

## South Plains College: General Course Syllabus PSYC 2301

**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.

### **Purpose of ChatGPT and other AI:**

ChatGPT is an advanced language model designed to provide assistance and engage in meaningful conversations. It is intended to supplement learning, stimulate critical thinking, and enhance academic discourse. However, its use comes with certain responsibilities.

### **Academic Integrity:**

Using ChatGPT to generate academic work, including essays, reports, or assignments, without proper attribution is a violation of academic integrity policies. Plagiarism undermines the learning process and is strictly prohibited. Students must ensure that their work reflects their own ideas, research, and analysis—and appropriately cites all sources, including ChatGPT.

### **Collaboration and Consultation:**

While ChatGPT can be a valuable resource, it is essential to strike a balance between seeking assistance and maintaining personal responsibility. Collaboration with peers, consulting instructors, and utilizing other approved learning resources should be prioritized. Overreliance on ChatGPT for solutions without actively engaging in the learning process is discouraged and can be grounds for academic integrity violations. Utilizing ChatGPT as a tool for brainstorming or research is allowed but the writing should be the student's own work and thoughts.

### **Critical Thinking and Originality:**

ChatGPT can provide suggestions and information, but it is essential to critically evaluate the responses and exercise independent thought. Relying solely on ChatGPT for answers deprives students of the opportunity to develop their analytical and problem-solving skills. It emphasizes the importance of originality and independent thinking in all academic endeavors as part of the student's learning experience.

### **Ethical Use and Bias Awareness:**

ChatGPT is trained on large amounts of data from the internet, which may include biased or inaccurate information. Be mindful of the potential for bias and critically evaluate the responses provided by ChatGPT. Students must verify information from reliable sources, question any potential biases, and ensure that the information and sources used in the paper are neutral, peer-reviewed sources.

**Responsible Engagement:**

Students should engage with ChatGPT in a respectful and responsible manner. Avoid using offensive language, discriminatory remarks, or engaging in any form of harassment or inappropriate behavior. Uphold the standards of respectful communication, both in addressing ChatGPT and fellow classmates.

**Compliance with South Plains College Policies:**

Misusing or violating the guidelines outlined in this syllabus warning may result in disciplinary action, including academic penalties. Familiarize yourself with the specific course policies regarding the use of ChatGPT or any other form of plagiarism and adhere to them throughout the semester.

*Remember, ChatGPT is a tool to support your learning, but it cannot replace the critical thinking, creativity, and independent work that are integral to your academic growth.*

See *South Plains College Student Guide* and *South Plains College General Catalog* for more information.

See instructor’s course information sheet for more information.

**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.

For information regarding **Intellectual Exchange, Disabilities, Non-Discrimination, Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations, CARE (Campus Assessment, Response, and Evaluation) Team, and Campus Concealed Carry**, please use the following link: [Syllabus Statements \(southplainscollege.edu\)](https://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.

\*\*\*\*\*

**General Psychology – Course Information**

**Instructor’s Course Information:** Serena Mangano, M.A., M.A., M.Ed., Ph.D.

**Course Information:** PSYC 2301-453, PSYC 2301-601, PSYC 2301-603, PSYC 2301-608, Fall 2023

**Modality:** Online (PSYC 2301-453), and in person (PSYC 2301-601, PSYC 2301-603, PSYC 2301-608)

**Office Hours (In Person and Online – Link on Blackboard):**

- Tuesday and Thursday: 9:30 am – 12:15 pm

- Friday: 9:30 am – 12:00 pm
- By Appointment

**Office Location:** Lubbock Downtown Center, Room 2004

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

**Phone:** (806)716-4668

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

**In-Person Class Times:**

- **PSYC 2301-601:** Monday and Wednesday, 9:30 am – 10:45 am
- **PSYC 2301-603:** Monday and Wednesday, 1:00 pm – 2:15 pm
- **PSYC 2301-608:** Tuesday and Thursday, 1:00 pm – 2:15 pm

**Class Location:** Lubbock Downtown Center, Room 2008

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

**Textbook:** Open Stax Psychology Text available for free on Blackboard

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

	Points	%
Syllabus and Blackboard Contract	2.5	0.50%
Introductions on Blackboard	2.5	0.50%
Weekly Assignments	225	45.00%
Exams	225	45.00%
Paper - Movie Critique	45	9.00%
Total	500	100.00%

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

**Syllabus and Blackboard Contract:** It is worth 2.5 points, and is meant to encourage your careful reading and knowledge of the syllabus and Blackboard.

