

Course Syllabus: Introduction to Psychology (PSY 1301, CRN: 12724)

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Class Meets: Tuesday/ Thursday 10:30-11:50 a.m.

Location: UGLC 342

Office Hours: Wednesdays 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Office Hours Location: PSY 102 (My office is located in the back)

Course T.A.: T.B.A.

Course Overview:

Throughout the semester students will be exposed to a variety of issues relevant to the study of human behavior. As this is an introductory course, it is aimed to touch upon a number of topics, such as the history of psychology, research methodology, social, behavioral, clinical and cognitive psychology.

Course Objectives:

After successfully completing this course, students will:

- Have a general knowledge of the field of psychological science and many of its subfields, preparing them for future classes in statistical methods, research methodology, and field specific courses.
- Have knowledge of the methods used in psychological research and the scientific method.
- Gain experience applying psychological concepts to their lives and the “real world”, using critical thinking skills

As we will discuss in class, modern psychology is based on scientific research. The vast majority of this research is conducted at research universities. Students will be required to get involved in this research process by participating in psychological research studies here at UTEP. **Students will be required to complete a minimum of 8 research credit-hours by the end of the semester.**

Suggestion: DO NOT WAIT until the end of the semester to complete your research credits.

All research conducted with human subjects is voluntary. As such, students who cannot, or choose not to, participate in research will complete an alternative summary paper. You will complete one summary paper per hour of research participation.

Required Text:

Hockenbury, S.E., Nolan, S.A., & Hockenbury, D.H., Discovering Psychology (7th ed.). New York: Worth Publishers.

ISBN-Loose Leaf: 978-1-4641-7695-1

*Additional readings may be provided via Blackboard throughout the semester.

Blackboard:

Blackboard will be used in this course. It is your responsibility to check Blackboard, since major announcements will be posted. Partial versions of the PowerPoint will be available on Blackboard. If you miss class, I will not give you a copy of the lecture.

Examinations, Grading & Participation Requirements:

- **Exams:** There will be a total of three exams (Exam 1, Exam 2, and Final Exam). All exams are closed-book and closed-notes. All exams will be multiple choice and they must be completed using scantron sheets. *Students are required to bring their own scantron sheets and pencils for the exams.*

Please make sure you arrive on time. *If you arrive after one of your peers has handed in his or her exam you will no longer be allowed to take the exam and your grade for the missed exam will be zero.*

- **Quizzes:** Will be given 26 lecture quizzes. Quizzes will be given within the first 10 minutes of class and within the last 10 minutes of class). These two quizzes will be combined to reflect a quiz grade for the lecture day. The quizzes may be based on assigned readings or lecture materials. No late quizzes will be given or accepted. Your lowest 4 quiz grades will be dropped from final grade calculations.
- **Grading:**
Final grades will be calculated as follows:
 - o **22%:** will be based on quizzes (Highest 22 quiz grades, each quiz is worth 1%)
 - o **72%:** exams (Exam 1: 24%, Exam 2: 24%, Exam 3: 24%)
 - o **6%:** research participation (6% if successfully completed)

Final Grades:

100-90 = A

89-80 = B

79-70 = C

69-60 = D

59-0 = F

Students are expected to attend all lectures. It is to your benefit as a student to attend the lectures and take the quizzes as well as the exams. *Cell phone use is NOT permitted during class.*

Classroom Etiquette

Please turn off your cell phone on arrival. *Use of cell phones is strictly prohibited in class.* Don't talk when others are talking. If you want to ask a question or make a comment, raise your hand and try not to interrupt others as they speak. Use of computers is strongly discouraged.

Don't use your computer for irrelevant activities such as emailing, visiting a social network profile, playing games, watching videos, listening to music and so on. These activities prevent you from focusing on lectures and other class engagements and may distract other students.

No video or audio recordings of the lectures are allowed (unless the instructor has given prior approval)

Late/ Make up Exams/ Quizzes

Late/make up exams/quizzes will not be given. On exam days, no exams will be handed out after the first exam has been completed. In other words, if you arrive to class late and the first exam has been handed in, you have missed the exam. Exceptions may only be considered at my discretion in cases of University approved absence

or emergency with appropriate documentation. It is the instructor's discretion whether to make alternative arrangements for exams. Exceptions will only be considered if you inform the instructor at least 7 days before the scheduled exam day.

