

Common Course Syllabus

Department: Behavioral Sciences

Discipline: Psychology

Course Number: PSYC 2301

Course Title: General Psychology

Credit: 3 **Lecture:** 3 **Lab:** 0

Does this course satisfy a core curriculum requirement? Yes – Behavioral and Social Science

Prerequisites: TSI compliance in Reading

Available Formats: Conventional, INET, ITV

Campuses: Levelland, Reese, ATC, Plainview, and Dual Credit Campuses

Textbook: Open Stax Psychology Text

Course Specific Instructions: Internet – go to Blackboard. Each instructor will attach his/her course specific instructions.

Course Description: Survey of the essential subject areas, major theories and approaches to the scientific study of behavior and mental processes.

Course Purpose/Rationale/Goal : To acquaint students with the diverse field of psychology including major theoretical concepts. In addition, introduce methods of research used and how it contributes to the body of knowledge in psychology, promotion of critical thinking, generation of new ideas, and consideration of alternate explanations when evaluating information.

Course Requirements: To maximize the potential to complete this course, a student should attend all class meetings and/or login to internet courses at least twice weekly. In addition, satisfactorily complete all homework assignments and examinations in a timely manner, and satisfactorily complete all other projects or papers as assigned in the course specific instructions.

Course Evaluation: See the instructor's course information sheet for specific items used in evaluating student performance.

Attendance Policy: Whenever absences become excessive and in the specific instructor's opinion, minimum course objectives cannot be met due to absences, the student may be withdrawn from the course. Each instructor will have additional information about attendance on his/her course information sheet.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)/Competencies:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Identify various research methods and their characteristics used in the scientific study of psychology.
2. Describe the historical influences and early schools of thoughts that shaped the field of psychology.
3. Describe some of the prominent perspectives and approaches used in the study of psychology
4. Use terminology unique to the study of psychology.
5. Describe accepted approaches and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation.
6. Identify factors in physiological and psychological processes involved in human behavior.

Core Objectives addressed:

- **Communication skills-** to include effective written, oral and visual communication.
- **Critical thinking skills-** to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
- **Empirical and Quantitative skills-** to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.
- **Social Responsibility-** to include the demonstrated intercultural knowledge and competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national and global communities.

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Instructor's Course Information: Raynie Gibbs

Course Information: PSYC 2301 – Fall 2018

Office Hours: AD 155, MW 1-2:20 pm

Email Address: rbgibbs@southplainscollege.edu

Phone: 806-834-0260 (also works as Skype for Business chats)

Course Websites: Blackboard (southplainscollege.blackboard.com)

Textbook: Open Stax Psychology—available in the bookstore for 40.00 in print version or online in ebook form for no charge.

Classroom Policies:

- **Respect for Fellow Students:** All students will maintain respect for fellow classmates' personal beliefs, values, morals and life situations. Insensitivity concerning race, religion, sex/gender, sexual orientation, mental/physical disability, psychological disorders, age, or socio-economic status (family situation) will not be tolerated.
- **Electronic Devices:** The **use of cell phones** is not permitted in the classroom; they should be silenced and put away while in the classroom. Devices used for note-taking are permitted, but should be used responsibly and should not create distractions for you or others. If you are using the device to do things other than class notes, you will be asked to not use the device in the future. Being late to class is disruptive and is considered misconduct on the part of the student. Repeated violations of disrupting a class will result in the student being dropped from the course." (See Student Guide)
- **Disruptive Behavior:** "Failure to comply with lawful directions of a classroom teacher relative to maintaining good order is considered misconduct on the part of the student. Repeated violations of disrupting a class will result in the student being dropped from the course." (See Student Guide)
- **Attendance & Administrative Drop Policy:** Attendance will be taken during each class meeting. Students will be responsible for material presented and discussed in class. Due to South Plains College attendance policies, any student who fails to attend 5 classes during the semester or fails to complete two major grades may be dropped from the course with an 'X' or 'F.'

