

South Plains College
Common Course Syllabus: PSYC 2301, Sections 151 & 452
Revised December 2019
Summer I 2021

Department: Behavioral Sciences

Discipline: Psychology

Course Number: PSYC 2301

Course Title: General Psychology

Available Formats: Conventional, Hybrid, Online, Online Dual-Credit

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. Processing time could take up to 30 days once paperwork has been submitted. 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) & Lubbock Center 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, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, marital status, sexual orientation, military status, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. All SPC courses meet federal regulations under Title II of the ADA, Sections 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. 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, 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 Crystal Gilster, Director of Health and Wellness at 806-716-2362 or email 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.

Instructor's Course Information: Mrs. Miller

Course Information: PSYC 2301 – Summer I 2021 – Online (and Online Dual-Credit)

Course Website: Blackboard (southplainscollege.blackboard.com)

Preferred Email Contact: 'Mail' within the Blackboard Course (see course menu)

Alternative Email Contact: mamiller@southplainscollege.edu

Instructor Office Hours: SS117 (Levelland Campus) by appointment only

Instructor Office Phone: 806-716-2967 (*always* leave a message if I miss your call)

Course Structure: This course is delivered as an asynchronous, online section. While we will not have any specific days/times where we meet, you will be expected to submit coursework by specified deadlines. All deadlines are listed on the Course Calendar, which can be found in our Blackboard course. During this is a 5-week session, all coursework will be completed in Blackboard. The readings and coursework are broken down into units. Each unit focuses on 2-3 chapters and each unit will require a discussion, assignment, and exam to be completed by specified deadlines. The content breakdown for each unit is as follows:

Unit 0: Welcome to the course (syllabus & course calendar)

Unit 1: Chapters 1 & 2

Unit 2: Chapters 3, 4, & 5

Unit 3: Chapters 6 & 8

Unit 4: Chapter 11, 15, & 16

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>) or download for Kindle for free.
- You may also purchase a hard copy at the SPC bookstore or online from OpenStax or Amazon

Instructor's Course Policies:

Attendance & Drop Policy: Attendance will be taken based on coursework submission (i.e., discussions, exams, assignments). Logging into Blackboard does not constitute attendance. A student who does not complete a minimum of one piece of coursework by the 4th class day may be dropped from the course for nonattendance. A student who fails to submit any 3 coursework

items by the appropriate deadlines during the semester may be dropped with a grade of 'X' or 'F' for the course.

Technology Policy: Blackboard is the learning management system used to deliver this course (<http://southplainscollege.blackboard.com>). *It is essential that you have reliable access to the Internet, appropriate devices/software, and a working knowledge of Blackboard.* You should always have a backup plan in place should you encounter computer or internet problems. There are open computer labs available to all enrolled SPC students on all campuses. It is also the student's responsibility to have the required computer skills to complete this course. More information about online courses is available when you login to southplainscollege.blackboard.com by expanding the "On Demand Help" area. Should you encounter technical difficulties contact your instructor immediately as well as **SPC technical support at blackboard@southplainscollege.edu** or call (806) 894-9611, ext. 2180. Be sure to include your full name, course number, section number and a number where you can be reached when contacting technical support. *Not knowing how something works or having personal computer or Internet difficulties will not suffice as an excuse for missed deadlines and will not constitute extensions or do-overs.*

Student Conduct & Online Behavior: In conjunction with the policy stated in the Common Course Syllabus, one must uphold proper and respectful communication with the instructor and fellow classmates at all times. All interactions will remain civil just as they would in a traditional classroom. Repeated violations of this policy may result in the student being dropped from the course.

Written Work: All written work should be presented using the conventions of Standard Written English. South Plains College requires all students to become proficient in "academic English," a form of English that is typically used in academic, professional, and business contexts. While slang, regional idioms, and informal kinds of self-expression are appropriate in some contexts, they are out of place in academic writing. This will relate to all written work done in the course including discussions and assignments.

Late work: Late work is not accepted in this course. All deadlines are provided on the Course Calendar document. All coursework must be submitted by the deadlines on the calendar to receive credit.

It is best to plan ahead and not wait until the last minute to submit any coursework. Most coursework can be submitted early, so take advantage and don't get stuck. However, in the event that you miss a deadline there are two options available depending on what you missed:

- 1. Discussions & Assignments: The Freebie:** On one Discussion or Assignment you may use what I call a "Freebie," which means you can automatically receive full credit on that specific assignment (on discussions, this includes the full grade, 1 thread and 2 replies). **You can only do this once during the session**, so use it wisely. To use this option, you must email your instructor **in Blackboard within three days after that deadline occurs**, state that you would like to use your Freebie, and specifically state the coursework to which you would like it applied (e.g., "Dear Professor Miller, I would like to use my Freebie on the Unit 3 Assignment: Sleep. Sincerely, <Your Name>"). This doesn't happen automatically; no email, no credit, it's all on you. This option cannot be used on exams.

2. **Exams:** If you miss a deadline on an exam (or have technology issues, underperform, etc.), keep in mind that your lowest exam score will be dropped. Late exams and make up exams are not permitted for any reason (See Exam policy for more information).

