

# Introduction to Psychology



**Fall - 2024**

## **PSYC 1301 ONLINE Course Syllabus**

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**INSTRUCTOR:** CLAUDIA COCHRAN, M.A.      **COURSE:** PSYC 1301      **SEMESTER:** FALL 2024

**ONLINE OFFICE HOURS:** T/TH 7 – 9 AM OR BY APPOINTMENT

**OFFICE PHONE:** (915) 831-2253      **E-mail:** Ccochran2@utep.edu      **CRN:** 11060

### **1. Course Description:**

**Hi Everyone! Welcome to our 7-WEEK ONLINE General Psychology Class!**

This course is designed to introduce you to the scientific study of behavior and mental processes.

How does the brain work? How is intelligence measured? How do we learn? Can memory be improved? What's a Skinner box? Why is Freud so famous? Why is Maslow's hierarchy important? How is mental illness defined and treated? Is stress deadly? What changes are normative throughout the lifespan?

You'll find the answers to these intriguing questions (and many more) throughout this semester. With over 15 different major areas in psychology, just imagine the possibilities. Topics such as biopsychology, sleep, learning, memory, personality, motivation, development, sexuality, and psychopathology will all be discussed. The basics in psychological theory will be emphasized.

**I hope you are excited to be an ACTIVE participant in your education!**

Your interest, your dedication and your commitment should enhance your success in class.

### **2. Required Course Textbook:**

**GREAT NEWS!!!** This course will use Open Educational Resources (OER) provided by Lumen Learning – Waymaker. This means the textbook and course materials are provided at no additional charge and are available within our Blackboard course. Look in each Unit folder in Blackboard, under the CHAPTER READINGS to read each chapter for the course.

### 3. GRADING (How will I be graded?):

Your Final Grade will be computed from TWO PARTS:

<b>Part 1: EXAMS:</b> 4 Unit Exam Grades (Drop Lowest)	60 POINTS of your grade
<b>Part 2: COURSEWORK:</b> Quizzes & Video Surveys	40 POINTS of your grade
<b>EXTRA Credit</b>	Up to 5 POINTS of your grade

**Final Letter Grade is based on this scale:**

A = 90 - 100 Points   B = 80 – 89 points   C = 70 – 79 points   D = 60 – 69 points   F = 59 or less



### 4. COURSEWORK – Quizzes & Video Surveys – 40 Maximum Points

Your completion of the UNIT coursework is 40 % of your FINAL Course grade.

NO LATE WORK is accepted. Be sure to submit ALL coursework in a timely manner and BEFORE the Submission window has closed (Before the DUE Dates). No exceptions will be made to this policy.

**EACH UNIT** has Chapter Quizzes, 1 Video Survey AND 1 EXAM.

This is an ONLINE course and you need a reliable computer/tablet and reliable internet connection to complete your work. Smartphones are not recommended as many students report problems with course completion when relying solely on a smartphone.

#### **Coursework POINT MENU (40 points MAX needed for the semester)**

Each of these items counts towards the 40 MAXIMUM COURSEWORK POINTS

- **Video Surveys:** 2 pts, 1 pt. or 0 pts., based on your ability to provide UNIQUE video content that you related to. Video Surveys require that you watch the corresponding video and then complete the survey after you have watched it. This is not a book survey so book content will receive a zero. AI Generated responses will receive zero points.
- **Chapter Quizzes:** Up to 2 points each based on accuracy
- **Alternative Assignments:** Contact me if you would like to propose an alternative Assignment for one of the units, instead of completing quizzes & video surveys.

**\*\* Please NOTE that E-mailed coursework will NOT RECEIVE CREDIT as Blackboard e-mail is NOT linked to the gradebook. Submit all coursework through its submission tab.**

## 5. EXAMS (Up to 20 Points each) 60 Maximum Points

Your exams are multiple-choice and true-false questions and are taken ONLINE through Blackboard EXAM tab.

- You will take FOUR exams during the semester, the LOWEST Grade will be dropped.
- A missed exam will result in the grade of a "zero". **No makeup exams** are allowed.
- Generous exam windows are provided, so be sure NOT to miss those open dates.
- Exams are TIMED (90 minutes) and require that you study and prepare PRIOR to taking the exam. Running out of time is NO EXCUSE for a failed exam.
- Your LOWEST Exam score is DROPPED at the end of the semester, the other 3 are worth up to 20 points each, for a total of 60 Maximum exam points.

## 6. Academic Dishonesty-

You must demonstrate ethical behavior for all of your work. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, collusion, or plagiarism will not be tolerated. This includes copying answers from a peer, a source, or using AI to generate your responses. Should you be suspected of such behavior, you can be involuntarily dropped from the course, among the more serious consequences. The work you submit must be your OWN original work, please ensure that it is. For more information, please see the UTEP Student Code of Conduct.

