

Common Course Syllabus
Fall 2024

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and in the specific instructor's opinion, minimum course objectives cannot be met due to absences, the student may be withdrawn from the course.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.

Syllabus Statements: <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>

All required syllabus statements can be found at the link above.

Instructor's Course Information: Coach Braziel

Course Information: PSYC 2301 – Fall 2022

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 2:16-3:06 Wednesday 2:30-3:13

Email Address: jbraziel@southplainscollege.edu

Course Websites: Blackboard (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.
- **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. Disruptive behavior will be handled in compliance with the Levelland High School and LISD code of conduct. “Repeated violations of disrupting a class will result in the student being dropped from the course.”
 - **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 (10 points per day) 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 920 points in this course, as follows:

Description	Possible Points
9 Assignments @ 40 points	360
12 Discussion/Responses @ 5 Points	60
1 paper/project @ 100 Points	100
4 Exams @ 100 points	400

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 960 which is 828 to 920

B=80% of 960 which is 736 to 827

C=70% of 960 which is 644 to 735

D=60% of 960 which is 552 to 645

F=less than 60% below 551

Exams (4 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.

Calendar for Fall 2023

Discussion questions will be given weeks 2-15 for a total of 60 points

Week	Dates	Assignment/Exam	Points
1.	Aug 30	Mental Health	40
2.	Sep 6	Theories	40
3.	Sep 13	Research	40
4.	Sep 20	Exam	100
5.	Sep 27	Nervous System	40
6.	Oct 4	Neurotransmitters	40
7.	Oct 11	Brain and Sleep	40
8.	Oct 18	Exam	100
9.	Oct 25	Learning	40
10.	Nov 1	Intelligence and Memory	40
11.	Nov 8	Exam 3	100
12.	Nov 15	Paper Due	100
13.	Nov 22	Lifespan Development	40
14.	Thanksgiving Break		
15.	Dec 6	Psychological Disorders	40
16.	Dec 12	Final Exams	100
		TOTAL	920 points

Discussion expectations:

You will be required to make an initial post of a minimum of 250-300 words, using a credible citation. (To be posted by Wednesday of each week.)

You will also be required to make a response to one of your peers' posts, furthering or creating conversation based on the substance of the post. This response post is a minimum of 150-200 words. (To be posted by Friday of each week.)