Excused Absences for University-Recognized Activities

Make up exams will be granted only for: university-recognized activities, absence for religious Holy Days, and military leave. Anyone who will be missing an exam due to a university-recognized activity, religious holy days or military leave will be required to take the exam before the exam is to be administered to the class on the scheduled exam day. You will have to notify me at seven days in advance to the exam.

For more information on University Excused Absences, please visit:

<https://academics.utep.edu/Default.aspx?tabid=54418>.

Absence from Examinations

A student absent from a test during the semester is graded zero (0) unless the student has contacted me at least seven days before the exam and we have made alternative arrangements.

Written notice policy

I require that any requests or inquiries be made via email (to the email address provided on this syllabus) so that a record of the request is saved. This includes, but is not limited to, grading disputes, information requests, requests for appointments etc. I will respond to any written request/inquiry in a timely manner.

Academic Dishonesty:

I will certainly report you if you engage in academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion.

- Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student or possessing unauthorized materials during a test.
- Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another person's as one's own.
- Collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

Violations will be taken seriously and will be referred to the Dean of Students Office for possible disciplinary action. Students may be suspended or expelled from UTEP for such actions.

Remember: unauthorized use or possession of test materials (including from previous semesters) is considered an academic dishonesty and will be reported to the University (there will be no exceptions)

Accommodations and Support Services:

If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, by email to cass@utep.edu, or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.sa.utep.edu/cass.

PSYCH 1301 Tentative Schedule

*This schedule is extremely tentative. I reserve the right to make any changes to the schedule.

Schedule	Date	Topic	Announcements: Reading Due
Tuesday	08/28	LC 1: Syllabus Review, Chapter 1: Introduction and Research Methods	No readings due
Thursday	08/30	LC 2: Chapter 1; Special Topics: Ethics and its importance	QUIZ 1; Chapter 1
Tuesday	09/04	LC 3: Chapter 2: Neuroscience and Behavior	QUIZ 2; Chapter 2
Thursday	09/06	LC 4: Chapter 2:	QUIZ 3; Chapter 2
Tuesday	09/11	LC 5: Chapter 3: Sensation and Perception	QUIZ 4; Chapter 3
Thursday	09/13	LC 6: Chapter 3:	QUIZ 5; Chapter 3
Tuesday	09/18	LC 7: Chapter 4: Consciousness and Its Variations	QUIZ 6; Chapter 4
Thursday	09/20	LC 8: Chapter 4	QUIZ 7; Chapter 4
Tuesday	09/25	LC 9: Chapter 5: Learning	QUIZ 8; Chapter 5
Thursday	09/27	LC 10: Chapter 5:	QUIZ 9; Chapter 5
Tuesday	10/02	EXAM 1 will cover materials from LC 01- LC 10	NO QUIZ; Exam Day
Thursday	10/04	LC 11: Chapter 6: Memory	QUIZ 10; Chapter 6
Tuesday	10/09	LC 12: Chapter 6	QUIZ 11; Chapter 6
Thursday	10/11	LC 13: Chapter 7: Thinking, Language and Intelligence	QUIZ 12; Chapter 7
Tuesday	10/16	LC 14: Chapter 7	QUIZ 13; Chapter 7
Thursday	10/18	LC 15: Chapter 8: Motivation and Emotion	QUIZ 14; Chapter 8
Tuesday	10/23	LC 16: Chapter 8	QUIZ 15; Chapter 8
Thursday	10/25	LC 17: Chapter 9: Lifespan Development	QUIZ 16; Chapter 9
Tuesday	10/30	LC 18: Chapter 9:	QUIZ 17; Chapter 9
Thursday	11/01	LC 19: Chapter 10: Personality	QUIZ 18; Chapter 10
Tuesday	11/06	LC 20: Chapter 10:	QUIZ 19; Chapter 10
Thursday	11/08	EXAM 2 will cover materials from LC 11- LC 20	NO QUIZ; Exam Day
Tuesday	11/13	LC 21: Chapter 11: Social Psychology	QUIZ 20; Chapter 11
Thursday	11/15	LC 22: Chapter 11	QUIZ 21; Chapter 11
Tuesday	11/20	LC 23: Chapter 12: Stress, Health and Coping	QUIZ 22; Chapter 12
Thursday	11/22	NO CLASS. Thanksgiving Holiday-	NO CLASS
Tuesday	11/27	LC 24: Chapter 13: Psychological Disorders	QUIZ 23; Chapter 13
Thursday	11/29	LC 25: Chapter 13	QUIZ 24; Chapter 13
Tuesday	11/04	LC 26: Chapter 14: Therapies	QUIZ 25; Chapter 14
Thursday	11/06	LC 27: Chapter 14	QUIZ 26; Chapter 14
Thursday	12/13	FINAL EXAM will cover LC 21 o 27 Location to be confirmed. *Changes may be announced	NO QUIZ: Exam Day Exam will be from 10:00am-12:45pm

