

South Plains College
Common Course Syllabus: PSYC 2301
Fall 2024

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| 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: | OpenStax Psychology 2e Textbook https://openstax.org/books/psychology-2e/pages/1-introduction |
| Supplies: | none unless specified in the specific instructor information |

This course partially satisfies a Core Curriculum Requirement: Yes, 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 thought 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.

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 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.

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.

Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336. Phone number 806-716-2360.

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).

Instructor's Course Information

Semester: **Fall 2024**

Course: PSYC 2301-608 Tuesdays Room 2001 4:00PM -5:15 PM

Instructor: Rachael Montgomery, Adjunct Instructor of Psychology

Contact Information:

- Email: rmontgomery@southplainscollege.edu
- Phone: 806.716.2362
- Office: Health and Wellness

Office Hours:

Mondays 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Tuesdays 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m., 5:30 p.m. -6:30 p.m.
Wednesdays 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Thursdays 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Fridays 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

***Email is the best way to contact me for quickest response or to schedule a meeting.**

Course Attendance

Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. Make every effort to be seated in the classroom when the class is scheduled to begin.

Academic Integrity - See SPC General Catalog, page 22

You are expected to do your own work. You may not work with another person to complete your paper, exams, Blackboard work, or any other assignments or homework you may be given throughout the course. You may not copy another student's work and present it as your own. You may not allow another student to copy your work. This is your reminder that any form of cheating will not be tolerated. "Complete honesty is required of the student in the presentation of any and all phases of course work. This applies to quizzes, class exams, final examinations, in-class work, homework, and term papers." - SPC General Catalog, p. 22. If the instructor determines that cheating is occurring or an assignment has been plagiarized, the resulting grade will be zero for that assignment. A second offense will result in failure of the course and immediate withdrawal from the course.

Guidelines for Classroom Behavior

I would like to welcome all students into an environment that creates a sense of community, pride, courtesy and respect; we are all here to work cooperatively and to learn together.

Once the class session has begun, please do not leave the room. If you miss a class meeting for any reason, you are responsible for all material covered, for announcements made in your absence, and for acquiring any materials that may have been distributed in class.

It is important that we are all able to stay focused on the class lecture/discussion and not have disruptive behaviors in the class. For this reason, only one person at a time in the class should be speaking. Side conversations are distracting for surrounding students and for me.

Also, it is very rude to read papers, sleep or work on assignments for other classes in this class. For additional information on student misconduct refer to pages 11-15 of the *Student Guide*. Failure to abide by policies may result in expulsion from the class and an "F" for the semester. As you can see, simple norms of courtesy should be sufficient to have our class run in the best interests of all of us. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Cell Phones and other Electronic Devices

Cellular phone and laptop use will not be permitted during class. Students who bring a cell phone into the classroom should set it in a manner that will not cause disruption in the classroom (either off or silenced) and out of the sight of the instructor. Consequences to students using a cell phone or other electronic device (smart-watch, laptop, etc.) during class will be: 1st offense - warning, 2nd offense - student will be required to leave the classroom for the day and an absence will be recorded in the grade book, 3rd offense - dropped a letter grade in course, 4th offense - dropped from the course.

Grading Policy:

1) Quiz's (5 points , 80 points total)

Students will complete quizzes, matching exercises, and multiple-choice exercises over the chapters covered in the course. These exercises are for you to test your **understanding** of important concepts in each chapter.

2) Written Assignment (20 Points, 320 points total)

Each Chapter will have a Critical Thinking Question worth 10 points, and a Personal Application Question worth 10 points due. Each assignment should be at least 1 page (roughly 250 words), but not exceeding 2 pages (roughly 500 words) in length. Content of the assignment should be an in-depth explanation/discussion of the assigned topic. Including personal experience with the topic is optional, but it must be relevant to the topic if it is included and it should not be the main focus of the composition. Assignments must be typed and submitted through blackboard by the due date. Your composition should follow the guidelines of standard written English, and should follow basic essay format including an introduction, logical paragraph flow, and a conclusion.

3) Exams (400 points Total)

There will be 4 class exams each worth 100 points. The final exam will not be comprehensive. Exams will consist of multiple-choice items. The test questions will cover the chapters assigned, lecture notes, and class discussions over material that may or may not be in your text.

Exams will be taken online through Blackboard. All exams will be available to take beginning at 8:00 a.m. on a Friday and will remain available until 11:59 p.m. on the following Sunday. A student will be allowed to make-up only **one** missed exam during finals week (to be determined at a later date). Failure to take a second exam on the scheduled date will result in a zero (0) for that exam. Failure to take an exam on the scheduled date for a third time will result in the student being administratively dropped from the course.

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.

4.) Extra Credit

I understand that sometimes life can happen and assignments may not get done or a test might not go as well as you planned. Because of this, I have put an opportunity to earn 15 extra credit points to be put wherever you find most helpful. It can only be used one time on an assignment, test, or overall grade if you choose. **To earn this credit, you must attend Health and Wellness's Sex in the Dark Event on October 8th in the Sundown Room. It is an anonymous information event with pannelists that answer anonymous questions.**

To earn credit, you must submit a 250 word essay about what you learned. Note: **I will not accept any crude or distasteful submissions. Only serious reflections will be counted for credit.**

Grading Scale

Your grade for the course will be determined by the total number of points earned from all of the work completed as follows:

- 720 points to 800 points = A
- 640 points to 719 points = B
- 560 points to 635 points = C
- 480 points to 555 points = D
- 0 points to 475 points = F