

Common Course Syllabus

Spring 2026

Department: Behavioral Sciences Meredith Barlow

Discipline: Psychology

Course Number: PSYC 2301.308 Lubbock High School

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and in the specific instructor's opinion, minimum course objectives cannot be met due to absences, the student may be withdrawn from the course.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

AI (Artificial Intelligence): Use the SPC site to get guidelines at using AI.

(<https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>) You can use AI but must use it appropriately and put terms into your own words to show that you understand the concepts.

For information regarding official South Plains College statements about intellectual exchange, disabilities, nondiscrimination, Title V Pregnancy Accommodations, CARE Team, and Campus Concealed Carry, please visit <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>.

Instructor's Course Information: Ms. Barlow

Course Information: PSYC 2301 – Spring 2026

Office Hours: After school by appointment

Email Address: meredith.barlow@lubbockisd.org

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** in the classroom is prohibited by the State of Texas; they should be turned off 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.
- **Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI):** Artificial Intelligence (AI) programs (such as ChatGPT) may only be used in this class with explicit permission from the instructor.

You may not submit any work generated by AI programs as your own original work. Using AI to create an assignment or even the majority of an assignment is considered to be a form of plagiarism in this class. All sources must be cited, and that includes material generated by an AI program. It should be cited in the same manner as any other source. Following is a link with information on how to cite AI using APA Citation Style: <https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/how-to-cite-chatgpt>

Misuse of AI or any other violation of academic integrity will be dealt with according to the policies outlined in this syllabus.

Attendance & Administrative Drop Policy: Attendance will be taken during each class session. Students will be responsible for material presented and discussed in class.

Late Work and Missed Work: The work is due on the dates assigned and will have late penalties if that date is missed. You cannot wait till the end of the semester to do the work.

Text Book: OpenStax *Psychology 2e*

OpenStax (Rice University / Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation)

<https://openstax.org/details/books/psychology-2e>

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 700 points in this course.

| | Possible Points | Your Scores |
|----------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 12 Assignments @ 25 points | 300 | |
| 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.

Exams: (*4 exams @ 100 points each or 400 points total*): Throughout the semester 4 (four) exams will be given. Exams will include multiple choice questions and a writing question. Exam 4, which is also the final exam, will NOT be cumulative.

Psyc 2301 General Psychology Spring 2026 Course Calendar

| Week | Start Date | Assignment | Textbook Chapters | Due Date |
|-------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| 1 | Jan 7 | Assignment 1 | Ch 1 | Sunday, Jan 11 |
| 2 | Jan 12 | Assignment 2 | Ch 2 | Sunday, Jan 18 |
| 3 | Jan 20 | Exam 1 | Ch 1, 2 | Sunday, Jan 25 |
| 4 | Jan 26 | Assignment 3 | Ch 3 | Exam 1 in class |
| 5 | Feb 2 | Assignment 4 | Ch 4 | Sunday, Feb 8 |
| 6 | Feb 9 | Assignment 5 | Ch 5 | Sunday, Feb 15 |
| 7 | Feb 17 | Exam 2 | Ch 3, 4, 5 | Sunday, Feb 22 |
| 8 | Feb 23 | Assignment 6 | Ch 6 | Exam 2 in class |
| 9 | Mar 2 | Assignment 7 | Ch 7 | Sunday, Mar 8 |
| 10 | Mar 9 | Assignment 8 | Ch 8 | Sunday, Mar 15 |
| 11 | Mar 24 | Assignment 9 | Ch 10 | Sunday, Mar 29 |
| 12 | Mar 30 | Exam 3 | Ch 6, 7, 8, 10 | Exam 3 in class |
| 13 | Apr 7 | Assignment 10 | Ch 12 | Sunday, Apr 12 |
| 14 | Apr 20 | Assignment 11 | Ch 14 | Sunday, April 26 |
| 15 | Apr 27 | Assignment 12 | Ch 15 | Sunday, May 7 |
| 16 | May 4 | Exam 4 | Ch 12-15 | Exam 4 in class |