Research Component for Introduction to Psychology (PSYC 1301)

In this course, the student will learn about numerous factors that interact to influence thinking and behavior. Just as in other scientific disciplines, knowledge in psychology is obtained by conducting carefully designed studies. Most of what the student will learn in this course, therefore, represents the findings of previous psychological studies. Although this type of information is very important, it is also important for the student to learn about the methods that are used to create scientific knowledge. Learning about scientific procedures is considered to be so vital that many scientific disciplines require students to take laboratory classes in addition to lecture classes. For example, students in chemistry courses participate in laboratory exercises in which they mix various chemicals, and observe and record the outcome of these exercises.

In order to facilitate learning the scientific procedures used in psychology, the Introductory Psychology course has a research requirement. The preferred method for students to fulfill this requirement is by actual participation in psychology studies. Not only will students learn about the scientific procedures that are used in psychology, but they will also be contributing to future knowledge. Studies conducted in the UTEP Psychology Department often appear in prominent scientific journals. When students are unable to or wish not to participate (perhaps because of a work schedule), they have the option of completing the "Alternate Assignment", which involves completing 2-page reports on a series of pre-selected journal articles. Other alternate assignments may be offered by individual instructors.

Introductory Psychology Research Requirement

Part of the student's final grade will be based on credits earned via participation in psychological research. Students in all introductory psychology classes are required to earn a **minimum of 8** units of research credit. For students who choose the experiment participation option, one credit is earned for each hour of participation. Students must be at least 18 years old to participate in experiments; students under the age of 18 should complete the alternate assignment provided by the instructor.

The course instructor will inform students of how research credit will be factored in to compute the final semester grade, and whether or not students can earn extra credit by completing more than the required 8 research credit units. The instructor will also provide details on alternate assignments that can be completed to fulfill the research requirement without research participation.

Students can obtain 8 credits with only 6 hours of participation or the equivalent in alternate assignments if:

- 3 credits are accumulated by **Friday, October 12th**, a 4th credit will be automatically added.
- 7 credits are accumulated by **Friday, November 9th**, the 8th credit will be added.

***** You have until the last day of class (DECEMBER 6, 2018) to complete your credit requirements. *****

Instructions for Participating in Psychological Studies

1. In order to participate in research studies, you must have a current UTEP e-mail address. If you do not already have a UTEP e-mail address, you may obtain a free e-mail account from the University. For details on getting an e-mail account or finding computer labs on campus for student use, contact the HELP desk at 747-5257 (or x4357 on campus).
2. You will need to create an account on the online psychology research participation system. To access the system, go to the following website: <http://utep.sona-systems.com/> (there is a link from the Psychology Department website). To create an account the first time you access the system, use the link marked "request an account here." Enter the information requested, including your name, your UTEP student ID number, your UTEP e-mail address, and the course in which you are enrolled. Then press the button marked "Request Account."
3. Your log-on ID and password will be sent to your UTEP e-mail account within several minutes. You may then go to <http://utep.sona-systems.com/> and log in using the information that was e-mailed to you.

4. You may then select the link marked "Browse a list of studies and sign up for those that interest you." By selecting a study, you can see more detailed information and sign up for the study if you wish.
5. Once you have signed up for a study, the system will send you an e-mail and the study will appear under "My Schedule/Credits." You can use this feature to remind yourself of the time and location of the study. Within two days after your participation, your credit for the study should appear online. If you do not receive credit for a study within two days of your participation, please contact the researcher by e-mail or telephone to resolve the problem.
6. You may generally participate only once in each study. Some studies may have additional restrictions on participation that will be displayed online.
7. In order to ensure that your participation is recorded properly, do not set up more than one account per person and do not use someone else's account.
8. If you have questions about how to use this system, contact the Psychology Department's participant pool administrator, Professor Veronica Whitford, at **SONA@utep.edu**. Please include your name, UTEP e-mail address, and instructor's name in your request for information.

