

Introduction to Psychology
 Psychology 1315 Section 001 – Summer I 2016
 MTWTH 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
 University Hall, Room 01 (UH 01)

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Office Hours: Mondays 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. or by appointment

Course Description and Learning Objectives: Psychology is the scientific study of behavior, cognition and emotion. It developed as a method for answering questions about the human condition that have fascinated us since earliest times. Finding answers oftentimes results in more questions and, overall, we still have more questions than we have answers. The overarching purpose of this course is to share with you the empirically-derived answers that we do have to help you apply this knowledge to solve problems and increase your understanding of everyday life, and to formulate better, more objective questions about human behavior. The material will cover research, theories, and applications of a wide range of psychological concepts, and will be designed to translate into and assess competencies in scientific and critical thinking, communication, empirical and quantitative reasoning, and social responsibility.

This course satisfies The University of Texas at Arlington core curriculum requirement in social and behavioral sciences. As such, it contains core objectives in critical thinking, communication, empirical and quantitative reasoning, and social responsibility. Upon completion of this course, students will (a) be familiar with key psychological theories, (b) understand the basic principles of psychological research, (c) be aware of the various sub-disciplines in psychology, (d) have a basic understanding when reading and evaluating psychology articles, and (e) understand how psychology can be applied to our everyday lives.

In addition, as this course satisfies The University of Texas at Arlington core curriculum requirement in social and behavioral sciences, it contains core objectives and learning outcomes in the following:

- *Critical Thinking Skills* - creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
- *Communication Skills* - effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.
- *Empirical and Quantitative Skills* - the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.
- *Social Responsibility* - intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

Required Text: “The Science of Psychology” by Laura A. King, 3rd Edition, McGraw Hill. ISBN: 978-1-259-97681-0 Connect (w/ ebook) Access Card; ISBN: 978-1-259-98053-4 Loose Leaf w/ Connect. Recommended study tools are available and can be accessed via the McGraw Hill Web site: <http://connect.mheducation.com/>

It is critical that students read the assigned material before coming to class. Discussions and lectures will be based on the assigned readings. Students are expected to budget enough time during the week to read the material from the text.

Research Participation Requirement: Students enrolled in Psychology 1315 *must complete the research participation requirements.* Research participation is an experiential learning opportunity that enhances and deepens students’ understanding of and appreciation for the scientific study of psychology. Failure to meet this requirement will result in an “Incomplete” or failing grade. This requirement can be satisfied by participating in psychological research or by summarizing and evaluating published studies in journals or in other sources. More details are provided in an informational handout. This handout can be viewed on the Department of Psychology website <https://www.uta.edu/psychology/> under “Research Participant Information” and will also be posted on Blackboard. Points are not added to the course grade for completion of this requirement.

Communications: When communicating with faculty members and other professionals, all students are expected to communicate in a professional and formal manner regardless of the media (phone, e-mail, face-to-face, etc.). This includes addressing one’s audience using his/her proper title, using proper grammar, and using proper spelling. How one delivers a message is often as important as the message itself. Thus, I expect students to communicate professionally when

communicating with me. This includes, but is not limited to, using proper greetings, proper grammar, and an appropriate tone. Communications deemed inappropriate will not receive a response.

Electronic Mail: UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact University-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. This instructor will use your UT Arlington student e-mail account for official communication regarding this course. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for regularly checking the inbox. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>. Communications and other class announcements will also be posted on the Blackboard system.

Cell Phones: Please make sure your cell phone is turned to vibrate mode during class. If you must take a call, please do so outside of the classroom.

Computers and Other Electronic Devices: Students will use their laptop or other computer devices for class-related purposes only. Students will refrain from using computers to access Facebook, YouTube, or other Web sites that are not directly related to the class discussion. *Failure to comply with this requirement will result in the student being asked to leave the class.*

Evaluation: Grading is based on a mastery model. There is NO curve. You may get an A, you may fail, or you may sort yourself out across a normal distribution of grades. It depends on the time and effort you put in to mastering the material.

