

South Plains College
Common Course Syllabus: PSYC 2301, Sections 002 & 003
Revised 01/04/2021
Spring 2023

Department: Behavioral Sciences

Discipline: Psychology

Course Number: PSYC 2301

Course Title: General Psychology

Available Formats: Conventional, INET, ITV, Flex

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 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:

1. Upon successful completion of this course, students will:
2. Identify various research methods and their characteristics used in the scientific study of psychology.
3. Describe the historical influences and early schools of thoughts that shaped the field of psychology.
4. Describe some of the prominent perspectives and approaches used in the study of psychology
5. Use terminology unique to the study of psychology.
6. Describe accepted approaches and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation.
7. 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, downloaded from another student, an online term paper site, a mail order term paper mill, or generated by an artificial intelligence tool;
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, Lubbock Centers (located at the Lubbock Downtown Center) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

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 dburleson@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.

Health & Safety: 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 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. 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.

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: PSYC 2301.002 &003 – Spring 2023

PSYC 2301, General Psychology: Survey of the essential subject areas, major theories and approaches to the scientific study of behavior and mental processes.

Instructor: M. Miller, MA, Associate Professor of Psychology

Instructor Office: SS117, Student Services Building, Levelland Campus, 806-716-2967

I am available by phone or walk-in during the office hours listed below. I can be available for virtual meetings via Collaborate upon request during the following times as well.

Monday through Thursday: 9 am – 10:30 am

Friday: 9 am – 11 am

Email Address: mamiller@southplainscollege.edu

Blackboard: All assignments, quizzes, and exams will be submitted in Blackboard

(southplainscollege.blackboard.com). Many course resources can be found on our Blackboard course as well. You may contact me using Course Messages in Blackboard.

Textbook: OpenStax College, *Psychology 2e*. OpenStax College. 2018.

- It is recommended that you read from the FREE online version or download a PDF version, also for free, at <https://openstax.org/details/books/psychology-2e>
- You may download the book on AppleBooks for \$5.99-6.99 <https://books.apple.com/us/book/psychology/id1342320430>
- You may purchase a hard copy at the SPC bookstore or online from OpenStax or Amazon

Instructor's Classroom Policies:

- **Respect for Fellow Students:** 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. All students will maintain respect for fellow classmates' personal beliefs, values, morals and life situations. In short, "Bigotry will not be tolerated." (Student Guide)
- **Disruptive Behavior:** Do your best to be respectful of others and their right to learn in a peaceful environment. "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)
 - **Be a Respectful Classmate:** Avoid creating distractions, talking out of turn, talking with classmates during lecture (or socializing in the chat), wandering in and out of class, chronically showing up late, chronically leaving early, or improper use of technology, such as phones. These behaviors are disruptive to your fellow classmates and are therefore subject to the same consequences listed in the Disruptive Behavior policy above.
 - **Don't Misuse Electronic Devices:** Phones must be silenced and put away during in-person attendance. Devices used for note-taking are permitted, but should be used responsibly and must not create distractions for you or others.
 - **Don't be Late to Class:** Do your best to manage your time well and be on time to class. If you are tardy, please enter as quietly as possible and take a seat as close to the door as you can get. Being late to class is disruptive to your fellow classmates and is therefore subject to the same consequences listed in the Disruptive Behavior policy above.
- **Attendance & Administrative Drop Policy:** It is in your best interest to attend all class meetings when possible. Attendance for all students will be taken based on coursework completion (i.e., projects, exams, quizzes). Neither being present in nor logging into Blackboard will constitute attendance. A student who does not complete a minimum of one piece of coursework by the 12th class day may be dropped from the course for nonattendance. A student who fails to submit 5 or more coursework items by the appropriate deadlines may be dropped with a grade of 'X' for the course. Although I will take attendance each class meeting, you are never required to be present in class.
- **Academic Integrity:** See College Catalog "Offering the work of another as one's own, without proper acknowledgement, is plagiarism..." For further information and examples please see www.plagiarism.org. Handing in work that was submitted for completion of another course will not be permitted. Students found guilty of such academic dishonesty in any form will receive a zero on the work in question and will be dropped from the course with an 'F' should a second offense occur.
- **Late work: Late work is not accepted for full credit in this course.** However, on a case-by-case basis, Reading Quizzes and Assignments may be submitted late for a maximum half credit. You will need approval from your instructor and may need to provide documentation.

Grading Policy and Method of Evaluation:

It is possible to earn up to 600 points in this course, as follows:

Coursework	Point Value
Reading Quizzes (10 @ 10 pts)	100
Assignments (4 @ 25 pts)	100
Exams (best four scores @ 100 pts)	400
Totals	600

Final Grades will be determined by calculating the total amount of points earned by you this semester. Using the scale below, your instructor will determine the corresponding letter grade.

A: 537-600 points
B: 477-536 points
C: 417-476 points
D: 357-416 points
F: 356 (or below) points

- **Reading Quizzes (10 quiz grades; 10 points each):** A reading quiz will be assigned for each chapter covered this semester. Quizzes are designed to assess your understanding of the assigned reading. You will have the opportunity to take each quiz twice and keep your highest score. All quizzes are taken in Blackboard and are timed. See Course Calendar for all specific deadlines.
- **Assignments (4 assignments; 25 points each):** On 4 different occasions throughout the semester you will be required to complete an assignment on a specific topic pertaining to course content. Assignment guidelines will be provided in Blackboard. All assignments must be typed and correctly submitted through Blackboard. Your writing should follow the guidelines of standard written English. See Course Calendar for all specific deadlines.
- **Exams (4 exams; 100 points each):** Throughout the semester 5 (five) exams will be administered. At the end of the semester I will drop your lowest exam grade. Only your best four exam scores will count toward your final letter grade. Exams will consist of multiple-choice items. All exams are timed and will be administered on Blackboard. See Course Calendar for all exam deadlines.