

**South Plains College**  
**Common Course Syllabus: PSYC 2301, Sections 006 & 007**  
Revised 01/04/2021  
**Spring 2021**

**Department:** Behavioral Sciences

**Discipline:** Psychology

**Course Number:** PSYC 2301

**Course Title:** General Psychology

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

**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:** OpenStax 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:**

1. Upon successful completion of this course, students will:
2. Identify various research methods and their characteristics used in the scientific study of psychology.
3. Describe the historical influences and early schools of thoughts that shaped the field of psychology.
4. Describe some of the prominent perspectives and approaches used in the study of psychology
5. Use terminology unique to the study of psychology.
6. Describe accepted approaches and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation.
7. 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.

**Face Coverings:** It is the policy of South Plains College for the Spring 2021 semester that as a condition of on-campus enrollment, all students are required to engage in safe behaviors to avoid the spread of COVID-19 in the SPC community. Such behaviors specifically include the requirement that all students properly wear CDC-compliant face coverings while in SPC buildings including in classrooms, labs, hallways, and restrooms. Failure to comply with this policy may result in dismissal from the current class session. If the student refuses to leave the classroom or lab after being dismissed, the student may be referred to the Dean of Students on the Levelland campus or the Dean/Director of external centers for Student Code of Conduct Violation. Students who believe they have been exposed or may be COVID-19 positive, **must** contact Health Services, DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN at (806) 716-2376 or dedens@southplainscollege.edu.

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.

### **Instructor's Course Information**

**Course Information:** PSYC 2301– Spring 2021 – Flex 5

**Instructor: M. Miller, MA, Associate Professor of Psychology**

**Office Hours:** To attend office hours you can come to SS117 in person (Levelland Campus), use Blackboard Collaborate (see Blackboard course for link), or call 806-716-2967. I will be available at the following times or by appointment:

Mondays: 10am-10:45am & 2:30pm-3:30pm

Tuesdays: 10am-10:45am & 2:30pm-3:30pm

Wednesdays: 10am-10:45am & 2:30pm-3pm

Thursdays: 10am-10:45am & 2:30pm-3pm,

Fridays: 10am-12pm.

**Email Address:** mamiller@southplainscollege.edu

**Course Website:** All assignments, quizzes, and exams will be submitted in Blackboard (southplainscollege.blackboard.com). Many course resources can be found on Blackboard as well.

**Textbook:** OpenStax College, *Psychology*. OpenStax College. 8 December 2014.

- You may use the FREE online version or download a PDF version, also for free, at <http://cnx.org/content/col11629/latest/>
- You may download the book on iBooks for \$6.99 (<https://itunes.apple.com/us/book/id1049034194>)
- You may also purchase a hard copy at the SPC bookstore or online from OpenStax or Amazon

## Course Format: Flex 5

*Live-streamed instruction delivered as scheduled to students with no requirement of face-to-face interaction. Students will have the option to attend in person or in a live-streamed format.*

**All Students:** You are never required to attend class physically. All lectures (technology permitting) will be live-streamed. You will always have the option to watch and participate from a remote location. I will also make recordings of all sessions available after class, so you may watch them at a later time if you prefer. You will never need to be in class to complete a test or other assignment. You will always be able to complete all work via Blackboard. I will never give any assignment that requires you to be physically present in the room. If at any time I am unable to physically attend class, I will make every effort to continue live-streaming lectures at our regularly scheduled class time. If for any reason I am unable to continue live-streaming lectures, you will be notified.

In this course, students will self-enroll into one of two types of attendance: In-Person Attendance or Live-Stream Attendance. In-Person Attendance is limited in order to have only a safe number of students in the classroom and to maintain social distancing. Enrollment in each of these groups will be first come, first serve and will take place during the first week of classes. Here's what you need to know about each attendance type:

<b>In-Person Attendance</b>	<b>Live-Stream Attendance</b>
<p>Students in this group will be allowed to attend lectures in the classroom during our scheduled class times.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It is required that all students properly wear CDC-compliant face coverings while in SPC buildings including in our classroom. If you cannot comply with this rule, you may need to be in the live-stream group.</li><li>• Seating will be limited; Students may only sit in permitted seats. Social distancing will be expected and upheld between students and their instructor.</li><li>• If you are sick or feeling ill please do not attend class in-person. You will always be able to attend the live-stream session or access a recording of the session after class is over.</li></ul>	<p>Students in this group will attend lectures via live-stream from a remote location. The live-stream will take place during our scheduled class times.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The live-stream will be accessed through Blackboard Collaborate. If any time Collaborate is not operating properly, you will be sent a Zoom link. If no live-streaming is available you will still be provided recorded instruction for the day.</li><li>• In the event that live-stream students cannot attend the live-stream at our scheduled class times, they can access a recording of the session after class is over.</li><li>• Live-stream attendance will require reliable access to the Internet, reliable access to a computer device (laptop, desktop, or smart phone using Collaborate app), and speaker capabilities.</li></ul>

