

# INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY

PSY 2301-0H1

Class meeting times: Tuesdays, 12:30 - 2:45pm

Class location: CRA 12.110

Instructor: Salena Brody, Ph.D.

Email: salena.brody@utdallas.edu

Office: GR4.818

Office hours: Tuesdays 11:15am - 12:15pm & by appointment

**\*WE ARE HAPPY TO MEET WITH YOU!\***

TA: Giuseppe Miranda

Office: GR 4.608

Office hours: 11:00am - 12:00pm & by appointment

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**PSY 2301 - Introduction to Psychology** (3 semester credit hours) Overviews the major theories and scientific research examining the human mind and behavior. The topics range from studies of perception, cognition, memory, language, and thought to studies of development, personality, relationships, motivation, abnormal patterns of thought and behavior, and cultural differences. (3-0) S

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## Required text:

Myers, D. & Dewall, N. (2018) Psychology, 12th edition.

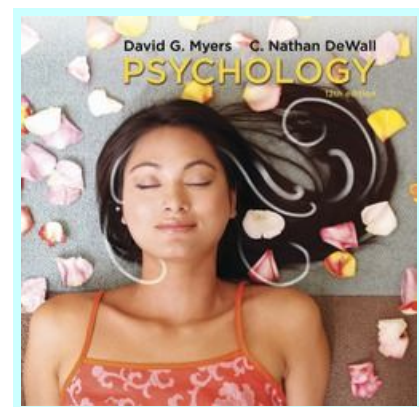
ISBN 9781319067991

\*The most cost effective option is to just [purchase a 6 month subscription to Launchpad](#) -- this automatically

includes the ebook. You can follow the link to purchase from within eLearning. Launchpad

assignments constitute 15% of your grade so this is a required course element.

ISBN-10: 1-319-06798-0; ISBN-13: 978-1-319-06798-4



If you'd like to purchase a hardcover text, please make sure to also purchase Launchpad (it's the access code that comes bundled with the text). You can start using Launchpad and the ebook with a free trial. Make sure you use your UTD email address for the free trial. More details will be available on eLearning.

### Learning objectives:

**PLO 1. Develop a knowledge base in psychology:** Describe, explain, and analyze major theoretical perspectives and content areas in psychology.

**PLO 2. Demonstrate scientific inquiry and critical thinking:**

2.1 Identify and explain different research methods used by psychologists

2.2 Employ critical thinking to evaluate bodies of scientific literature, popular media, and empirical reports in psychology in order to construct an argument

### **Evaluation criteria:**

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Point value</b>	<b>Learning outcome</b>
4 unit exams + Final exam (200 points each, lowest score dropped)	800 points	PLO1 PLO2 PLO2.1
Applied Psych Reflection	50 points	PLO1 PLO2 PLO2.2
Launchpad Learning Curve assignments (30 assignments @ 5 points each)	150 points	PLO1
	<b>TOTAL = 1000 points</b>	

#### **Research Exposure Credit Requirement (REC):**

One requirement of all students enrolled in this class is completion of two research exposure credits. This requirement provides students practical and direct experiences with research and is an important means to understanding behavioral research. Details about this requirement appear on the separate Research Exposure Credit Requirement handout distributed on the first day of class. A link to "Research Exposure Credit (REC) Requirement" is also posted on the BBS Information Center in eLearning (link on the left side).

Failure to complete the research exposure requirement will result in lowering your total grade in this class. For each Research Exposure Credit you fail to complete, your course grade will be reduced by 1/3 letter grade. For example, if you only complete one of the two required credits and your grade for all other course requirements is an A+, then your grade would be lowered from an A+ to an A. If you do not complete both credits, your grade would be lowered from an A+ to A-. The deadline for completion of these credits is found on the REC instruction sheet.

