

**Common Course  
Syllabus  
Fall 2019**

**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, Lubbock Center, Plainview, and Dual Credit Campuses

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

**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and in the specific instructor's opinion, minimum course objectives cannot be met due to absences, the student may be withdrawn from the course.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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Campus Concealed Carry syllabus statement:

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, please refer to the SPC policy at: ([http://www.southplainscollege.edu/human\\_resources/policy\\_procedure/hhc.php](http://www.southplainscollege.edu/human_resources/policy_procedure/hhc.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.

**Disability Accommodations:** While it is the faculty's responsibility to ensure that the learning environment is accessible, students must request accommodations. Faculty must include the following statements on their syllabus, which directs students with disabilities to the Disability Services Office. SPC Standard 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) 806-7162577, Reese Center (Building 8) & Lubbock Center 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

**Non-Discrimination Statement** 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, 806716-2360.

**Title IX Pregnancy 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.

**Academic Integrity:** You are expected to do your own work. You may not work with another person to complete your assignments, discussions, or when taking your exams. You may not copy another student's work and present it as your own. You may not allow another student to copy your work. Complete honesty is required of the student in the presentation of any and all phases of course work. If the instructor determines an assignment to be plagiarized, the result can range from a zero for that assignment to failure of the course. The result will be determined by the instructor. See SPC College Catalog for additional information.

**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)

## Instructor's Course Information: Dr. Skinner

**Course Information:** PSYC 2301 – Fall 2019

**Office Hours:** AD 146, MW 7:00-9:30; TR 7:00-8:00; TR 11:00-12:00  
F 7:30 –9:00 Other times by appointment

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

**Phone Number:** 806 716-2455

**Course Websites:** Blackboard ([southplainscollege.blackboard.com](http://southplainscollege.blackboard.com))

### 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.
- Tardiness:** Please do your best to manage your time well and be on time to class. If you are tardy, please enter the room *quietly* and take a seat as close to the door as you can get. Being late to class is disruptive to your fellow classmates. I will give a quiz at the beginning of class and you will miss it if you are late or absent. These cannot be made up.
- 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 session. 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 'X'.

**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.

**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. -\$4.99 Download the book in iBooks to your computer or phone, or tablet. -\$40 purchase a hard copy printed version of the book through the bookstore, Amazon or other sources

**Grading Policy and Method of Evaluation:** It is possible to earn up to 625 points in this course, as follows:

	Possible Points	Your Scores _____
Paper/Project and Assessment	125	_____
Exam 1	100	_____
Exam 2	100	_____
Exam 3	100	_____
Exam 4	100	_____
Daily Quizzes	25@5= 125	_____
Totals	650	_____

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 650 which is 585 to 650 total points  
B=80% of 650 which is 520 to 584 total points  
C=70% of 650 which is 455 to 519 total points  
D=60% of 650 which is 390 to 454 total points  
F=less than 60%

**Project/Paper:** This is worth 100 points and will be due by Friday, November 22. If it is late it will have 10% deducted per day that it is late. The project will consist of application of a personal example to a concept in the text book. The description is on a separate sheet with a grading rubric that is attached. You can turn the paper in earlier but this is the deadline.

**Exams (100 points each or 400 points total):** Throughout the semester 4 (four) exams will be given. Exams may contain multiple choice questions and an essay question. Exam 4 which is also the final exam, will not be cumulative. **See Class Schedule for Exam Dates.** During exams everything you brought to class that day will be kept out of sight the entire time. This includes all electronic devices (i.e., cell phones, tablets, laptops, etc.), notebooks, backpacks, and purses. No hats or "headgear" of any kind will be worn, including headphones.

**Quizzes:** You will have daily reading quizzes at the beginning of class. There will be approximately 25 of these quizzes during the semester. They will be over the reading assigned for that week. They will be worth 5 points each. The end grade would be 25 quizzes worth 5 points each for a total of 125 points. This will also be the way attendance is figured and will be given at the beginning of class. If you are late to class you will miss the quiz and there are no make-up quizzes. These quizzes will also help prepare you for the exam and you might see some of these questions on the exam.

## Calendar of Dates

Week of	Topic/Chapter	Exams, Holidays, and Papers Due
8/26	Chapter 1--Introduction	
9/2	Chapter 2--Research	Labor Day 9/2
9/9	Chapter 3—Biopsychology	Exam 1 (Chapters 1, 2 )
9/16	Chapter 3 Brain	
9/23	Chapter 4--Consciousness	
9/30	Chapter 5—Sensation/Perception	
10/7	Chapter 6—Learning	Exam 2 (Chapters 3, 4, & 5)
10/14	Chapter 8--Memory	
10/21	Chapter 10--Emotion	
10/28	Chapter 12—Social	
11/4	Chapter 14—Stress	Exam 3 (Chapters 6, 8, 10)
11/11	Chapter 12--Social	Paper due November 22 at 4:00 pm
11/18	Chapter 14 Stress	
11/25	Chapter 15 Disorders	
12/2	Chapter 16 Therapy	
12/9	Final Exam	Exam 4 during final exam as scheduled Chapters 12, 14, 15, and 16 Section 001 Wednesday December 11 at 8:00am Section 003 Tuesday, December 10 at 8:00 am