**Introductions on Blackboard:** Yes, you read it correctly! In this assignment, each student will introduce themselves to the class and me.

**Weekly Assignments:** They are worth 225 points. There is one prompt for each chapter covered in the course. Each of you will respond to the prompt to earn up to 15 points. You will need to adhere to the weekly assignments 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, polite, and professional in your writing. Weekly assignments are available for seven days until their due date. Once the due date has passed, weekly assignments are no longer visible. Assignments that do not satisfy the length requirements and/or that are marked for plagiarism and do not have proper citations, will receive point deductions, as follows:

LENGTH							
Words	250 (+)	230-249	210-229	190-209	170-189	150-169	130-159
Points	15	14	13	12	11	10	9
Words	110-129	90-109	70-89	50-69	30-49	20-39	< 19
Points	8	7	6	5	4	3	0

PLAGIARISM – Unless you have proper citations										
Overall % Match	0-10	11-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	71-80	81-90	91-100
Points	15	13	11	9	7.5	7	5	3	1	0

**Exams:** They are worth 225 points. Throughout the semester you will take 5 (five) non-cumulative exams on Blackboard. Exams may contain multiple choice and true/false questions, and short answers. Exams open 48 hours before they are due, allow 2 attempts, and I will keep the highest score. You have up to 90 minutes to take the exams. See Class Schedule on Blackboard for exam due dates and contents.

**Paper:** This is worth 45 points. See the Class schedule on Blackboard for due dates. Late submissions of the paper will receive a zero. The paper consists of your critique of one of the movies on Blackboard. In your critique, you are required to make connections to the course material discussed in class and in your textbook. The evaluation rubric for the paper is available on Blackboard. You can turn your paper in earlier, but the due date is a firm deadline. You will turn in your paper on Blackboard. Papers that do not satisfy the required length will receive point deductions as indicated in the rubric posted in Blackboard. Papers that are marked for plagiarism and do not have proper citations will receive point deductions per the table given above.

**General Policies for Weekly Assignments and Paper:**

- Profanities, disrespectful attitudes, and any behavior that is not acceptable will result in a zero (0) for that assignment.
- Make sure you write a meaningful contribution that is of the required length.
- Write your assignment in a word document, and upload it to Blackboard using the "Browse Local Files" button. Assignments written and/or submitted in any other form will receive a zero (0).

- Anonymous grading is enabled to avoid any type of bias from the grader. Do not add any information about your identity, neither in the file name, nor in the actual document. Doing so will result in a zero (0) for that assignment.

**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 and assignments 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>.

**Artificial Intelligence (AI) Resources:** There are now websites that will actually generate semi-unique material that somewhat resembles original material. Since technology is available to create this content, technology is also available to detect this content. Make no mistake, this is plagiarism. I am not asking AI to write a paper, *I am asking you, the student*, to create this content. If you submit work that is not your own, original material, it will be considered plagiarism and receive a grade of zero. The incident will also be detailed to the Dean of Students for disciplinary actions. Please see pp. 3 and 4.

**Late Work and Missed Work:** The work is due on the dates assigned and late submissions will not be accepted, unless you have valid and verifiable documentation presented within 5 working days from the date. Documentation provided later will not be accepted. It is your responsibility to inform me of emergencies and provide me with the necessary documentation. Please remember that in college you cannot wait until the end of the semester to do the work.

