

South Plains College
Common Course Syllabus: PSYC 2301
Revised 1/2026
Spring 2026

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.

SPC Bookstore Price Match Guarantee Policy:

If you find a lower price on a textbook, the South Plains College bookstore will match that price. The difference will be given to the student on a bookstore gift certificate! The gift certificate can be spent on anything in the store.

If students have already purchased textbooks and then find a better price later, the South Plains College bookstore will price match through the first week of the semester. The student must have a copy of the receipt and the book has to be in stock at the competition at the time of the price match.

The South Plains College bookstore will happily price match BN.com & books on Amazon noted as *ships from and sold by Amazon.com*. Online marketplaces such as *Other Sellers* on Amazon, Amazon's Warehouse Deals, *fulfilled by Amazon*, BN.com Marketplace, and peer-to-peer pricing are not eligible. They will price match the exact textbook, in the same edition and format, including all accompanying materials, like workbooks and CDs.

A textbook is only eligible for price match if it is in stock on a competitor's website at time of the price match request. Additional membership discounts and offers cannot be applied to the student's refund.

Price matching is only available on in-store purchases. Digital books, access codes sold via publisher sites, rentals and special orders are not eligible. Only one price match per title per customer is allowed.

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: Dr. Harris (DOWNTOWN RM 2013)

Course Information: PSYC 2301 –607

Monday: 5:30pm-6:45pm Downtown Room 2009

THIS IS A HYBRID CLASS AND WILL ONLY MEET IN-PERSON ON MONDAYS

Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday: 12:30pm-1:00pm, 2:15pm-3:15pm in Levelland (ADMIN Rm152)

Tuesday & Thursday: 10:00am-11:00am, 2:15pm-3:15pm Downtown (Rm 2013)

Friday: 10:00am-11:00am Downtown (Rm 2013)

Email Address: jharris@southplainscollege.edu

Textbook: Noba Textbook Series: Psychology. Champaign, IL: DEF Publishers. **This is an OER (open resources) textbook that is available on Blackboard at no cost to the student.**

Student Conduct: The student handbook clearly defines appropriate classroom conduct. A student can be asked to leave the class for inappropriate conduct. You should not disrupt the class since you interfere with the learning process for your peers. Talking, sleeping, cell phones ringing, or other disruptive behaviors will result in a warning and then can result in the student being dropped from the class. If you must have a phone for sick children or emergency reasons, please put the phone on vibrate because a ringing/singing phone is very disruptive to the class.

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

Late Work and Missed Assignments: Work is due on the dates assigned and cannot be made up if missed.

Assignments are due on the date assigned and there is a late penalty for each day the work is late (10 points per day it is late).

Grading Policy/Procedure: You will have four exams worth 150 points each, attendance/discussion points worth a total of 100 points, a writing assignment worth 100 points, and an end of the semester project worth 200 points for a total of 1000 points. Other grades may be added with daily papers that may be assigned. Your grade will be based upon a percentage of the total points with (900-1000 points) 90%=A; (800-899 points) 80%=B; (700-799) 70%=C; (600-699 points) 60%=D; (< 599 points) 59% and below = F.

	POINTS POSSIBLE	POINTS EARNED
EXAM I	150	
EXAM II	150	
EXAM III	150	
EXAM IV	150	
WEEKLY PARTICIPATION/DISCUSSION	100	
WRITING ASSIGNMENT	100	
END OF SEMESTER PROJECT	200	
TOTAL	1000	

ALL EXAMS WILL BE COMPLETED ONLINE THROUGH BLACKBOARD.

On scheduled exams days, students can choose to take the exam from any location where they are able to access a computer. The exams will be available in Blackboard for a specific amount of time, they will be timed, once a student opens the exam they will not be able to close their browser until the exam is complete. The exam questions will be randomized so that no 2 students will take the same exam.

Special Requirements: If you miss an exam, you cannot make it up, but your optional CUMULATIVE final exam can be used to replace either your lowest score or an exam you missed. If you miss more than two exams, you will be asked to drop the class.

Projects/Assignments:

Writing Assignment (100 points): TBD

End of semester project (200 Points): Toward the end of the semester, a folder containing links to a variety of TEDTalks will be added to Blackboard. Choose a TEDTalk from the list provided, watch the video, write a 1-2 page summary of what you learned. Include an overall synopsis of the talk (what major points were discussed), what surprised you, what you found yourself either believing or doubting, and a brief paragraph on why (or why you might not) consider taking a more focused psychology class to learn additional information about the topic highlighted in the TEDtalk. I prefer Times New Roman 12 pt. font. You can turn in this paper EITHER through the Blackboard link or email (jharris@southplainscollege.edu) though Blackboard is preferred!

DATE	TOPIC	EXAM/ASSIGNMENT	RECOMMENDED READING
01/12	WELCOME		
01/19		NO CLASS MLK DAY	
01/26	HISTORY OF PSYCHOLOGY		CHAPTER 1-2
02/02	RESEARCH METHODS		CHAPTER 3-5
02/09	BIOLOGY OF PSYCHOLOGY		CHAPTER 6-7
02/16	BIOLOGY OF PSYCHOLOGY		CHAPTER 8-9
02/18 (WED)		EXAM 1	
02/23	DEVELOPMENT		CHAPTER 10-13
03/02	CONSCIOUSNESS		CHAPTER 14-15
03/09	LEARNING		CHAPTER 16-18
03/16-03/20		SPRING BREAK	
03/23	COGNITION		CHAPTER 19-23
03/25 (WED)		EXAM 2	
03/27 (FRI)		WRITING ASSIGNMENT DUE BY MIDNIGHT	
03/30	MEMORY		CHAPTER 24-26
04/06	EMOTION		CHAPTER 27-29
04/13	PERSONALITY		CHAPTER 30-33
04/15 (WED)		EXAM 3	
04/20	DISORDERS		CHAPTER 38-39
04/27	DISORDERS		CHAPTER 40-41
04/29 (WED)		EXAM 4	
05/01 (FRI)		END OF SEMESTER PROJECT DUE (BY MIDNIGHT)	
05/04-05/07	FINALS WEEK (FINAL OPTIONAL)		