Academic Integrity: In addition to the Plagiarism and Cheating policy in the Common Course Syllabus, it should be understood that students found guilty of cheating or plagiarism will earn a zero on the work in question for the first offense and will be dropped from the course with an ‘F’ should a second offense occur. Any amount of dishonesty is subject to these consequences, whether a lot or a little; this can include but is not limited to one copied sentence in an essay, a missing or incorrect citation, an entire paper copied from someone/somewhere else, one plagiarized idea or post on a discussion board, one copied exam item or an exam, other coursework completed by someone other than yourself, or dishonestly using Internet searches and sites to complete your work. You have also committed academic dishonesty when sharing course content, assignments, items, or answers. This includes sharing course content with classmates or future students as well as sharing or posting course content on websites such as Quizlet, Course Hero, or similar “study applications.” The information and assignments in this course are proprietary and are not yours to share. For further information and examples please see the Catalog, Student Guide, or refer to www.plagiarism.org

Grading Policy & Method of Evaluation:

It is possible to earn up to 515 points in this course. Your grade will be determined by a cumulative point total based on the following grades:

	Amount to be completed	Total Points Possible	Points earned by you this semester
Unit 0 Coursework	2 items of work	15	
Discussions	4 @ 25 points each	100	
Assignments	4 @ 25 points each	100	
Exams	3 @ 100 points each (lowest exam dropped)	300	
Total	-----	515	

At the end of the session, all points earned by you this session will be added up. Your Point Total will determine your final letter grade by using the following scale/point ranges:

- A= 461 – 515 points
- B= 410 – 460 points
- C= 358 – 409 points
- D= 307 – 357 points
- F= 0 – 306 points

Discussions (25 points each): For each unit you will be required to engage in a discussion related to course material. You will be given a prompt with a topic and specific instructions for how the discussion should be conducted. For each discussion, you will first post a **thread**, which will contain an original response to the prompt (you will not be able to see the posts of other students until you post a thread). Once you have posted your thread, you are to **reply** to a minimum of 2 threads on the

discussion board. See the Course Calendar for specific posting deadlines; keep in mind that threads and replies will have different deadlines.

The primary goal for this portion of the course is to discuss what you are learning and how it applies to various situations. Treat this as you would any other written assignment; it is an opportunity to demonstrate your ability to understand the information. Therefore, you will be evaluated based on your ability to post useful, meaningful, and valuable information that demonstrates your understanding of the course material. Some discussion no-no's to keep in mind include:

- Showing little originality or thought in your posts. Remember that these should demonstrate that you understand what you're learning in class. Each post should add a new idea, perspective, example, or explanation of the content.
- Repeating yourself or someone else. If you repeat yourself or others in postings you will not receive full credit.
- Agreeing with and praising others. Stating "I agree" or "I love the way you said that" (or any similar comment) is not detailed or complex enough to earn points.
- Using poor spelling/grammar. Keep in mind that a discussion is a written assignment, which means that spelling, grammar, and proper writing will be factored in to your score.

Assignments (25 points each): For each unit you will be required to complete an Assignment. Each Unit Folder will contain a Word Document that will contain all of the assignment instructions. You are to download the Word Document and save it to your device, complete each part of the assignment within the saved Word Document, and upload/submit the completed Word Document using the Assignment link in the Unit Folder. Deadlines are specified in the Course Calendar.

Exams (100 points each): This session you will take 4 exams (1 exam per Unit). The exams will contain 50 multiple choice questions over the assigned chapters. You will be provided with materials to help you prepare for each exam and it is in your best interest to read all related chapters and spend time preparing. The exams are timed (1 hour), so be sure you are ready to complete the exam in one sitting before you begin an exam. I advise you to complete all coursework in a given unit and review any feedback given before attempting to complete an exam.

- **At the end of the session your lowest unit exam score will be dropped**

Item of Work	Deadline (All deadlines are at MIDNIGHT)	Value
Unit 0: Welcome to the Course		
Syllabus Assignment	Friday - June 4	10 pts
Discussion: Introduce Yourself	Friday - June 4	5 pts
Note: Includes 1 Thread Post & 2 Reply Posts		
Unit 1: Chapters 1, 2		
<i>During Unit 1 you should read chapters 1 and 2 and complete each study guide on your own</i>		
Unit 1 Discussion: Modern Perspectives in Psychology (1 thread)	Mon - June 7	13 pts
Unit 1 Assignment: Research in Psychology	Tues - June 8	25 pts
Unit 1 Discussion: Modern Perspectives in Psychology (2 replies)	Wed - June 9	12 pts
Unit 1 Exam: Chapters 1, 2	Thur - June 10	100 pts
Unit 2: Chapters 3, 4, 5		
<i>During Unit 2 you should read chapters 3, 4, and 5 and complete each study guide on your own</i>		
Unit 2 Discussion: Biopsychology (1 thread)	Mon - June 14	13 pts
Unit 2 Assignment: Sleep	Tues - June 15	25 pts
Unit 2 Discussion: Biopsychology (2 replies)	Wed - June 16	12 pts
Unit 2 Exam: Chapters 3, 4, 5	Thur - June 17	100 pts
Unit 3: Chapters 6, 8		
<i>During Unit 3 you should read chapters 6 and 8 and complete each study guide on your own</i>		
Unit 3 Discussion: Memory & Study Strategies (1 thread)	Mon - June 21	13 pts
Unit 3 Assignment: Conditioning	Tues - June 22	25 pts
Unit 3 Discussion: Memory & Study Strategies (2 replies)	Wed - June 23	12 pts
Unit 3 exam: Chapters 6, 8	Thur - June 24	100 pts
Unit 4: Chapters 11, 15, 16		
<i>During Unit 4 you should read chapters 11, 15, and 16 and complete each study guide on your own</i>		
Unit 4 Discussion: Cybertherapy (1 thread)	Mon - June 28	13 pts
Unit 4 Assignment: Stress & Coping	Tues - June 29	25 pts
Unit 4 Discussion: Cybertherapy (2 replies)	Wed - June 30	12 pts
Unit 4 Exam: Chapters 11, 15, 16	Thur - July 1	100 pts

Note: You are strongly encouraged to develop a system for keeping up with these deadlines. This might include printing out this document and hanging in your home. Other options include writing deadlines in your own planner or calendar, adding reminders in your phone or on other devices, or adding the deadlines to the Blackboard calendar on your own.