

PSYC 1301
Introduction to Psychology – Spring, 2016
9:00am-10:20am, Tuesday, Thursday
Room: Liberal Arts 319

Professor:

Theodore V. Cooper, Ph.D.
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Office: 201A Psychology Building
Office Hours: Tuesday 10:30am-12:00pm

Required Text:

Myers & Dewall (2015). *Psychology (11th ed.)*. New York, NY: Worth.

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.

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.

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. And, 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.

Blackboard:

Everything you need for this class can be found on Blackboard. I will make announcements regarding the course via Blackboard periodically. Please check Blackboard for announcements at least once per week. Blackboard is also where you will find quizzes and other materials relevant to the course.

Attendance:

To do well in this course, you need to attend every class session and listen actively. Material presented in lecture and films shown during class will not be available at any other time. 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

I want every student to get the most out of this course. For this to happen, it is crucial that everyone follows basic guidelines of courtesy and respect toward the instructor and fellow classmates.

Please adhere to the following:

1. **Don't come late.** If you will be more than 10 minutes late to class, do not come that day. Late arrivals are disruptive. Please make sure your schedule doesn't prevent you from being on time to class.
2. **Don't leave early.** Plan to stay seated quietly for the entire class period—packing up early prevents others from hearing 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 are welcome to bring 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.

Points

Participation: *up to 26 points.* Participation points will be awarded at random times throughout the semester, and will be based on a combination of attendance and participation in activities inside and outside the classroom. It is possible that multiple points will be awarded on a single day. If for any reason (sports, illness, family emergency), you are absent on a day that participation points were awarded, you can make up the points by attending office hours and showing the instructor or TA detailed notes of the material presented in class on the day you

missed. You have 72 hours from the time the participation points are posted to Blackboard (or the next available office hours, whichever is later) to make up points in this manner.

Chapter Quizzes: *up to 50 points.* Twelve open-book quizzes will be administered on Blackboard, each worth 5 points. Each quiz will cover material from one chapter of the text, and will be due at 11:00pm the night before the first class session on that chapter. Blackboard closes the quiz at this time. **It is not possible to make up the quizzes once the deadline has passed.** The lowest 2 out of the 12 quiz scores will be dropped, so your quiz grade will be the total number of points on the ten quizzes with the highest scores.

Exams: *up to 100 points.* Five non-cumulative, multiple-choice exams will be administered, each worth 25 points. The lowest exam score will be dropped. If you miss any one of the exams, this will be the score that is dropped. Exams 1 through 4 will be administered during class time on the dates listed on the course schedule. Exam 5 will be administered during the time allotted for the final exam for this course during final exam week. Please see the exam policy on Blackboard for the items you must and must not bring to the exams.

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. **No make-up exams will be administered under any other circumstances, no matter how compelling.**

Research Participation: *24 points, total.* The Psychology Department requires all 1301 students to earn research credits—you are required to earn 8 research credits, either through participation in psychological research or through completion of the alternate assignments described in the Research Participation instructions posted to Blackboard. You can obtain 8 credits with only 6 hours of participation in experiments or the equivalent in alternate assignments. If you have 3 credits accumulated by the end of the 8th week of classes (March 8th), a 4th credit will be automatically added. If 7 credits are accumulated by the end of the 13th week of classes (April 12th), then an 8th credit will be added. Each research credit is worth 3 points towards your course grade. Please consult Blackboard for details on research participation and the alternate assignments.

Grading:

If you have any questions or disputes regarding grades, you must raise these in writing within ten days of the grade being released. Grades will only be changed in cases of administrative error. Letter grades will be based on the following scale:

180-200 = A
160-179 = B
140-159 = C
130-139 = D
< 130 = F

Important Dates:

01/19	Review syllabus and course introduction
01/21	Prologue <i>The story of psychology.</i>
01/26	Chapter 1 <i>Psychological science.</i>
01/28	Chapter 1 <i>Psychological science, part II.</i>
02/02	Chapter 2 <i>The biology of mind.</i>
02/04	Chapter 2 <i>The biology of mind, part II.</i>
02/09	Exam I
02/11	Chapter 5 <i>Developing through the life span.</i>
02/16	Chapter 5 <i>Developing through the life span, part II.</i>
02/18	Chapter 7 <i>Learning.</i>
02/23	Chapter 7 <i>Learning, part II.</i>
02/25	Chapter 8 <i>Memory.</i>
03/01	Chapter 8 <i>Memory, part II.</i>
03/03	Exam II
03/08	Spring Break / No Class
03/10	Spring Break / No Class

- 03/15 Chapter 10
Intelligence.
- 03/17 Chapter 10
Intelligence, part II.
- 03/22 Chapter 12
Emotions, stress, and health.
- 03/24 Chapter 12
Emotions, stress, and health, part II.
- 03/29 Exam III
- 03/31 Chapter 13
Social psychology.
- 04/05 Chapter 13
Social psychology, part II.
- 04/07 Chapter 14
Personality.
- 04/12 Chapter 14
Personality, part II.
- 04/14 Exam IV
- 04/19 Chapter 15
Psychological disorders.
- 04/21 Chapter 15
Psychological disorders, part II.
- 04/26 Chapter 16
Therapy.
- 04/28 Chapter 16
Therapy, part II.
- 05/03 Chapter 16
Therapy, part III.

05/05 Review, Wrap-Up, Questions

05/10 FINAL EXAM
SPECIAL TIME: 10:00AM-12:45PM