**Up to 50 extra credit points can be earned through participation or performance in-class activities -- these will occur randomly to reward attendance and engagement in class.**

## SCHEDULE OF READINGS & ASSIGNMENTS

Date	Topic	To Do / Read before class
5/28 Tuesday	<b>The Story of Psychology</b>	Prologue Ch.1
	<b>Thinking critically / Research methods</b>	
		<p><b>Applied Psych Reflection Paper DUE MONDAY, 6/3, @ 11:59pm</b></p> <p><b>1 Learning Curve due MONDAY, 6/3 @ 11:59pm (Prologue)</b></p> <p><b>2 Learning Curves due MONDAY, 6/3 @ 11:59pm (Ch1)</b></p> <p><b>2 Learning Curves due MONDAY, 6/3 @ 11:59pm (Ch2)</b></p>
<p><b>HEADS UP! RESERVE YOUR SEAT FOR ALL EXAMS IN THIS COURSE <u>RIGHT NOW</u> TO ENSURE YOU GET THE DAY AND TIME YOU WANT! (reservation scheduling locks 72 hours before exam date and spots do fill up -- procrastinating on this will lead to you not being able to take your exams and losing points!)</b></p> <p><a href="https://ets.utdallas.edu/testing-center/students/">https://ets.utdallas.edu/testing-center/students/</a></p> <p>Your Comet ID Card is the official UT Dallas student ID. It will be the <b>ONLY</b> form of ID accepted by the UTD Testing Center. <b>NO</b> other forms of ID will be accepted. You will be DENIED access without a <b>physical</b> Comet ID Card. If you do not have a Comet ID Card, you must obtain one prior to your exam. Please visit the Comet Card Office at Student Services Addition (2nd floor), Room SSA12.324.</p>		
6/4 Tuesday	<b>The Biology of Mind</b>	Ch. 2
		<p><b>1 Learning Curve due MONDAY, 6/10 @ 11:59pm (Ch4)</b></p>
6/11 Tuesday	<b>Nature, Nurture &amp; Human Diversity</b>	Ch. 4 <b>**Study for Exam #1!</b>

Available 6/13 (Thursday) - 6/15 (Saturday)	<b>Exam #1 (Prologue, Ch. 1, 2, 4)</b> <b>Please reserve a seat for the exam at the UTD Testing Center <u>a minimum</u> of 72 hours prior to the exam. If you drop the ball on reserving a seat early, you will have to accept that this is your dropped exam grade.</b>	
		<b>3 Learning Curves due MONDAY, 6/17 @ 11:59pm (Ch5)</b> <b>2 Learning Curves due MONDAY, 6/17 @ 11:59pm (Ch6)</b>
6/18 Tuesday	Developing Through the Lifespan	Ch. 5
	Sensation & Perception	Ch. 6
		<b>2 Learning Curves due MONDAY, 6/24 @ 11:59pm (Ch7)</b>
6/25 Tuesday	Learning	Ch. 7  <b>**Study for Exam #2!</b>
Available 6/27 (Thursday) - 6/29 (Saturday)	<b>Exam #2 (Ch. 5, 6, 7)</b> <b>Please reserve a seat for the exam at the UTD Testing Center <u>a minimum</u> of 72 hours prior to the exam.</b>	
		<b>3 Learning Curves due MONDAY, 7/1 @ 11:59pm (Ch8)</b> <b>1 Learning Curve due MONDAY, 7/1 @ 11:59pm (Ch10)</b>
7/2 Tuesday	Memory	Ch. 8
	Intelligence	Ch. 10

		<b>3 Learning Curves due MONDAY, 7/8 @ 11:59pm (Ch12)</b>
7/9 Tuesday	Emotions, Stress & Health	Ch. 12 <b>**Study for Exam #3!</b>
Available between 7/11 (Thursday) - 7/13 (Saturday)	<b>Exam #3 (Ch. 8, 10, 12) Please reserve a seat for the exam at the UTD Testing Center <u>a minimum</u> of 72 hours prior to the exam.</b>	
		<b>3 Learning Curves due MONDAY, 7/15 @ 11:59pm (Ch13)</b>
7/16 Tuesday	Social Psychology	Ch. 13
		<b>2 Learning Curves due MONDAY, 7/22 @ 11:59pm (Ch14)</b>
		<b>4 Learning Curves due MONDAY, 7/22 @ 11:59pm (Ch15)</b>
7/23 Tuesday	Personality	Ch. 14
	Psychological Disorders	Ch. 15
		<b>*LAST LEARNING CURVES* 2 Learning Curves due MONDAY, 7/29 @ 11:59pm (Ch16)</b>
7/30 Tuesday	Therapy *LAST DAY OF CLASS*	Ch. 16
Available between	<b>Exam #4 (Ch. 13, 14, 15, 16)</b>	