Late Work and Missed Work: The work is due on the dates assigned and will have late penalties of **10% each week late, if that date is missed. You cannot wait till the end of the semester to do the work.**

Grading Policy and Method of Evaluation: It is possible to earn up to 600 points in this course, as follows:

	Possible Points You Can Earn This Semester	Points Earned By You This Semester
Paper/Project	100	_____
Class Discussions/Daily Work	100	_____
Exam 1	100	_____
Exam 2	100	_____
Exam 3	100	_____
Exam 4	100	_____
Totals	600	_____

Final Grades will be determined by calculating the total amount of points earned by you this semester.

Using the scale below, your instructor will determine the corresponding letter grade.

- A 90% of 600 (540 points and above)
- B 80% of 600 (480 points and above)
- C 70% of 600 (420 points and above)
- D 60% of 600 (360 points and above)
- F 59% of 600 (359 points and below)

- **Project/Paper:** (100 points) Your group is to pick a mental illness discussed in the text book and complete a 4-5 page research paper on that illness and a therapy that is currently being used to treat that illness. Your group will then present the findings to the class. The paper is not to be read, but summarized in a 10-15 slide PowerPoint Presentation. Lastly, each member of the group will evaluate their fellow members' group participation. A rubric will be provided.
- **Exams:** (100 points each or 400 points total): Throughout the semester 4 (four) exams will be given on Blackboard. Exams may contain multiple choice questions and one essay question. The 4th exam, which is also the final exam, will not be cumulative. **See Class Schedule for Exam Dates.**
- **Online Discussions/In-Class Activities:** (100 points) We will have online discussion assignments and in class individual written assignment that will be scored for this section of grades.

Calendar of Dates

Week of:	Topic/Chapter	Exams and Papers Due Dates
8/27	Chapter 1—Introduction	
9/3	Chapter 2—Research (Labor Day 9/3)	
9/10	Chapter 3—Biopsychology	
9/17	Chapter 4—Consciousness	Exam 1 (Chapters 1, 2, 3) due 9/19
9/24	Chapter 5—Sensation/Perception	
10/1	Chapter 6—Learning	
10/8	Chapter 7&8—Thinking/Memory	
10/15	Finish Chapters 4-8	Exam 2 (Chapters 4, 5, 6, 7, 8) due 10/17
10/22	Chapter 10—Emotion	
10/29	Chapter 11—Personality	
11/5	Chapter 12—Social Psych	
11/12	Chapter 14 Stress	Exam 3 (Chapters 10, 11, 12) due 11/14
11/19	Chapter 15 Disorders (Thanksgiving 11/21)	
11/26	Group Presentations	Projects/Papers Due 11/26
12/3	Chapter 16 Therapy	
12/12	Final Exam	Exam 4 (Chapters 14, 15, 16) ONLINE Due 12/12

Text Book: You will use Open Stax

Psychology. OpenStax (Rice University/Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation)

<https://openstaxcollege.org/textbooks/psychology>

Follow the link above for the following options:

-FREE View the interactive book on-line. It includes free interactive videos and learning exercises.

-FREE View, download, or print a PDF of this book.

-\$4.99 Download the book in iBooks to your computer, phone, or tablet.

-\$40 purchase a hard copy printed version of the book through Amazon.

The book is also available at the SPC bookstore in new or used versions.

ISBN: 978-1-938168-35-2

Academic Integrity: See College Catalog “Offering the work of another as one’s own, without proper acknowledgement, is plagiarism. . .” For further information and examples please see www.plagiarism.org. Handing in work that was submitted for completion of another course will not be permitted. Students found guilty of such academic dishonesty will receive a 0 (zero) the work in question and will be dropped from the course should a second offense occur.

Equal Opportunity: South Plains College strives to accommodate the individual needs of all students in order to enhance their opportunities for success in the context of a comprehensive community college setting. It is the policy of South Plains College to offer all educational and employment opportunities without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, gender, disability or age. In short, “Bigotry will not be tolerated.” (Student Guide)

ADA Statement

Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office through the Guidance and Counseling Centers at Reese Center (Building 8) [716-4606](tel:716-4606), or Levelland (Student Services Building) [716-2577](tel:716-2577).