

**Common Course Syllabus: PSYC 2301**  
Revised December 2019

**Department:** Behavioral Sciences

**Discipline:** Psychology

**Course Number:** PSYC 2301

**Course Title:** General Psychology

**Available Formats:** Conventional, INET, ITV

**Campuses:** Levelland, Reese, Lubbock Center, Plainview, and Dual Credit Campuses

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

**Prerequisites:** TSI compliance in Reading

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

**Textbook:** Open Stax Psychology Text or Noba Psychology

**Supplies:** none unless specified in the specific instructor information

**This course partially satisfies a Core Curriculum Requirement:**

Social and Behavioral Science Foundational Component Area (080)

**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.

**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.

**Student Learning Outcomes Assessment:**

Dr. Alicia Barr is the faculty member who is responsible for the assessment of the student

learning outcomes. She will be sending a list of which SLOs will be assessed for each semester. There are 6 outcomes and these are rotated. Dr. Barr is also the person responsible to entry of the data into Task Stream for documentation.

**Course Evaluation:** See the instructor's course information sheet for specific items used in evaluating student performance. However, all courses will have multiple exams and a written assignment that is designated by the instructor.

**Attendance Policy:**

Instructors will create an attendance policy that is consistent with the "Class Attendance" policies stated below in the *SPC General Catalog*:

*Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus.*

*When an unavoidable reason for class absence arises, such as illness, an official trip authorized by the college or an official activity, the instructor may permit the student to make up work missed. It is the student's responsibility to complete work missed within a reasonable period of time as determined by the instructor. Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at the time of registration. Should a student, for any reason, delay in reporting to a class after official enrollment, absences will be attributed to the student from the first class meeting.*

*Students who enroll in a course but have "Never Attended" by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester, may be administratively withdrawn from that course and receive a grade of "X" or "F" as determined by the instructor. Instructors are responsible for clearly stating their administrative drop policy in the course syllabus, and it is the student's responsibility to be aware of that policy.*

*It is the student's responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through MySPC using his or her student online account. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment.*

Additional attendance information might be included in the specific instructor's part of the syllabus.

**Plagiarism and Cheating:** Students are expected to do their own work on all projects, quizzes, assignments, examinations, and papers. Failure to comply with this policy will result in an F for the assignment and can result in an F for the course if circumstances warrant.

Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another student, an online term paper site, or a mail order term paper mill;
2. Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation;
3. Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them; or
4. Missing in-text citations.

Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion;
2. Discovering the content of an examination before it is given;

3. Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, text messaging, internet, apps) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment;
4. Entering an office or building to obtain unfair advantage;
5. Taking an examination for another;
6. Altering grade records;
7. Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment;
8. Rewriting another student's work in Peer Editing so that the writing is no longer the original student's;
9. Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper.

**Student Code of Conduct Policy:** Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect on the part of the student and the instructor. Neither instructor nor student should be subject to others' behavior that is rude, disruptive, intimidating, aggressive, or demeaning. Student conduct that disrupts the learning process or is deemed disrespectful or threatening shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.

**Diversity Statement:** In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

**Disability 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 at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

**Nondiscrimination Policy:** South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336. Phone number 806-716-2360.

**Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations Statement:** If you are pregnant, or have given birth within six months, Under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. To [activate](#) accommodations you must submit a Title IX pregnancy accommodations request, along with specific medical documentation, to the Director of Health and Wellness. Once approved, notification will be sent to the student and instructors. It is the student's responsibility to work with the instructor to arrange accommodations. Contact the Director of Health and Wellness at 806-716-2362 or [email cgilster@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:cgilster@southplainscollege.edu) for assistance.

**Campus Concealed Carry:** Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations and Frequently Asked Questions, please refer to the Campus Carry page at: <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/campuscarry.php>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

Note: The instructor reserves the right to modify the course syllabus and policies, as well as notify students of any changes, at any point during the semester.

**COVID-19 Statement:** If you are experiencing any of the following symptoms, please do not attend class and either seek medical attention or get tested for COVID-19.

- Cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing
- Fever or chills
- Muscles or body aches
- Vomiting or diarrhea
- New loss of taste and smell

Please also notify DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN, Associate Director of Health & Wellness, at [dedens@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:dedens@southplainscollege.edu) or 806-716-2376.

This is the statement approved by the Board of Regents on July 15, 2020 and revised on August 19, 2021, and it will be the statement until there is updated policy information.