8/1 (Thursday) - 8/3 (Saturday)	<b>Please reserve a seat for the exam at the UTD Testing Center <u>a minimum</u> of 72 hours prior to the exam.</b>
Available between 8/5 (Monday) - 8/6 (Tuesday)	<b>FINAL EXAM</b> <b>Please reserve a seat for the exam at the UTD Testing Center <u>a minimum</u> of 72 hours prior to the exam.</b>

Participation in this class will enrich your educational experience. It cannot be emphasized enough: **\*\*Reading the required text is essential to your success in the course.\*\*** Please note that the only way to earn any extra credit points in the class will be by being present for in-class activities (extra credit pop quizzes, games, or sometimes just attendance). Extra credit opportunities will not be announced ahead of time -- if you are in class when they occur, you are eligible to earn points. Come to class to learn and get rewarded for your efforts! IMPORTANT: If you come to class late or leave early, you are forfeiting your extra credit points for the day. The extra credit reward is for being engaged and present for the class period.

Civility: During class, a positive attitude is expected. Disrespect directed at anyone in our classroom community will not be tolerated. Please avoid rude or distracting behaviors (excessive or loud chatting, loud/smelly eating, snickering/eyerolling, **using phones/tablets/computers, arriving late or leaving early**). **Let's please aim for being our best selves during the time we have together.**

Exams (4 unit exams + Final exam x 200 points each): You will complete a total of 5 multiple choice exams in the UTD Testing Center. You need to carefully familiarize yourself with the Testing Center policies, procedures, and guidelines:  
<https://ets.utdallas.edu/testing-center/students/>

You will take your proctored exams on eLearning at the Testing Center. The exam is password protected and will be opened by the Testing Center proctor after you log into eLearning. You will have 75 minutes to complete the exam. You must reserve your seat for EACH EXAM early (it is recommended that you make ALL exam reservations on Day 1 of the course). The four unit Exams are open Thursday - Saturday to accommodate various work/life schedules. Only your four highest exam grades will be counted. The Final exam is open during Final Exam week (Monday and Tuesday) and you will have 100 minutes to complete the final exam.

**NO HASSLE EXAM POLICY** -- If you miss an exam for ANY reason (failing to show up to your scheduled exam reservation, waiting too long to schedule a seat), this will be your dropped exam and the other four exams will count.

Applied Psych Reflection (50 points): Your first assignment in this course is to complete the Applied Psych Reflection found on eLearning. This assignment is designed to help you see the utility of Psychological research in your everyday life. This assignment involves watching a short video, summarizing the research findings, and answering a question prompt. Responses will be evaluated on clarity/writing (25 points) & thoroughly/effectively addressing all parts of the prompt (25 points). Submit file as pdf (preferred), docx, txt, or rtf. **Applied Psych Reflection DUE MONDAY, 6/3 by 11:59pm on eLearning.**

Launchpad Learning Curves (150 points): Learning Curve assignments are completed through the textbook companion site. 30 Learning Curve assignments (@ 5 points each) have been selected for you to reinforce your learning. These assignments are based on Mastery Learning, meaning that you only have to reach the point goal in order to receive full credit for the assignment. The system is calibrated to address deficits in your learning and will direct you to the place in the textbook to find the correct answer. If you miss questions, you are not penalized, you simply answer more questions until you master the concept and reach the point target. Therefore, completing the assignment means you automatically receive a 100%. Incomplete/unsubmitted assignments will receive a grade of 0. **Learning Curve assignments have firm due dates (MONDAY nights @ 11:59pm)** usually before we cover a unit. If you forget to complete Learning Curves, you will receive zeros on those missed assignments. Feel free to work ahead to submit these assignments. Grades from Launchpad sync to eLearning after 24 hours. If you start an assignment before the due date and intend to finish it the following day before the due date, you will temporarily see a zero in the eLearning gradebook. As long as you submit the assignment on time, that grade will be overridden by a 100 when the next sync occurs.

Research Exposure Credit: All students in the course are required to complete two research exposure credits by **August 5th**. Details will be addressed on the first day of class and posted on eLearning. Failure to complete two research credits will result in a grade penalty (see Final Letter Grade Determination Chart in the syllabus).

