://www.nwacc.edu/careerservices/service-learning/index.php](http://www.nwacc.edu/careerservices/service-learning/index.php). Another way of arriving at the Service learning website would be to go to the college homepage at [www.nwacc.edu](http://www.nwacc.edu) and click on the Site Index, and then scroll down and click on Service Learning. The Service learning forms are available from the website, and general instructions about the Service Learning process may be accessed on the website. You can review the list of Community Partners to see which sites have been approved for psychology and pick a site at which you wish to work. Your homework assignment is to write down a report of your progress, list the site you have selected, and confirm that you have formally contacted the agency. Also, in the homework assignment report your preliminary plans for how you believe you will be able to relate your onsite experience at the agency to some area of psychology. You may speak with the instructor to help plan what you will do.

*If you are doing a research paper,* you will need to (1) turn in your chosen topic for the paper, (2) turn in two reference sources you have located related to the topic, and (3) you will need to state what formal writing style you intend to use for your paper, either APA or MLA. List the two reference sources in the homework assignment as the references would be formally listed on the reference or works cited page of the research paper.

**Assignment 4:** Write a report on how stress and /or negative emotions can affect one’s health; see Chap. 12 in the textbook, *Emotions, Stress, and Health* to help generate ideas for the paper. Due date: **Wed., Mar. 09, 2005.**

**Assignment 5:** For this assignment, go to Chap. 14 in the textbook, *The Major Motives of Life; Love, Sex, Food, and Work,* and choose one of these four major areas to report on in regard to motivation. Due date: **Wed., Mar. 30, 2005.**

**Projects due Mon., Apr. 18, 2005.**
Assignment 6: Write a report on your group discussion animal. This report may be written from the standpoint of looking at the behavior of the animal, e.g., is the animal solitary or does it function in groups? Are there some behaviors which are known to be specific to this particular animal species? Other factors which might be looked at are gestation periods, preferred foods, expected lifespan of the animal, aggressiveness, etc. What behavior does the animal exhibit which enables it to adapt to its environment? Endeavor to use your skills of analysis and critical thinking when you review the biological and behavioral data on the animal. Also, symbolic material might be included as various cultures have historically attributed various characteristics and qualities to particular animals. The textbook would not be used as a reference source for his assignment, one reference source for this report is acceptable. Due date: Wed., May 04, 2005.