



PSYC 1301 INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY (CRN 11520)



Fall 2022 Mon & Wed 4:30 to 5:50 p.m. Business Administration Bldg. Room 313
F: Syll Fall 2022 Intro to Psych Mon Wed

INSTRUCTOR

Adolfo J. Alvarez, M.A., Lecturer and Psi Chi Faculty Co-Advisor
Prospect Hall, Room 208 Telephone: (915) 747-6589 Email: adolfoa@utep.edu

OFFICE HOURS

Wed: 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; Thur: 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.; and by appointment.



I teach several classes so it is impossible for me to remember each one of my students. Therefore, **include your full name and the name of this class in all your emails to me.**

TEACHING ASSISTANT (TA)

I will give you the TA's contact information as soon as one is assigned.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

The digital version of the textbook is free.



Spielman, R.M. (2020). *Psychology*. (2nd Ed.). Rice University. Houston, TX. Publisher: XanduEdu.
Hardcover Book ISBN-13: 978-1-975076-45-0.
Black and white paperback book ISBN-13: 978-1-975076-44-3
Digital version ISBN-13: 978-1-951693-23-7

The link for information on the textbook's publisher is:

<https://openstax.org/details/books/psychology-2e>

The XanduEdu publishing company can be reached at (800) 562-2147 and at www.xanedu.com

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course will go over the fascinating world of psychology, which uses science to study the mind and our behaviors. Psychology studies many, many different topics. You will learn topics such as the brain, sleeping 🧠 and dreaming, vision, how we learn to become who we are, how we memorize and why we forget, we will study newborns, young adults (like many of you), the not-so-young (like myself 😞) and some professors 😂), depression, panic attacks, criminal behavior, why we get 😡 angry, and other interesting topics.

LEARNING OUTCOMES+

After completing the course, you will be able to:

- 1) Know the major psychological theories and use them to understand, at a general level, your own behaviors and that of others;
- 2) Learn how psychological research is conducted+;
- 3) Learn some of the major research findings in psychology+;
- 4) How to think scientifically about psychology and other topics and determine whether the information is based on science or is merely a scientifically unsustainable opinion.+

ATTENDANCE

This is a challenging course, so attendance will be mandatory. I reserve the right to lower your overall grade by one letter grade if you have four or more+ absences, and to withdraw you from the course if you miss six or more+ classes. A student will be counted as absent if the student does not sign the attendance sheet. **You must sign the attendance sheet even if you are late.**

TESTS

There will be five tests. Each test will be worth 100 points and will consist of 40 to 60 multiple-choice questions. The questions will be based on the lectures, textbooks, videos, and the syllabus. The syllabus contains important information about the course, so it is important for you to know it. There will be

questions about the syllabus on information that has a + sign. There will be questions from the book on material that will not be covered during the lectures, so it is very important that you learn the information in the textbook.

If you miss one test, you will have the opportunity to make up for it by taking a comprehensive makeup exam at the end of the semester. If you have a documented and verifiable military reason or are hospitalized, you will need to provide documentation. The documentation must contain all of the following information: (1) A legible name of the person who writes the documentation, (2) Title of the person writing the documentation; (3) Signature of that person; (4) A legibly written phone number, and (5) Be written in official stationery. If any one of the above five points are not met, I will not grant authorization to take the comprehensive makeup. **I reserve the right to call the person who signs the documentation to ensure the validity of the document.** It is extremely important that you are not out of town on the day of the final test.

EXAM RULES

The following rules will be enforced during tests: 1) Students will not be allowed to go to the bathroom once a test has started. 2) No headphones caps, hats, or hoodies will be allowed. (Headphones are not allowed during any of the lectures.)

SONA EXPERIMENTS & CREDITS

Psychology depends on scientific research to learn more about the field. To this end, the Psychology Department's faculty conduct research and need participants to conduct their investigations. Therefore, you will be required to complete **eight (8)** credits of SONA experiments. For each hour that you participate as a subject, you will earn what is called a "credit." Experiments that last half an hour accrue 0.5 "credits"; those that last two hours, accrue two "credits," and so forth. Each "credit" is worth **7.5** points. The SONA experiments are in-person or on-line and vary in length. The instructions on how to sign up and how to participate in the SONA experiments are posted in Blackboard in the tab titled "Syllabus, SONA, & Written Summaries." **The last day to participate in the SONA experiments is Friday, December 2. No exceptions.** I will discuss SONA during our first class.

WRITTEN SUMMARIES

If you cannot or do not want to participate in the experiments, you can write summaries of **eight (8)** research articles posted in Blackboard. Each summary will be worth **7.5** points. The requirements for the written summaries are posted in Blackboard in the tab titled "SONA & Research Summaries." Once you have written **all** the summaries, email them to my Teaching Assistant. **The last day to email the summaries is Friday, November 11. No exceptions.**

You can combine any number of SONA research participation credits with any number of written summaries. For example, you can participate in 4 SONA credit experiments and write 4 summaries or participate in 2 SONA credit experiments and write 6 summaries, and so forth. The SONA research participation and the written summaries must add up to **eight (8)**. **The maximum points for both SONA credits and for the written summaries are 60 points. Email our TA if you have any questions about the SONA experiments and the written summaries.**

GRADING

As stated above, there will be five tests. Each test will be worth 100 points. Each SONA credit and each summary will be worth 7.5 points for a maximum of 60 points. The maximum points for the course will be 560 points. You will have the opportunity to earn extra points by correctly answering my "intellectual challenge" questions.