Grades for the course will be computed as follows:

Homework.....	25% of final grade
Test 1.....	15% of final grade
Test 2.....	15% of final grade
Test 3.....	15% of final grade
Test 4.....	15% of final grade
Test 5.....	15% of final grade

The course grades will be assigned as follows:

A.....	90 – 100%
B.....	80 – 89%
C.....	70 – 79%
D.....	60 – 69%
F.....	0 – 59%

Tests: There are five (5) tests scheduled for this course; dates for each are noted on the Schedule of Topics at the end of this document. *Students must complete all five tests to receive full credit for test performance (i.e., no test grade will be dropped).*

All tests will be taken in class and will consist of multiple-choice items covering material from lectures, assignments, discussions, videos, presentations, and the corresponding readings in the textbook. Students are required to provide their own Scantron answer sheets (the big blue one, #4521) and pencils for the tests. An official UT Arlington picture I.D. may be required. *A student arriving late after the scheduled class start time on a test date will not be allowed to take the test once the first test has been completed and turned in to the instructor.*

If a test is canceled due to inclement weather or other unexpected reasons, it will take place on the subsequent scheduled class time and at the same place as originally scheduled.

Make-Up Policy: Makeup tests will be given only if the reason for missing a test qualifies as a University authorized absence (see “Authorized Absences” below). ***Only*** students having authorized absences as outlined below will be offered an opportunity to make up a test. **No exceptions.**

Homework: Fourteen (14) online homework assignments will be administered via the UT Arlington Blackboard / McGraw Hill Connect systems (<https://elearn.uta.edu>; <http://connect.mheducation.com/>). For each assignment, students will read chapter material and answer a series of questions. Each assignment is required to be completed prior to its deadline (deadlines are found on the last page of this document). It is the student’s responsibility to ensure the completion of each homework assignment before the deadline has passed. Twelve (12) of the 14 homework assignments must be completed on time to receive full credit for homework. As noted, homework assignments are worth 25% of your final grade.

No makeups will be given for any missed homework assignment under **any** circumstance.

Assessment of Core Curriculum Objectives: The Core Curriculum objectives (critical thinking, communication, empirical and quantitative reasoning, and social responsibility) will be assessed as items in a regularly-scheduled test at the end of the semester. As with the Research Participation Requirement, completion of this assessment is required in order to fulfill Core Curriculum objectives.

Attendance: Generally, students who come to class (prepared) do much better than students who miss class or come unprepared. You will maximize your learning experience by coming to class, asking questions, making comments, and discussing topics. Although attendance is expected and highly recommended, attendance is not part of the grading system. At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required. Therefore, as the instructor of this section, I *do not* require you to inform me about your absence(s). Importantly, however, if you do miss class, it is your responsibility to obtain the missed materials and/or notes (i.e., do not e-mail me requesting notes or asking if you missed “anything important”). Attendance may be periodically monitored for administrative purposes.

The instructor reserves the right to deny entrance into the class if students are late. The instructor also reserves the right to remove any student that disrupts the learning process.

Formal and Informal Extra Credit: Extra credit assignments are available for any student wishing to boost his/her grade (i.e., I do not “bump” grades). It is the student’s responsibility to inform the instructor on or before *June 23rd in writing via e-mail (preferred) or in person during office hours* of his/her desire to complete a formal extra credit assignment. Do not ask before, during or after class; do not inform me via phone. Only by informing me via e-mail or during office hours (or by appointment) will formal extra credit be assigned. *Formal extra credit will not be available past June 23rd, 2016. No exceptions.* Informal extra credit opportunities may be offered throughout the Summer I session and will be announced as information becomes available. All points earned from extra credit will be applied to the lowest test grade.

Grade Grievances: Any appeal of a grade in this course must follow the procedures and deadlines for grade-related grievances as published in the current [University Catalog](#).

Final Grade Information: All grades will be posted on Blackboard as they become available, enabling the student to calculate his/her grade at any time during the semester. No final grade information will be released by phone or e-mail. Students may at any time during office hours or by appointment throughout the semester confer with the instructor about his/her grades and class progress.

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” shall be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

Library Information: Andy Herzog is the librarian assigned specifically to assist students and faculty in the psychological department. He can be reached at amherzog@uta.edu. You will find useful research information for psychology at <http://libguides.uta.edu/psychology>.

UT Arlington Writing Center: The Writing Center, 411 Central Library, offers individual 40-minute sessions to review assignments, Quick Hits (5-10 minute quick answers to questions), and workshops on grammar and specific writing projects. Visit <https://uta.mywconline.com> to register and make appointments.

Dropping the Course: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://www.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

Drop for Non-payment of Tuition: If you are dropped from this class for non-payment of tuition, you may secure an Enrollment Loan through the Bursar’s Office. You may not continue to attend class until your Enrollment Loan has been applied to outstanding tuition fees.

