

Introduction to Psychology

MW 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

QUINN HALL 212

INSTRUCTOR

Jacqueline Lechuga, M.A.

Email: jlechuga5@miners.utep.edu

Office: Psychology Building Room 311

Office Hours: Wednesday from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM or by appointment

Teaching Assistant: TBA

Teaching Assistant's Email: TBA

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Title: Discovering Psychology (9th Edition)

Author: Sandra E. Hockenbury & Susan A. Nolan

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will provide an overview of the field of psychology. Different models for the study of human behavior will be presented, as well as an introduction to research methods in psychology. Students will obtain an understanding of each area of psychology and learn to critically evaluate psychological research.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the scientific basis of psychology
2. Identify the primary historical figures in the field of psychology
3. Explain the major theories and empirical findings in the field of psychology
4. Apply psychological concepts to various real-life situations
5. Think critically about psychological research.

COMMUNICATION

Please use the email address listed above to communicate with me (the instructor) and/or the teaching assistant. DO NOT email me using the Blackboard email feature. Emails will be responded on a timely manner, but please allow 24 hours or more for a response, especially on weekends and holiday breaks. Emails sent after work hours will receive a response the next day.

BLACKBOARD

This course will involve extensive use of Blackboard. I will make announcements regarding the course via Blackboard periodically. Please check Blackboard for announcements at least once

per week. In Blackboard, you will find information about the course (e.g., syllabus), assignments, quizzes, grades, and other materials relevant to the course.

If you have technical problems with Blackboard, contact the UTEP online help desk at (915) 747-4357 or via email (helpdesk@utep.edu).

ACCOMMODATIONS

If you have a disability and require accommodation, please contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services at (915) 747-5148 or via email (cass@utep.edu) during the first week of the semester. They will help you with the required paperwork necessary to obtain accommodations. If you require accommodations, please send me an email or stop during my office hours to discuss the accommodations.

COVID-19

Please stay home if you have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. If you feel unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, so we can work on appropriate accommodations. Please note that relevant documentation will be required for accommodations, especially if the accommodations will require an extension of multiple days.

If you have tested positive for COVID-19, you are encouraged to report your results (covidaction@utep.edu). The Dean of Students Office can provide you with support and help with communication with your professors. The Student Health Center is equipped to provide COVID-19 testing.

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, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another 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. All suspected violations of academic integrity at The University of Texas at El Paso will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR) for possible disciplinary action. Please review UTEP's policy statement on academic dishonesty (<https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/osccr/student-conduct/academic-integrity.html>).

ATTENDANCE

Attendance for this class is not mandatory. However, to do well in this course, you need to attend every class session and listen actively. Material presented in class will not be available at any other time and much of what is discussed in class is complementary and not a repetition of the

text material. If you miss a class, you will need to make arrangements to get notes from another student. Do not ask the instructor or TA for notes.

CLASSROOM COURTESY

Every student should get the most out of this course. For this to happen, it is crucial that everyone follows basic guidelines of courtesy and respect towards the instructor and their fellow classmates during class meetings.

Please adhere to the following:

1. **Don't come late.** Late arrivals are disruptive. Please make sure your schedule doesn't prevent you from being on time for class.
2. **Don't leave early.** Plan to stay seated quietly for the entire class period – packing up early prevents others from hearing the lecture and announcements. I generally end class at least 2-3 minutes before the official end time of the class, so you will have ample time to get where you are going. If your schedule prevents you from staying until the end of class, please change your schedule.
3. **No phones.** Do not use your cell phone or text messaging device during class – please turn these devices off.
4. **No surfing.** You may use your laptop/iPad to take notes, but not for any other purpose. Using laptops to play movies or surf the web is extremely distracting to other students.
5. **No side conversations.** While I highly encourage students to ask questions during class, please refrain from side conversations not related to the larger class discussion. This is very disruptive – students frequently complain that they cannot hear the lecture/films because of other students' conversations.

If you engage in these activities, you are preventing your fellow students from learning. As such, you will be asked to leave the classroom. Don't let other students distract from your learning experience – if you see others engaging in these activities, please ask them to stop.

GRADE BREAKDOWN

Grades will be based on the total number of points earned (out of a possible 630). Letter grades will be based on the following scale:

- A = 567 to 630 points
- B = 504 to 566 points
- C = 441 to 503 points
- D = 378 to 440 points
- F = 377 points or less

Chapter Quizzes (100 points): Twelve open-book quizzes will be administered on Blackboard, each worth 10 points. Each quiz will cover material from one chapter of the text and will be due by 11:59 PM the night before the first class session on that chapter. You will be given 2 attempts per quiz and the highest grade will be kept. The quiz will close after 11:59 PM the night before. **There are no make-up opportunities for the quizzes once the deadline has passed.** The

lowest two out of twelve quizzes will be dropped, so your quiz grade will be the total number of points on the ten quizzes with the highest scores.