Total points from five tests =	500 points
Total points from SONA credits and/or written summaries =	60 points
TOTAL POINTS FOR COURSE =	560 points

The final grade will be based on the following point scale:

F = 0 - 335 D = 336 - 391 C = 392 - 447 B = 448 - 503 A = 504 - 560

The grade on each test is based on the following percentage scale:

F = 0 - 59% D = 60 - 69% C = 70 - 79% B = 80 - 89% A = 90 - 100%



You will be required to see the movie *A beautiful mind* (starring Russel Crowe). The movie has been posted on your home page of Blackboard. The movie is autobiographical and depicts schizophrenia, a mental disorder. I will ask questions about the film on Test 5, and I will give you information about the test questions when we discuss mental disorders.

CLASS REVIEWS

UTEP and I are committed to help you succeed in this course. For this reason, UTEP created the Miner Learning Center (MLC) to help students succeed in challenging core-curriculum classes, such as this Introduction to Psychology class. The MLC offers free review sessions through the Peers Assisting Student Success (PASS) program. Carol Yanez is going to be your PASS leader. Her email is cyanezquin@miners.utep.edu. Carol will attend class and will have review sessions of what I cover in each lecture. Students who attend the PASS review sessions get better grades than those who do not. You will be required to answer the survey questionnaire that will be sent to you by "mlctutor." The results of the survey will determine when the review sessions will be.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Academic dishonesty is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Students involved in academic dishonesty will be referred to the Office of Student Conflict and Resolution+ and will be disciplined. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts. For more information, go to this link <https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/osccr/>

CENTER FOR ACCOMMODATIONS AND SUPPORT SERVICES (CASS)

If you have a disability, I strongly recommend that you take advantage of the services mandated by federal law. Contact CASS at 747-5148 or at cass@utep.edu to request accommodations within the first two weeks of the semester. Receiving these free services is not unfair to other students. These services will help you get better grades.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

The schedule is subject to change. I will inform you of any changes via Blackboard or in lectures, but it is your responsibility to be aware of them.

				Discussion/Lecture Topics	Required Reading
1	Mon	Aug	22	Logistics & Introduction to Psychology	Ch. 1
2	Wed	Aug	24	Introduction to Psychology	
3	Mon	Aug	29	Introduction to Psychology	
4	Wed	Aug	31	Sensation & Perception	Ch. 5
	Mon	Sep	5	Labor Day. University closed	
5	Wed	Sep	7	Test 1 on Ch. 1, 5, & syllabus	Ch. 2
6	Mon	Sep	12	Psychological Research	
7	Wed	Sep	14	Psychological Research	
8	Mon	Sep	19	Biopsychology	Ch. 3
9	Wed	Sep	21	Biopsychology	
10	Mon	Sep	26	States of Consciousness	Ch. 4
11	Wed	Sep	28	States of Consciousness	
12	Mon	Oct	3	Test 2 Chs: 2, 3, 4, & syllabus	
13	Wed	Oct	5	Learning	Ch. 6
14	Mon	Oct	10	Learning	
15	Wed	Oct	12	Learning & Memory	Ch. 6 & 8
16	Mon	Oct	17	Memory	Ch. 8
17	Wed	Oct	19	Memory	
18	Mon	Oct	24	Test 3 Chs: 6, 8, & syllabus	
19	Wed	Oct	26	Motivation & Emotion	Ch. 10
20	Mon	Oct	31	Motivation & Emotion	
21	Wed	Nov	2	Lifespan Development	Ch. 9
22	Mon	Nov	7	Social Psychology	Ch. 12
23	Wed	Nov	9	Social Psychology	
				Fri. Nov 12. Last day to email summaries to Teaching Assistant.	
24	Mon	Nov	14	Test 4 Chs: 9, 10, 12, & syllabus	
25	Wed	Nov	16	Psychological Disorders	Ch. 15
26	Mon	Nov	21	Psychological Disorders Guest speaker: "Living with Generalized Anxiety Disorder"	
27	Wed	Nov	23	Psychological Disorders	
28	Mon	Nov	28	Therapy and Treatment	Ch. 16
29	Wed	Nov	30	Therapy and Treatment	
				Fri. Dec 2. Last day to do SONA studies	
30	Mon	Dec	5	Test 5 Chs: 15, 16, and <i>A beautiful mind</i> at 4:30 p.m.	

DO NOT BE OUT OF TOWN ON THE DAY OF THE FINAL TEST.