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**Instructor's Course Information:** Serena Mangano, PhD

**Course Information:** PSYC 2301 – 202, Fall 2021

**Modality:** Conventional and Online

**Class Time:** Monday and Wednesday 1:00 PM - 2:15 PM at Reese Center Building #4, Room 410, and online (link provided on Blackboard)

**Office Hours:** Monday and Wednesday: 1 PM – 3 PM, Friday: 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM online (link available on Blackboard) and in person (details to follow), and by appointment

**Email Address:** [smangano@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:smangano@southplainscollege.edu)

**Course Websites:** Blackboard (<https://southplainscollege.blackboard.com/>)

**Textbook:** You will use Psychology 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition (2020) OpenStax (Rice University/Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation), available for free on Blackboard. For more options, check <https://openstax.org/details/books/psychology-2e>

**Grading Policy and Method of Evaluation:** It is possible to earn up to 500 points in this course, as follows:

	Possible Points
Paper	80
Exam 1	60
Exam 2	60
Exam 3	60
Exam 4	30
Discussions	15@14=210
Total	500

Final Grades will be determined by calculating the total amount of points earned by you this semester. These points are percentages of the scores in the previous chart.

- A = 90% of 500, meaning you earn between 450 and 500 points
- B = 80% of 500, meaning you earn between 400 and 449 points
- C = 70% of 500, meaning you earn between 350 and 399 points
- D = 60% of 500, meaning you earn between 300 and 349 points
- F = less than 60% of 500, meaning you earn between 0 and 299 points

**Paper:** This is worth 80 points: 5 earned with the first draft, that will be evaluated for completion, and up to 75 earned with the final draft. See the tentative schedule for due dates. If the paper is late it will have 10% deducted per day that it is late. The paper consists of your review of ONE of the books or the movies listed on Blackboard. The evaluation rubric for the paper is available on Blackboard. You can turn your paper in earlier, but the due dates are firm deadlines. You will turn in your paper on Blackboard.

**Exams:** They are worth 210 points. Throughout the semester you will take 4 (four) exams on Blackboard. Exams may contain multiple choice and true/false questions. Exams open 48 hours before they are due, allow 2 attempts, and I will record your highest grade. You have up to 90 minutes to take each exam. See Class Schedule for exam due dates and contents.

**Discussions:** There is one prompt for each chapter covered in the course. Each of you will respond to the prompt (initial post) to earn 7.5 points, and to one of your classmates' posts to earn 7.5 more points. You will need to adhere to the discussion posts policies available on Blackboard. You can agree, disagree, use any material from textbook, internet, readings, personal experiences, etc., and I only ask all of you to be respectful and polite to each other. Discussions are available from the first day of class until their due date.

**Academic Integrity:** As stated in your college catalog, "Offering the work of another as one's own, without proper acknowledgement, is plagiarism..." Students found guilty of plagiarism could fail or receive a zero on the work in question for the first offense and could be dropped from the course should a second offense occur. Cutting and pasting information directly from websites without citing your source also constitutes plagiarism. **I will check your paper for plagiarism if I suspect it has occurred.** If I determine that you are cheating on any phase of your course work, I will take action that could include giving you a "zero" on the course work or even possible dismissal from the course. Check out the following resources for more information on plagiarism and how to avoid it: <http://www3.southplainscollege.edu/plagiarism/> or <http://tlt.its.psu.edu/plagiarism/tutorial>.

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

**Attendance and Participation:** Classes will start and end on time, and you are expected to be in class for its whole duration. Please let me know if you are forced to arrive late and/or leave early because of your class or work schedule. Generally, arriving 5 minutes later/leaving 5 minutes earlier will be marked as tardy, and arriving 10 minutes later/leaving 10 minutes earlier will be marked as absence. This policy is meant to minimize distraction to the class and to me, so please be considerate.

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- Cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing
- Fever or chills
- Muscles or body aches
- Vomiting or diarrhea
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I will make accommodations for any student who, because of COVID-19, is ill or quarantined.

**In Person and Virtual 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 virtual classroom; they should be silenced and put away while attending class. Devices used for note-taking are permitted, but should be used responsibly and should not create distractions for you or others.
- **Tardiness:** Please do your best to manage your time well and be on time to class. If you are tardy, please enter the classroom *quietly*.
- **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)

For the **Schedule**, please see Blackboard (<https://southplainscollege.blackboard.com/>).