Exams (400 points): Four non-cumulative exams will be administered in class, each worth 100 points. Exams will only be offered on the dates listed in the course schedule. The only exceptions to this policy are (a) observance of religious holidays, (b) participation in UTEP-sponsored activities (e.g., sports competitions), and (c) military duty. If you expect to miss an exam for any of these reasons, you must alert the instructor before the end of the first week of the semester and submit relevant documentation. Other exceptions may be considered at my discretion (e.g., serious illness). Make-up exams for any of these exceptions must be completed prior to the original exam date. **No make-up exams will be administered under any other circumstances.**

In-Class Assignments (50 points): Six in-class assignments will be randomly administered throughout the semester, each worth 10 points. One in-class assignment will be dropped. The topic/format of the in-class assignment will depend on the class lecture for the day.

Research Participation (80 points): Eight research credits must be completed by the end of the semester, each worth 10 points. Research credits must be completed either through participation in psychological research or through completion of the alternate assignments. Instructions for the research credits and alternate assignments can be found on Blackboard. If you complete a total of six credits by October 14th, you will receive 1 additional credit. Please consult Blackboard for details on research participation and the alternate assignments.

Extra credit (up to 30 points): There are two ways in which you can earn extra credit for this class. The first way you can earn extra credit is by completing an additional research credit for an extra 10 points. This additional research credit must be completed before the end of the semester. The second way you can earn extra credit is by creating a two-page study guide for one of the exams for an extra 20 points. You will not be allowed to use the study guide during the exam, but you can use it to study for the exam. The study guide must be submitted through Blackboard two days before the exam takes place. Each of these extra credit opportunities can only be done once.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Any adjustments made to the course schedule will be announced in class and via Blackboard.

Week	Date	Topic	Assignments Due
1	08/22/22	Review Syllabus & Course Introduction	
	08/24/22	Chapter 1 <i>Introduction and Research Methods</i>	Quiz 1 (08/23/22 by 11:59 PM)
2	08/29/22	Chapter 1 (Continued) <i>Introduction and Research Methods</i>	
	08/31/22	Chapter 2 <i>Neuroscience & Behavior</i>	Quiz 2 (08/30/22 by 11:59 PM)
3	09/05/22	No Class. Labor Day.	
	09/07/22	Chapter 2 (Continued) <i>Neuroscience & Behavior</i>	
4	09/12/22	Chapter 4 <i>Consciousness & It's Variations</i>	Quiz 3 (09/11/22 by 11:59 PM)
	09/14/22	Chapter 4 (Continued) <i>Consciousness & It's Variations</i>	
5	09/19/22	EXAM 1	
	09/21/22	Chapter 5 <i>Learning</i>	Quiz 4 (09/20/22 by 11:59 PM)
6	09/26/22	Chapter 5 (Continued) <i>Learning</i>	
	09/28/22	Chapter 8 <i>Motivation & Emotion</i>	Quiz 5 (09/27/22 by 11:59 PM)
7	10/03/22	Chapter 8 (Continued) <i>Motivation & Emotion</i>	

	10/05/22	Chapter 9 <i>Lifespan & Development</i>	Quiz 6 (10/04/22 by 11:59 PM)
8	10/10/22	Chapter 9 (Continued) <i>Lifespan & Development</i>	
	10/12/22	EXAM 2	
	10/14/22	ADDITIONAL CREDIT DEADLINE	
9	10/17/22	Chapter 10 <i>Gender & Sexuality</i>	Quiz 7 (10/16/22 by 11:59 PM)
	10/19/22	Chapter 10 (Continued) <i>Gender & Sexuality</i>	
10	10/24/22	Chapter 11 <i>Personality</i>	Quiz 8 (10/23/22 by 11:59 PM)
	10/26/22	Chapter 11 (Continued) <i>Personality</i>	
	10/28/22	DROP DEADLINE	
11	10/31/22	Chapter 12 <i>Social Psychology</i>	Quiz 9 (10/30/22 by 11:59 PM)
	11/02/22	Chapter 12 (Continued) <i>Social Psychology</i>	
12	11/07/22	EXAM 3	
	11/09/22	Chapter 13 <i>Stress, Health, and Coping</i>	Quiz 10 (11/08/22 by 11:59 PM)
13	11/14/22	Chapter 13 (Continued) <i>Stress, Health, and Coping</i>	

	11/16/22	Chapter 14 Psychological Disorders	Quiz 11 (11/15/22 by 11:59 PM)
14	11/21/22	Chapter 14 (Continued) Psychological Disorders	
	11/23/22	Chapter 15 Therapies	Quiz 12 (11/22/22 by 11:59 PM)
15	11/28/22	Chapter 15 (Continued) Therapies	
	11/30/22	TBA	
16	12/07/22	FINAL EXAM (10:00 AM - 12:45 PM)	