PSYC1301: INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY  
CRN: 21074  
FALL 2017  
MW 10:30 am- 11:50 am in UGLC342

Instructor: Melissa S. de Roos, MSc.  
Contact: Email - msderoos@miners.utep.edu  
Office hours: Psychology 117 Wednesday from 12:00 – 14:00 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:

- Exams: 60% of final grade (each exam 15%)
- Quizzes: 20% of final grade (each quiz 4%)
- Research participation: 10% of final grade
- Attendance: 10% of final grade
Final grades for the course will break down as follows:

- 90.0 – 100.0% = A
- 80.0 – 89.95% = B
- 70.0 – 79.95% = C
- 60.0 – 69.99% = D
- 59.95% 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. Each exam will only cover material reviewed since the previous exam. Your lowest exam grade out of the five exams will be dropped so your four highest exam scores will count towards your final grade.

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. The second and fourth quizzes will be available on Blackboard. You will have exactly 48 hours to complete these on Blackboard, from the end of class on the day it is scheduled, until exactly 48 hours later. No extensions will be given, it is your responsibility to make sure you complete the quiz online, before the deadline. The first, third, and fifth quizzes will be in-class, closed book and closed notes quizzes. As with exams, these quizzes will be multiple choice and must be completed using scantron sheets. Quizzes will cover material reviewed in the previous week only, as specified in the course schedule.

**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](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, but you can do a combination of summary papers and 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/.

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.

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. It is your own responsibility to contact me and schedule a time for you to take the exam. If you neglect to do this, you will have missed 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 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>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1: Jan 18</td>
<td>Syllabus/course overview</td>
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<td>2: Jan 23</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
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<td>Jan 25</td>
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<td>3: Jan 30</td>
<td>Neuroscience</td>
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<td>Feb 1</td>
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<td>4: Feb 6</td>
<td>Sensation and Perception/Review</td>
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<td>Feb 8</td>
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<td>5: Feb 13</td>
<td>Consciousness</td>
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<td>Feb 15</td>
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<td>6: Feb 20</td>
<td>Learning/Quiz 2 on Blackboard on chapter 4</td>
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<td>Feb 22</td>
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<td>7: Feb 27</td>
<td>Exam 2 on chapters 4 &amp; 5</td>
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<td>Mar 1</td>
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<td>8: Mar 6</td>
<td>Memory</td>
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<td>Mar 8</td>
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<td>9: Mar 13</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
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<td>Mar 15</td>
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<td>10: Mar 20</td>
<td>Personality/Quiz 3 in class on chapter 6</td>
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<td>Mar 22</td>
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<td>11: Mar 27</td>
<td>Exam 3 on chapters 6 &amp; 10</td>
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<td>Mar 29</td>
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De Roos – Spring 2017
### Quizzes:
- **Quiz 1**: Chapter 2 (in class)
- **Quiz 2**: Chapter 4 (on Blackboard)
- **Quiz 3**: Chapter 6 (in class)
- **Quiz 4**: Chapter 11 (on Blackboard)
- **Quiz 5**: Chapter 13 (in class)

### Exams:
- **Exam 1**: Chapters 1, 2, & 3
- **Exam 2**: Chapters 4 & 5
- **Exam 3**: Chapters 6 & 10
- **Exam 4**: Chapters 9 & 11
- **Exam 5**: Chapters 13, 14 and special topic (May 12)