Authorized Absences: The Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs provides lists of students who have *absences authorized by the University* (e.g., participation in athletic events or scholastic activities that are officially sponsored University functions—these are primarily activities that are funded by the University). Sponsoring departments must submit a list of students and ID numbers to the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs two weeks prior to travel. The student must contact the instructor one week in advance of the excused absence and arrange with the instructor to

make up missed work or missed test. Instructors will provide those students an opportunity to make up the work or otherwise adjust the grading to ensure that the student is not penalized for the absence. Failure to notify the instructor or failure to comply with the arrangements to make up the work will void the excused absence.

If the student is called to *active military duty* or participates in active military service for a reasonably brief period, the student will be allowed to complete an assignment or test within a reasonable time after the absence (Section 51.9111 Texas Education Code; 19 Texas Administrative Code §4.9.) Students called to active duty for longer periods of time, should contact the Office of Admissions, Records and Registration (Section 54.006).

Students who must miss a test, class assignment or other project because of an observance of a *religious holy day* will be given the opportunity to complete the work missed within a reasonable time after the absence (19 Texas Administrative Code §4.4).

A religious holy day means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20 of the Tax Code. A student will be excused from attending classes or completing other required activities, including tests for the observance of a religious holy day. The period of the excused absence will include time for any travel needed to fulfill that religious obligation. The student will be given the opportunity to complete the work missed, within a reasonable time period following the absence, provided the student has properly notified the instructor. The instructor must be notified in writing at least one week in advance of the absence and the student must arrange with the instructor to make up missed work or tests. The instructor is under no obligation to accommodate students who are absent or miss work without prior notification and make-up arrangements. Students who have properly notified the instructor will not be penalized for the absence. However, the instructor may respond appropriately if the student fails to complete the assignment or test satisfactorily within the time limit following the absence set by prior arrangement.

If the instructor and the student disagree about whether an absence constitutes a religious holy day as defined above, or if there is similar disagreement about whether the student has been given reasonable time to complete any missed assignments or test, either the student or the instructor may request a ruling from the Office of the Provost. The decision of the Provost is final.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): If you are a student who requires accommodations in compliance with the ADA, please consult with the course instructor at the beginning of the semester. The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Title IX: The University of Texas at Arlington is committed to upholding U.S. Federal Law “Title IX” such that no member of the UT Arlington community shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. For more information, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX.

Student Support Services: UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at www.uta.edu/resources.

Academic Integrity: This instructor requires students to maintain high standards of academic integrity. It is the philosophy of this instructor and The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. Students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University.

"Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts." (Regents' Rules and Regulations, Series 50101, Section 2.2).

Any student who is found to have committed ANY act of academic dishonesty or scholastic dishonesty in relation to the assignments and requirements of this course will automatically receive a failing grade for this course. The failing grade for the course will be in addition to any University or Departmental sanctions deemed appropriate.

Unauthorized recordings: *Students are not permitted to audio or video record lectures without prior approval from the instructor.*

Emergency Exit Procedures: Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit. The exit strategy for this class will be described on the first class meeting day. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

Emergency Phone Numbers: In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at 817-272-3003.

Tentative Schedule of Topics
(Subject to Change)

Date	Homework <small>(due before class on designated days)</small>	Chapter	Topic
June 6		1	Orientation and Syllabus What is Psychology?
June 7	Chapter 2 homework*	2	Psychology's Scientific Method
June 8	Chapter 3 homework*	3	Biological Foundations of Behavior
June 9	Chapter 4 homework*	4	Sensation and Perception (Census Date)
Monday, June 13		2-4	Test 1
June 14	Chapter 5 homework	5	States of Consciousness
June 15	Chapter 6 homework	6	Learning
June 16	Chapter 7 homework	7	Memory
Monday, June 20		5-7	Test 2
June 21	Chapter 9 homework	9	Human Development
June 22	Chapter 10 homework	10	Motivation and Emotion
June 23	Chapter 12 homework	12	Personality
Monday, June 27		9, 10, 12	Test 3 (Last Day to Drop)
June 28	Chapter 13 homework	13	Social Psychology
June 29	Chapter 14 homework	14	Industrial and Organizational Psychology
June 30	Chapter 15 homework	15	Psychological Disorders
Tuesday, July 5		13-15	Test 4
July 6	Chapter 16 homework	16	Therapies
July 7	Chapter 17 homework	17	Health Psychology
Monday, July 11		16-17	Test 5

*Homework assignments for the first week of class (only) are due on Friday, June 10 before midnight.