

INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY
PSYCHOLOGY 1301(CRN:23191) Spring 2016
Tuesdays & Thursdays: 10:30 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.
Undergraduate Learning Center (UGLC, Room 128)

Instructor: Lawrence Cohn, Ph.D.
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Office hours: Tues & Thurs: 4:30- 6:00 p.m. or by appointment

Textbook: *Psychology* (2015, Eleventh Edition) by David G. Myers & C. Nathan Dewall, Worth Publishers, New York, N.Y. [Also customized for UTEP – loose leaf version- and sold at a discounted price at the UTEP bookstore]

Lectures and Assignments

This course will introduce you to many of the major research findings in psychology. The topics and reading assignments for each class are provided below. We may deviate from this schedule, so the dates are intended as rough guides for where we will be throughout the course.

Class Participation and Attendance

Class attendance is required and class participation is encouraged. **If you miss more than three classes then you must make an appointment to see me; otherwise I reserve the right to lower your final grade by one full grade level.** Please turn off your cell phones when attending class. Reading or responding to text messages distracts other students, even when you think you are quiet and unobtrusive! Laptop computers can only be used for taking notes (thus no surfing the web). I reserve the right to lower your course grade by one full grade level if the latter requests and policies are violated.

Examinations

There will be three hourly exams and one final exam. The hourly exams are tentatively scheduled for the dates listed below. **The exam dates are tentative, so please do not plan business trips or other obligations around the latter dates.** Each exam (including the final exam) is worth 13% of your grade. If you miss one hourly exam then you will have the opportunity to take a comprehensive make-up exam at the end of the semester. There will be no individual make-up exams except for health emergencies (e.g., hospitalization) or other extreme problems. You will not be admitted to an exam if you arrive after the first student departs from the exam room. Please bring a #2 pencil and two scantron sheets to each exam.

Quizzes

There will be 10 quizzes during the semester, approximately one quiz per week. I will drop your two lowest quiz grades when computing your final course grade. **No make-up quizzes will be administered if you miss a quiz.** The quizzes are intended to help keep you on track and attentive to the readings and class material. Each quiz is worth 6% of your grade (thus the quizzes contribute 48% towards your final grade). The quizzes are **tentatively** scheduled for the dates listed below. The quizzes will typically be administered at the beginning of class (so make certain that you arrive to class on time). If you arrive 5 minutes after the quiz is distributed then you will not be administered a quiz (so, again, please arrive to class on time!). Please bring a #2 pencil and two scantron sheets to each quiz.

Research Requirement

All students are required to participate in eight (8) hours of research conducted in the Psychology Department. Your participation will help you learn about the research techniques and procedures that are used in psychological research. Two (2) percentage points will be added to your total exam scores for each hour of participation (maximum research credit: 16 percentage points). Two points will be deducted from your total exam scores for each hour of credit that you fail to complete. If you are unable to participate in these research projects then you must write eight short research papers (each paper should be 2 pages in length, typed) based on research articles that **I will assign to you**. Each research paper requires about one hour of work. **Please see me if you want copies of the articles.**

Strategies for Success in this Course

Many talented students earn low grades in PSYC 1301 because they do not invest the time needed to succeed in the course. Please note: you should spend, on average, 7.5 hours per week studying for this class in addition to spending 3 hours per week attending this class. Thus you should commit approximately 10.5 hours per week to succeed in this course. You should be reading all of the assigned chapters, and you should be reading these chapters more than once (that is, twice, three times, or more). Most importantly, you should interact with the material!! Write comments in the margins of the text, type up additional notes, discuss the material with friends (or even enemies), or just close the door to your room and review the material aloud! Actively engaging material is absolutely critical for your success in any course. Passively reading a chapter once is useless. At the University level, you are expected to master material in a non-trivial way. Hence the need to genuinely commit the type of time and energy described above in order to get the payoff that you desire.

Classroom Accommodations

If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, then please contact the *Center for Accommodations and Support Services* (CASS) by phone at 747-5148 or by email at 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.

A NOTE REGARDING ACADEMIC HONESTY, INTEGRITY, AND DISHONESTY

Academic integrity and academic honesty are highly valued at UTEP. The Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (<http://sa.utep.edu/osccr/academic-integrity/>) notes the following: "...students are expected to maintain absolute integrity and a high standard of individual honor in scholastic work undertaken at the University. At a minimum, you should complete any assignments, exams, and other scholastic endeavors with the utmost honesty..."

"Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable to another person.

"Cheating: Copying from the test paper of another student; communicating with another student during a test; giving or seeking aid from another student during a test; possession and/or use of unauthorized materials during tests (i.e. Crib notes, class notes, books, etc.); substituting for another person to take a test; falsifying research data, reports, academic work offered for credit.

"Plagiarism: Using someone's work in your assignments without the proper citations; submitting the same paper or assignment from a different course, without direct permission of instructors

"Collusion: Unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments"

NOTE: Please do not fall behind in your readings or your class attendance. Introductory level classes are sometimes the most difficult classes to master due to the amount of material that is covered during the semester. If you have questions about the readings or class material then please come see me - **I enjoy meeting with students!**

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading Assignment</u>
January 19	Introduction: Research Examples & Research Methods	Prologue & Chapter 1
January 21	Lecture: Research Methods	Chapter 1
January 26	Lecture: Research Methods	Chapter 1
January 28	Quiz # 1:	Prologue & Chapter 1
	Lecture: Biology of Mind	Chapter 2
February 2	Lecture: Biology of Mind	Chapter 2

February 4	Lecture: Biology of Mind	Chapter 2
February 9	Quiz #2: Pages 51-89	
	Lecture: Biology of Mind Also review for Exam #1	Chapter 2
February 11	Exam #1.....	Prologue & Chapters 1 & 2
February 16	Lecture: Consciousness	Chapter 3: 91-116
February 18	Lecture: Consciousness Lecture: Human Development	Chapter 3 Chapter 5
February 23	Quiz #3:	Pages 91-116 & 177-188
	Lecture: Human Development	Chapter 5
February 25	Lecture: Human Development	Chapter 5
March 1	Lecture: Sensation & Perception	Chapter 6 (pp. 229-255)
March 3	Quiz #4: Pages 189-255	Sensation & Perception
	Lecture: Learning	Chapter 7 (pp. 279-289)
March 8 & 10th	No Classes - Spring Break	
March 15	Lecture: Learning	Chapter 7
March 17	Quiz #5: Pages 279-289	Learning I
	Lecture: Learning	Chapter 7 (pp. 290-315)
March 22	Lecture: Learning	Chapter 7
March 24	Quiz #6: Pages 279-317	Learning II
	Lecture: Learning also review for Exam #2	

