

**South Plains College
Common Course Syllabus: PSYC 2301**

Fall 2025

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 differences 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.

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. 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, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

South Plains College policies concerning diversity, disabilities, non-discrimination, Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations, and Campus Concealed Carry Statements can be found here: [Syllabus Statements \(southplainscollege.edu\)](http://southplainscollege.edu/SyllabusStatements).

Nondiscrimination Policy: 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 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. Contact the Director of Health and Wellness at 806-716-2362 or [email cgilster@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:cgilster@southplainscollege.edu) for assistance.

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 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.

Instructor's Course Information: Major Russell

Course Information: PSYC 2301 – Fall 2025

Email Address: rrussell@southcrest.org

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 parked 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 your seat. Being late to class is disruptive to your fellow classmates. I will frequently give a quiz at the beginning of class and you will miss it if you are late or absent. Quizzes 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 meeting.

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 an 'X' or 'F.'

Late Work and Missed Work: The work is due on the dates assigned and will not be accepted after the due date.

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 (will be available on Blackboard on August 30. -less than \$10. Download the book in iBooks to your computer or phone, or tablet -\$40+5 purchase a hard copy printed version of the book through the bookstore, Amazon or other sources ISBN: 978-1-938168-35-2

Academic Integrity: You are expected to do your own work. 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)

Grading Policy and Method of Evaluation: Tests will count 50% of your final grade. Daily grades will count 50%.

Using the scale below, your instructor will determine the corresponding letter grade for South Plains College. Normal grading standards apply for your SouthcrestChristian School grade, i.e. less than 70% is ~~not passing~~.

A=90%

B=80%

C=70%

D=60%

F=less than 60%

Project/Paper: The paper will count as a test grade and will be due by Tuesday December 9 at the beginning of class. It will not be accepted 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.

Quizzes: You should expect to have daily reading quizzes at the beginning of class. They will be over the reading assigned for that week. 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

8/13 Chapter 1--Introduction

8/18 Chapter 2--Research

9/2 Chapter 3—Biopsychology

Exam 1 (Chapters 1, 2)

9/8 Chapter 4--Consciousness
9/15 Chapter 5—Sensation/Perception
Exam 2 (Chapters 3, 4)
9/22 Chapter 6—Learning
9/29 Chapter 7 –Thinking/Intelligence
Exam 3 (Chapters 5, 6)
10/6 Chapter 8--Memory
10/13 Chapter 9 –Lifespan Development
10/20 Chapter 10—Emotion
Exam 4 (Chapters 7, 8, 9)
10/27 Chapter 11—Personality
11/3 Chapter 12—Social Psychology
Exam 5 (Chapters 10, 11)
11/10 Chapter 13—Industrial-Organizational Psychology
11/17 Chapter 14—Stress/Lifestyle/Health
Exam 6 (Chapters 12, 13)
12/1 Chapter 15—Psychological Disorders Paper due 12/2
12/8 Chapter 16 Therapy/Treatment
12/15 Exam 7/Final Exam (Chapters 14, 15, 16)

Exams: Exams may contain multiple choice questions, short answer questions and essay questions. Exam 7 which is also the final exam, will not be cumulative.

During exams everything you brought to class except for approved notes 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.