## 7. Appropriate ONLINE (Netiquette) Behavior-

Mature, respectful, and responsible behavior is expected from all students at all times. All students must behave in a way that is RESPECTFUL to your peers and your professor. Disruptive or Disrespectful behavior towards the professor or other students will NOT be tolerated in person or online. If this behavior occurs, it may result in a variety of disciplinary actions: a warning from the professor and/or a zero in participation, a lowered course grade, or a referral to the dean for permanent removal from the class. Students will receive a written warning about this conduct and on second offense will be referred to the dean for further consequences, up to and including removal from the class.

## 8. Course Withdrawal and 6 DROP RULE-

The LAST DAY you can withdraw from this course with a W is on **September 30, 2024**. Although it is not required, you should consult with your professor prior to processing a drop, just to verify course standing. It is your responsibility to drop yourself from the class. I do not drop anyone for any reason.

## 9. EXTRA Credit: Up to 5 POINTS of Total Course Grade

Interested in getting a few extra points for your grade? Then sign up today to create a Chapter REVIEW game for your classmates. Submit your EXTRA CREDIT Proposal that states:

- The CHAPTER that you have selected for your game
- A description of the type of electronic game you will create to help the class **review** the material.
- You **MUST** create at least 15 challenging **Multiple Choice questions**
- **REQUIRED:** Submit a draft, at least 2 weeks before the EXAM opens for that chapter and receive approval before sharing your game with the class.
- **REQUIRED:** Once approved, be sure to **SHARE your chapter game** with your peers so they can play your game as they prepare for their exams.
- Only **ONE** review activity is allowed per semester, per student.



## 10. Communication with Professor & Office hours-

Use the Blackboard MESSAGE tab (in the left top corner) to communicate with me. You must log into our BLACKBOARD COURSE to use this tab and it is the **ONLY** official communication for the course. If you use any other format, such as gmail, [live@epcc.edu](mailto:live@epcc.edu), [miners.utep.edu](mailto:miners.utep.edu), etc., you will **NOT** get a response. If BB is down, you can use [ccoehran2@utep.edu](mailto:ccoehran2@utep.edu). Message me through the BB MESSAGE tab and I will get back to you within 48 hours, unless it's a weekend, then please wait until Monday.

**\*\* Please note that sending quiz responses or survey responses through MESSAGES is NOT valid because it is not linked to the gradebook. NO grade will be received for e-mailed coursework. Please submit all quizzes and video surveys through their respective SUBMISSION tabs.**

**ONLINE OFFICE Hours: Tues/Thurs. 7 am – 9 am and by appointment.**

During my ONLINE office hours, you can e-mail me and get a speedy response or request a BB Collaborate chat or phone consultation. I am also available by appointment, should you need an alternate meeting time. Just reach out!

## **11. Student Engagement:**

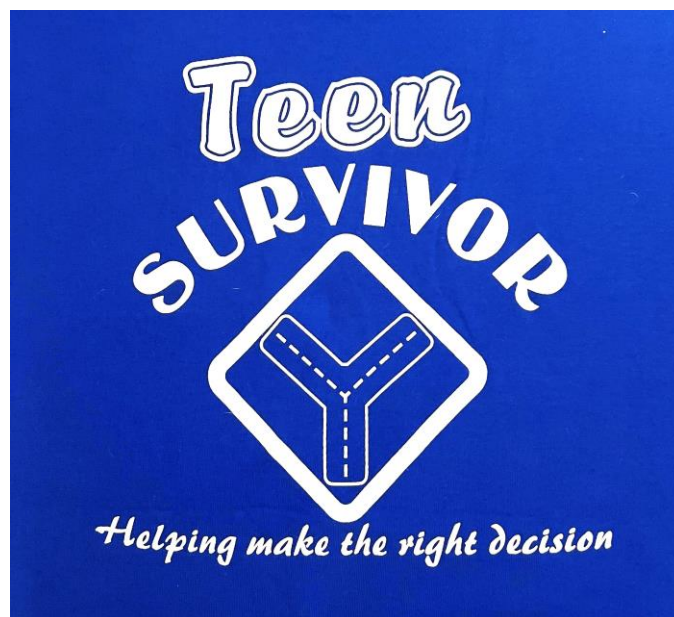
17 years ago, I started a student organization at EPCC called the Teen Survivor Program. This program is a youth-outreach program that conducts research-based Teen Survivor Fairs. We go out to one middle school every semester and give out thousands of dollars in prizes. We do all kinds of out-reach events throughout the semester and at the very end, we have a huge pizza party to celebrate everyone's hard work. In the Fall of 2023, we opened a charter club at UTEP as well and I now have two amazing co-advisors helping out with the program:

Dr. Carlos Vargas and Dr. Carole Teran

We make an amazing team!

