PSYC1301: INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY
CRN: 14903
FALL 2016
TR 10:30 am- 11:50 am in LART106

Instructor: Melissa S. de Roos, MSc.
Contact: Email - msderoos@miners.utep.edu
Office hours: Psychology 117 TR from 12:00 – 13:00 or by appointment

COURSE OVERVIEW
A survey of basic principles in general psychology. During this course, students will review a variety of issues related 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, clinical and cognitive psychology. During class, we will talk about how these theories and concepts can and have been applied by looking at recent research as well as current events that are relevant to the topic at hand.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
After successfully completing this course, students will:
• Have general and broad 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.

GRADING
Final grades will be based on exams, quizzes, attendance and completion of the research participation requirement. Final grading structure will be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>600 maximum, 150 per exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>200 maximum, 40 per quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research participation</td>
<td>100 maximum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>100 maximum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Final grades for the course will break down as follows:
900 - 1000 points = A
800 – 899.9 points = B
700 – 799.9 points = C
600 – 699.9 points = D
599.9 and below = F

At this time there are no planned extra credit opportunities.

Exams
Five in-class exams will be given throughout the semester. All exams are closed-book and closed-notes. The first four of these will only cover material reviewed since the last exam. The fifth exam (the final) will be cumulative and thus cover all material. Your lowest exam grade out of the first four exams will be dropped so your three highest exam scores and the final exam score will count towards your final grade. The final exam cannot be dropped.

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 their exam you will no longer be allowed to take the exam and your grade for the missed exam will be zero.

Quizzes
Five short quizzes will be given throughout the semester. I will announce these in class as well as on Blackboard. As with exams, the quizzes will be multiple choice and must be completed using scantron sheets. Quizzes will cover material reviewed in the previous week.

Research Participation
As we will discuss in class, modern psychology is based on scientific research. The vast majority of this research is conducted at research universities such as UTEP. 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 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.

To sign up and receive credit for research participation visit https://utep.sona-systems.com and click on request account. From there, fill out the required information. Note: you will be asked to select which introductory psychology course you are enrolled in, be sure you select the correct course (the one that says “de Roos”) or I will not be able to see any credits you have completed.

Also be advised: if you sign up for a research session and fail to show up or properly cancel you will have credits deducted from your total.
**Alternative assignment to research participation**

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. The summary paper is designed to take as much time and effort as research participation. You will complete one summary paper per hour of research participation. Please arrange to meet with me ahead of time if you decide to use this option.

**POLICIES**

**Academic honesty**

Students are expected to know and follow University policy regarding academic dishonesty (including but not limited to cheating, plagiarism and collusion). 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. For additional information, please visit the UTEP website for Academic Integrity at [http://sa.utep.edu/osccr/academic-integrity/](http://sa.utep.edu/osccr/academic-integrity/).

**Disabilities**

The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) provides students with accommodations, resources, advocacy, and outreach to enhance and support their pathway to academic and occupational success. As an outcome, students will be able to engage as active members of the campus community, and benefit from participation in an inclusive and supportive academic environment. If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or 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](http://www.sa.utep.edu/cass).

**Late/make up work**

Late/make up exams/quizzes will not be given (remember that your lowest exam grade will be dropped). 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 will only be considered in cases of University approved absence or emergency with appropriate documentation. These cases must be brought to the instructor’s attention before the exam day, where possible.

**Attendance**

Attendance of lectures is an integral part of this course and will be taken at random. During lectures I will cover material that may be on the exams. It is your responsibility to inform me of extended absences. I do not drop students from the course, this is your responsibility. If you wish to drop the class, I will be happy to meet with you and discuss your options.

Partial versions of the PowerPoint will be available on Blackboard. If you miss class, I will not give you a copy of the lecture.
If you choose to attend class, you must conduct yourself in a professional manner. This means you must arrive on time and stay for the entire class period, do not disrupt the class by talking or texting on your cell phone, and do not engage in behavior that others around you may find distracting. Please be respectful of your peers, being late or leaving early can be disruptive to students around you.

**Excused Absences for University-Recognized Activities**
Make up exams will be granted 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 make an appointment with me to set up a time to take the exam.**

*For more information on University Excused Absences, please visit [https://academics.utep.edu/Default.aspx?tabid=54418](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 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. **I will not give an update of grades over email.** If you are interested in your current grade you can check Blackboard or make an appointment with me during office hours to review your grade.

**Information on this syllabus**
The instructor reserves the right to modify information on this syllabus and class schedule given that reasonable notification of the change is given to the students.

---

**Course Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Reading/Assignment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 23 - Syllabus/course overview</td>
<td>Prologue: the story of psychology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 25 - Introduction</td>
<td>Ch 1: Introduction and Research Methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 30 - Neuroscience</td>
<td>Ch 2: Neuroscience and Behavior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 1 - <strong>Quiz 1</strong>/Neuroscience</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

De Roos – Fall 2016
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 3:   | Sept 6 - Labor day (no class)  
Sept 8 - Sensation and Perception | Ch 3: Sensation and Perception |
| 4:   | Sept 13 - Sensation and Perception/Review  
**Sept 15 - Exam 1** | Ch 3: Sensation and Perception |
| 5:   | Sept 20 - Consciousness  
Sept 22 - Consciousness | Ch 4: Consciousness |
| 6:   | Sept 27 - Learning  
Sept 29 – **Quiz 2**/Learning | Ch 5: Learning |
| 7:   | Oct 4 - Memory  
Oct 6 - Memory/Review | Ch 6: Memory |
| 8:   | **Oct 11 - Exam 2**  
Oct 13 - Personality | Ch 10: Personality |
| 9:   | Oct 18 - Personality  
Oct 20 – **Quiz 3**/Social Psychology | Ch 11: Social Psychology |
**Oct 27 - Exam 3** | |
| 11:  | Nov 1 - Lifespan Development  
Nov 3 - Lifespan Development | Ch 9: Lifespan Development  
Ch 9: Lifespan Development |
| 12:  | Nov 8 - Psychological Disorders  
Nov 10 – **Quiz 4**/Psychological Disorders | Ch 13: Psychological Disorders |
| 13:  | Nov 15 - Psychological Disorders/Review  
**Nov 17 – Exam 4** | |
| 14:  | Nov 22 - Therapies  
Nov 24 - Thanksgiving no class | Ch 14: Therapies |
| 15:  | Nov 29 – **Quiz 5**/Therapies  
Dec 1 - Last 20 minutes-review/special topic | |
| 16:  | | |
| Dec 6 - Final exam 10:00 a.m.- 12:45 p.m.(Exam 5) |  |