

## 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.

**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 difference 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.

**Disabilities 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, Lubbock Centers (located at the Lubbock Downtown 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, 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 Health and Wellness Center. 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 Health and Wellness Center at 806-716-2529 or email [dburleson@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:dburleson@southplainscollege.edu) for assistance.

**Campus Concealed Carry Statement:** 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.

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### **General Psychology – Course Information**

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

**Course Information:** PSYC 2301 – 154 and PSYC 2301 – 454, Spring 2023

**Modality:** Online

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

- Tuesday and Thursday: 2:30 pm – 5:30 pm
- Friday: 8:30 am – 10:30 am
- By Appointment

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

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

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

**Course Website:** 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:

	Points	%
Syllabus and Blackboard Contract	2	0.40%
Introductions on Blackboard	2	0.40%
Weekly Assignments	225	45.00%
Exams	225	45.00%
Paper First Phase	1	0.20%
Final Paper	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 points, and is meant to enforce 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

<b>PLAGIARISM – Unless you have proper citations</b>										
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 and allow 1 attempt. You have up to 90 minutes to take the exams. See Class Schedule for exam due dates and contents.

**Paper:** This is worth 46 points: 1 earned with the “Paper – First Phase”, that will be evaluated for completion, and up to 45 earned with the final draft. See the Class schedule for due dates. Late submissions of the paper will receive a zero. The paper consists of your review of the movie indicated on Blackboard. In your review, 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 dates are firm deadlines. 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 the 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.

**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 needed documentation. Please remember that in college you cannot wait until the end of the semester to do the work.

**Attendance and Participation:** 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 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 likely reply by 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 test 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. Proof of a positive test is required. A home test is sufficient, but students must 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).

A student is clear to return to class without further assessment from DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN if they have completed the 5-day isolation period, symptoms have improved, and they are without fever for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.

Students must communicate with DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN prior to their return date if still symptomatic at the end of the 5-day isolation.

(Statement updated on August 22, 2022)

**I will make accommodations for any student who,  
because of COVID-19, is ill or quarantined.**

## **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.