If you are interested in serving our beautiful border community, then please reach out and I can fill you in on our events and meetings. It's a great way to make friends for life and to do something amazing for El Paso & Juarez youth. Teen Survivor requires lots of work and dedication, but when you see all the kids smiling it makes it all worthwhile! It's a great way to build your relational skills by working in teams and grow your leadership skills.

Join us this semester as we bring some fun and joy to our community.



## Unit 1

DAY	Chapter	Topic	Due:
Week 1 Aug. 26		First Day of Class	Read Syllabus & Welcome Folder
Aug. 27		Course Orientation	Blackboard Collaborate @ 6 pm
Aug. 28	1	Introduction to Psychological Basics	Begin Reading & Coursework Unit 1
Aug. 29	2	Memory	Syllabus Quiz DUE 8/29
Aug. 30		Course Orientation Video Survey DUE	Orientation Video Survey DUE 8/30
Week 2 Sept. 2		<b>Institutional Holiday</b>	<b>*No Classes</b>
Sept. 3	3	Motivation	
Sept. 4		Watch Unit 1 REVIEW VIDEO	Unit 1 Video Survey DUE 9/4
Sept. 5	1 – 3	Unit 1 Quizzes DUE	Unit 1 Quizzes DUE 9/5
Sept. 6 - 7	1 – 3	<b>Unit 1 EXAM (ONLINE)</b>	<b>EX 1: Don't miss it! 9/6 – 9/7 @ 11:58 pm</b>

## Unit 2

Week 3 Sept. 9	4	Biopsychology	Begin Reading & Coursework Unit 2
Sept. 11	5	Stress, Lifestyle & Health	
Sept. 13	6	Learning	
Week 4 Sept. 16		Watch Unit 2 REVIEW VIDEO	Unit 2 Video Survey DUE 9/16
Sept. 17	4 –6	Unit 2 Quizzes DUE	Unit 2 Quizzes DUE 9/17
Sept. 18 -19		<b>Unit 2 EXAM (ONLINE)</b>	<b>EX 2: Don't miss it! 9/18 – 9/19 @ 11:58 pm</b>

## Unit 3

Sept. 20	7	Lifespan Development	Begin Reading & Coursework Unit 3
Week 5 Sept. 23	8	States of Consciousness	
Sept. 24	9	Social Psychology	
Sept. 25		Watch Unit 3 REVIEW VIDEO	Unit 3 VS DUE 9/25
Sept. 26	7 – 9	Unit 3 Quizzes DUE	Unit 3 Quizzes DUE 9/26
Sept. 27 – 28	7–9	<b>Unit 3 EXAM (ONLINE)</b>	<b>EX 3: Don't miss it! 9/27 – 9/28 @ 11:58 pm</b>

## Unit 4

Week 6 Sept. 30	10	Cognition	Begin Reading & Coursework Unit 4
Oct. 2	11	Personality	
Oct. 4	12	Psychological Disorders	
Week 7 Oct. 7		Watch Unit 4 Review Video	Unit 4 VS DUE 10/8
Oct. 9		Unit 4 Quizzes DUE	Unit 4 Quizzes DUE 10/9
Oct. 11- 12	10-- 13	<b>Unit 4 Final EXAM (ONLINE)</b>	<b>EX 4: Don't Miss it! 10/11 – 10/12 @ 11:58 pm</b>
Oct. 14		Last Day of Class	Final Grades posted on Blackboard

**\*\* Please note that quizzes & surveys MUST be submitted through the SUBMIT tabs on BB. Due dates are when the submission window CLOSES, so be sure to submit BEFORE the end of that day. Also, please note that exam windows VARY and are NOT ALWAYS on the same day/time of the week. \*\*\***

## QUICK VIEW

Due Dates	Video Surveys DUE	QUIZZES	EXAM Window
Unit 1	9/4	9/5	9/6 – 9/7
Unit 2	9/16	9/17	9/18 – 9/19
Unit 3	9/25	9/26	9/27 – 9/28
Unit 4	10/8	10/9	10/11 – 10/12

### Working HARD as a college student:

**What's the 3:1 RATIO???** The 3:1 Ratio means for EACH CREDIT Hour that you are taking, you must devote 3 HOURS of PREPARATION per week. This is a 3 CREDIT class, which means you will need at least **9 HOURS of preparation**, per week, to be successful. Use these hours for reading, completing video surveys, and chapter quizzes. Getting started on the right track is a great way to be successful in college. This ratio applies to all your classes, so plan accordingly.