Policy on Cancellations and Failures to Appear for Scheduled Experimental Sessions

It is important that you attend all studies for which you sign up. The Psychology Department encourages students to exercise professionalism and courtesy in keeping or canceling scheduled appointments. That is, if you schedule a session and later find that you are unable to or no longer wish to attend, please cancel such participation through the SONA system. If you cannot access the SONA system at that time, then you may cancel by sending an e-mail to the experimenter or calling to leave a message for the experimenter. Cancellation through the SONA system allows other students who need credit to sign up for the cancelled session, which makes it the ideal method. Canceling by e-mail or phone lets experimenters know that they can either open a new slot for another participant or make other plans for their time. Remember that most experimenters are other students and are also quite busy.

*****Failing to show up for a scheduled experiment without appropriate cancellation will result in a penalty of one credit being applied to your account.** Each penalty credit increases the number of experiment hours you must complete to fulfill the requirement.***

The Student's Rights as Research Participant

Participation in research is meant to be an enjoyable and educational experience. Therefore, specific steps are taken to ensure that the student's participation will be beneficial to both the student and society (by the knowledge gained from the study):

1. The Institutional Review Board, an ethics committee, screens each study before anyone is allowed to participate in order to ensure that volunteers are not in any way mistreated.
2. Before participation, the researcher will give students information about what will take place during the study. Students will then be asked to sign a statement of consent to participate.
3. After completion of the study, the researcher will debrief the participants as to the purpose of the study.
4. Students have the right to discontinue participation in the study at any time and without penalty.
5. Student participants have the right to expect the researcher to be present on time to conduct the study. If a participant is present on time and the researcher is not, the participant should first check to ensure that the date/time/location is correct. If that information is correct, the student should contact the researcher as soon as possible in order to resolve the error and receive whatever credit is appropriate.
6. Students who feel that their rights have been violated during participation in any of the Psychology Department's research studies should inform their instructor. If the matter is not satisfactorily resolved by the instructor, they should contact the Chairperson of the Psychology Department Undergraduate Committee at 747-5551 and/or the Coordinator for Institutional Research Review at 747-8841.

Research Participation — Alternate Assignment

As noted in the syllabus for this course, **all students enrolled in PSYC 1301 are required to earn 8 research participation credits**. You have the option to write papers summarizing pre-selected research articles from psychology journals instead of participating in research experiments.

Each paper should summarize each research article, and counts as the equivalent of 1 hour of research participation. **Thus, if you do not participate in any research experiments, you must write 8 papers to fulfill the research requirement (or six if completed in a timely manner as noted in the SONA research participation instructions).**

Paper requirements:

1. The journal articles can be found on Blackboard, and each paper (i.e., alternate assignment) must be typed, double-spaced with 1-inch margins, and 12-point font.
2. Each paper must be 2 pages in length.
3. All papers must be **submitted by the last day of class (DECEMBER 6, 2018)**. No late papers will be accepted. Papers must be turned in via the link in Blackboard.
4. Each paper should contain the following information:
 - a. What were the primary research questions for the study? In other words, what were the researchers trying to examine, and why?
 - b. Briefly describe how the researchers conducted their study. Was data collected from human participants? If so, how many (what was their sample size)? How was the data collected (i.e., questionnaires, interviews, etc.)?
 - c. Briefly describe the results of the study. You aren't expected to be able to interpret the statistics used, but you should be able to talk about the overall findings. (Hint: The findings are generally discussed in plain, non-statistical language in the discussion section.)
 - d. Reflect on what you learned from reading this article, and briefly discuss what was or was not surprising about what the researchers found.
5. All information from the paper must be in summary form, meaning that you read the paper and put it in your own words. If you directly quote from the article or you copy word for word (or nearly word for word) from the article, you will not receive credit for this assignment.
6. Include the citation for the article you summarized.