**Attendance and Participation:**

- **In-person classes:** Attendance to in-person classes is expected and taken at the beginning of each class. You are not to come to class late or leave class before it is dismissed. Being late 10 or more minutes, or leaving class 10 or more minutes earlier will count as absence. If you have an emergency, please see me as soon as possible, and document your reason for arriving late/leaving early within 5 working days from the date when that occurred. Otherwise, you will be counted absent. You are allowed up to 4 (four) unexcused absences. At the fifth, you will be asked to drop the class, regardless of your performance in class and/or on assignments. No exceptions.
- **Online classes:** Attendance to online classes equals submission of assignments by their due date. I will check how often you log in to our course. If you do not login for 10 days consecutively and you cannot document your reasons in writing, you will be asked to drop the class, regardless of your performance in class and/or on assignments. No exceptions.

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

## CLASSROOM POLICIES:

**Respect for Your Professor and Your Classmates:** All students will maintain and expect respect for professor's and fellow classmates' personal beliefs, values, morals and life situations.

**Insensitivity concerning race, language/accent, religion, gender, sexual orientation, mental/physical disability, psychological disorders, age, or socio-economic status (family situation), etc. will not be tolerated** and will have consequences on the student's academic standing.

**Proper Manners:** Please be mindful of the required netiquette to interact online with your classmates and with me. When you email me, you will use proper salutation (Dr. Mangano, not Miss, Mrs., Serena, or anything that is unprofessional), greetings, and the necessary formal register that is appropriate for communications with your professors. If you fail to do that, I will ask you to properly reword your emails before I will answer to you. This is college, and it is important that you learn to be professional in all your interactions. Inappropriate and rude behaviors will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and will have serious consequences on your grades.

When you email me, **please include your full name and the course you are taking**, so that I can more readily understand your situation. Please **only use your SPC email address** for institutional communications.

I will email you back as soon as possible, but please allow **24 hours** for my response. If you email me during the weekend, I will reply by the **next working day**.

**Grading Timeframe:** I will grade your assignments as promptly as I can, but please allow up to **two (2) weeks** after the due date to see your points updated in the Blackboard gradebook.

**General 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).

### 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

1. SPC will follow the recommended 5-day isolation period for individuals that test positive.
  - a. **Please note that day 0 is the date of positive test. Day 1 begins the first full day after the date of positive result.**
2. COVID reporting
  - a. Please have students and employees notify DeEtte Edens if they have tested positive to verify dates before returning to class or work.
  - b. The home tests are sufficient, but students need to submit a photo of the positive result. The date of test must be written on the test result and an ID included in the photo. If tested elsewhere (clinic, pharmacy, etc.), please submit a copy of the doctor's note or email notification. Results may be emailed to DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN at [dedens@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:dedens@southplainscollege.edu).
  - c. A student is clear to return to class without further assessment if they have completed:
    - The 5-day isolation period, symptoms have improved, and they are afebrile for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.
3. Please instruct students and employees to communicate with DeEtte Edens prior to their return date if still symptomatic at the end of the 5-day isolation.
4. Exposed individuals will not be required to quarantine. If exposed, SPC does request individuals closely monitor themselves. If an individual does become symptomatic, please do not attend class or work and be tested.

## **DISCLAIMER:**

### **Sensitive Nature of Humanities and Behavioral Science Courses**

Given the dynamics of individual, relational, familial, societal, and cultural development and issues, behavioral studies courses address many sensitive issues; this course is no exception. Lifespan and relational issues occur in the context of sexual, racial/ethnic, political, religious/spiritual, economic/social class, and disability/challenge concerns. The discussion of such issues will increase the student's knowledge of developmental conditions in the modern world, but the information can be emotionally charged. It is also likely that the student will be exposed to diverse viewpoints; some viewpoints might differ from the student's personal views. If a student chooses to remain in class, then they will be expected to respect the diverse viewpoints represented in course material, as well as the viewpoints of their classmates. If the student is easily offended by discussion of such issues, then should consider whether to remain enrolled in the course.

### **Revelation of Personal Information**

This course addresses topics that are personal in nature. Students are encouraged to participate in class discussion/presentations but are not required to share personal information with classmates. It is recommended that students use discretion in self-disclosure with classmates and the instructor. While it is expected that fellow classmates will be respectful and not disclose information that is shared in class, the instructor cannot guarantee confidentiality of information. Thus, students are responsible for the information that they share and should not share information they do not want others to know.