Policy on late papers / technical problems:

The highest grade possible for a late project is half credit. This includes submissions **marked as LATE** in eLearning. If the submission tool is locked, you may turn in a late submission as a hard copy at the next class period for half credit. This applies only to the Applied Psych Reflection. Assignments turned in after this point will be deducted an additional letter grade for each late day. In extenuating circumstances, such as a death in the family or a traumatic life event, extensions will be granted, but **ONLY** if arranged in advance. Please communicate with me so that we can work out a path for you to not fall behind in the course. **THERE WILL BE NO MAKE-UPS FOR LAUNCHPAD LEARNING CURVE ASSIGNMENTS.**

“My internet went out” or “eLearning locked right when I was submitting!” will never be a valid excuse for why an assignment is not submitted on time. **PLAN AHEAD** and have your

assignment done early enough so you have time to handle technical problems. If you choose to wait until the 11<sup>th</sup> hour to complete or submit an assignment, you must accept the consequences if you miss the deadline and the submission tool is locked. So, PLEASE, students, do not wait until the last minute to attempt your submission. **ALWAYS double check that you have submitted properly! For the Applied Psych Reflection, please double check that you uploaded the correct file -- that is 100% your responsibility to do before the due date.**

Policy on attendance and tardiness: You will receive the most out of the course experience by attending regularly, but the choice is yours whether you choose to attend or not. Coming to class late is incredibly distracting to the class community so please do everything in your power to avoid a late arrival. If you cannot consistently make it to class on time because of work or other commitments, please consider taking this class another semester when you can commit to arriving on time. If you are late to class and an extra credit opportunity has been offered, you will not receive the opportunity to earn points. Lateness is not rewarded!

Policy on cell phones, text messaging & wireless computing: Class time is for learning. Barring an emergency, using cell phones for any reason (talking or text messaging) during class time is inappropriate and disrespectful. Cell phones should be turned off or turned to silent mode during class. Phones should not be placed on the tables. **Please do not ask to take notes on a phone, tablet or computer. I will provide lecture notes after each class so that you could simply come to class to listen and learn knowing that you will have all the information we covered after class.** \*\*PLEASE NOTE \*\*If the no device policy is not something you can adhere to, this course may not be a good fit for you.

Policy on audio or video recording: **Absolutely NO audio or video recording is permitted during class. This includes photos of course slides taken without permission of the instructor.** Please see me if you require special accommodations.

Policy on academic honesty: No form of academic dishonesty will be tolerated. This includes plagiarizing scholarly works, re-using work you have written in another course and copying text from internet sources without proper documentation of the author. The consequences of academic dishonesty can be severe, ranging from failing an assignment to failing the class to being on academic probation. NO EXCUSES! You will need to follow UTD standards for all written work in this class. If you are unclear about the line between paraphrasing other's work and plagiarism, please see the professor for clarification. Please see official policy and examples of plagiarism at: <http://www.utdallas.edu/student/sliffe/scholastic.html>

FINAL LETTER GRADE DETERMINATIONS ARE BASED ON THE FOLLOWING:

(based on 1000 point scale)

Letter grade	Minimum	Maximum
A+	970	1000+
A	940	969
A-	900	939
B+	870	899
B	840	869
B-	800	839
C+	770	799
C	740	769
C-	695	739
D+	670	694
D	640	669
D-	600	639
F	0	599

**Reminder:** Research Exposure Credit Requirement (REC)

One requirement of all students enrolled in this class is completion of two research exposure credits. Details about this requirement can be found on a separate handout distributed on the first day of class or in the BBS Information Center on eLearning. Research exposure credits must be completed by the date found on the REC instruction sheet or your course grade will be lowered. **For each credit you fail to complete, your course grade will be reduced by 1/3 of a letter grade (e.g., for 2 missing credits, a B+ will become a B-).**

A note on final course grades and “bump up” requests: **Please note that that above determinations are firm. PLEASE do not put me in an uncomfortable position at the end of the semester by asking for a “few extra points” to bump you to the next grade** so that you can graduate with honors, pass, maintain your GPA, or avoid losing your academic scholarship (all real requests I have received). I simply cannot in good faith honor these one-off requests and I appreciate you for understanding my responsibility as a UTD instructor. The best way to achieve the grade you desire is to work hard and work smart. I am very happy to assist

students by meeting with you in person to discuss work before due dates (plan ahead to schedule a time!).

**Please go to the following link for UT Dallas policies: <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>**