### Instructor's Classroom Policies:

- **Respect for Fellow Students:** 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. All students will maintain respect for fellow classmates' personal beliefs, values, morals and life situations. In short, "Bigotry will not be tolerated." (Student Guide) This applies to all students, regardless of attendance group.
- **Disruptive Behavior:** Do your best to be respectful of others and their right to learn in a peaceful environment. "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)

- **Be a Respectful Classmate:** Avoid creating distractions, talking out of turn, talking with classmates during lecture (or socializing in the chat), wandering in and out of class, chronically showing up late, chronically leaving early, or improper use of technology, such as phones.
- **Don't Misuse Electronic Devices:** Phones must be silenced and put away during in-person attendance. Devices used for note-taking are permitted, but should be used responsibly and must not create distractions for you or others. During live-streaming, microphones should be muted unless a student is permitted otherwise.
- **Don't be Late to Class:** Do your best to manage your time well and be on time to class, whether in-person or live-stream. If you are tardy, please enter as quietly as possible and, if in-person, take a seat as close to the door as you can get. Being late to class is disruptive to your fellow classmates and is therefore subject to the same consequences listed in the Disruptive Behavior policy above.
- **Attendance & Administrative Drop Policy:** Attendance for all students will be taken based on coursework completion (i.e., written assignments, exams, quizzes). Neither being present in class (in-person or live-stream) nor logging into Blackboard will constitute attendance. A student who does not complete a minimum of one piece of coursework by the 12<sup>th</sup> class day may be dropped from the course for nonattendance. A student who fails to submit 5 or more coursework items by the appropriate deadlines may be dropped with a grade of 'X' or 'F' for the course. You are never required to attend class in-person.
- **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](http://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 in any form will receive a zero the work in question and will be dropped from the course with an 'F' should a second offense occur.
- **Late work:** Late work is not accepted for full credit in this course. However, ...
  - If you are unable to access the class for an extended period of time due to personal illness or Covid-19 related quarantine, please communicate with me and we can discuss arrangements to help you complete the course successfully.
  - On a case-by-case basis, Reading Quizzes and Essays may be submitted late for a maximum half credit. You will need approval from your instructor and may need to provide documentation to access this option.

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

Coursework	Point Value
Reading Quizzes (10 @ 10 pts)	100
Assignments (4 @ 25 pts)	100
Exams (best four scores)	400
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: 537-600 points  
B: 477-536 points  
C: 417-476 points  
D: 357-416 points  
F: 356 (or below) points

- **Reading Quizzes (10 quiz grades; 10 points each):** A reading quiz will be assigned for each chapter covered this semester. Quizzes are designed to assess your understanding of the assigned reading. You will have the opportunity to take each quiz twice and keep your highest score. All quizzes are taken in Blackboard and are timed. See Course Calendar for all specific deadlines.
- **Assignments (4 assignments; 25 points each):** On 4 different occasions throughout the semester you will be required to complete an assignment on a specific topic pertaining to course content. Assignment guidelines will be provided in Blackboard. All assignments must be typed and correctly submitted through Blackboard. Your writing should follow the guidelines of standard written English. See Course Calendar for all specific deadlines.
- **Exams (4 exams; 100 points each):** Throughout the semester 5 (five) exams will be administered. At the end of the semester I will drop your lowest exam grade. Only your best four exam scores will count toward your final letter grade. Exams will consist of multiple-choice items. See Course Calendar for all exam deadlines.
  - All exams will be administered on Blackboard.
  - **Proctorio & Testing Integrity:** All exams will use Proctorio. Proctorio is an online, remote proctoring system that uses advanced machine learning technology to ensure test integrity. All tests must be taken using the Google Chrome browser and a lap top or desktop computer (no tablets, no smartphones). The following URL will introduce you to the basic requirements:  
<https://proctorio.com/support>
    - **Restrictions while testing include:** no right click, no copy/paste keystroke, no clipboard access, and no printing.
    - You will **not** need a webcam to use Proctorio for this course.
    - You will need to ensure the following to successfully complete an exam:
      - Using a laptop or desktop device (no tables, no smartphones)
      - Proctorio extension is properly installed & up to date:  
<https://proctorio.com/support>
      - Google Chrome is up to date, browser history is cleared
      - Internet connection is stable. Do not use Hotspots or VPNs to take an exam; please use stable Wi-Fi or wired Ethernet connection for taking an exam.