

# Introduction to Psychology

---

## Course Information

PSY 1315 (Sections 002 & 007) – Introduction to Psychology

Spring 2018

Monday/Wednesday/Friday

Section 002 – 11:00 – 11:50 LS 118

Section 007 – 1:00 – 1:50 LS 124

---

## Course Description

This course introduces students to the phenomena, principles, and theories of psychology. Psychologists study how biological, cognitive, social, and cultural factors interact to determine how we develop such a complex range of behaviors, emotions, and cognitions. Psychologists seek to understand why and how risk factors lead some individuals to suffer from psychological disorders, while others are resilient in the face of adversity. This course is designed to interest and meet the needs of both psychology majors and non-majors. 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.

---

## Course Objectives

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.

---

## Professor Contact Information

Rachel Baldrige, M.S.

Email: [rachel.baldrige@uta.edu](mailto:rachel.baldrige@uta.edu)

Office: Life Science (LS) 411

Office Hours: Mondays & Wednesdays 12:00 – 12:50pm

Other Information: Email is the fastest and most reliable way to contact me.

**Please include the course name/number and section number (e.g. Intro Psychology 1315-004) in the subject line, and email from your UTA email address.**

---

## Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or other restrictions

There are no pre-requisites for this course.

---

## Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

After completing this course, students should be able to:

- Be familiar with key psychological theories
- Understand the basic principles of psychological research
- Be aware of the various sub-disciplines in psychology
- Have a basic understanding when reading and evaluating psychology articles
- 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** include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- **Communication Skills** include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.
- **Empirical and Quantitative Skills** include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.
- **Social Responsibility** includes intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

---

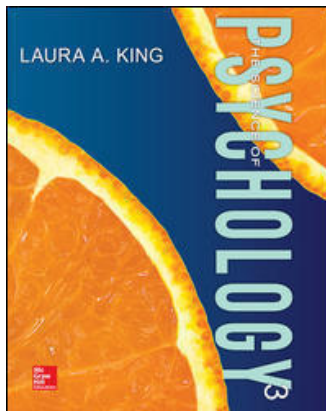
### Assessment of Core Curriculum Objectives

The Core Curriculum objectives (critical thinking, communication, empirical and quantitative reasoning, and social responsibility) will be assessed as items in an end of year quiz to be explained by your course instructor. As with the Research Participation Requirement, completion of this assessment is required, in order to fulfill Core Curriculum objectives.

---

### Required Textbook/ Connect Plus software and Course Material

1. King, Laura (2013) The Science of Psychology: An Appreciative View, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition e-book with accompanying Connect Plus software.



The e-book and Connect Plus bundle can be purchased at the UTA bookstore, or directly through McGraw Hill via Blackboard for \$84. If purchased through McGraw Hill, students have the option of purchasing a hard copy of the text for an additional \$25 if they so choose. Using older versions of the text is not recommended and should be done at the student's own risk. Exams, class material, and class discussions will all come from the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the above stated text.

2. Additional assigned readings provided throughout the semester **via Blackboard: To be announced**
3. Blackboard will be an important resource throughout the semester. Your grades will be posted through Blackboard and supplemental readings will be provided. Make sure you have access to Blackboard.
  - a. Blackboard support is available 24/7 by calling 1-855-308-5542 or visiting <http://bbsupport.uta.edu>
4. Pick up a minimum of three **882 E Scantron** forms for exams, available at the bookstore and at the University Center. You must bring your Scantron forms (and your #2 pencils) to each scheduled exam.
5. No electronic devices are permitted during class (**this includes laptops and cell phones**). We will discuss this requirement on the first day of class.

## Grading Policy

**Total Possible Points:** 500

**Attendance / Participation:** 100 possible points

**Exams:** Four exams, 100 points each, for a total of 400 possible points

**Extra Credit:** Opportunities will be provided and explained during the semester

Grade of A = 450 - 500 points (90% or higher of the total possible points)

Grade of B = 400 - 449 points (80% or higher of the total possible points)

Grade of C = 350 - 399 points (70% or higher of the total possible points)

Grade of D = 300 - 349 points (60% or higher of the total possible points)

Grade of F = Less than 300 points (59% or lower of total possible points)

**NOTE:** The instructor reserves the right to include additional assignments, tests and/or unannounced quizzes, increasing the number of total possible points.

**Do not e-mail me to ask for more points so that you can get the grade that you want. If you want a specific grade, then you need to put in the effort necessary to obtain said grade.**

---

## Course & Instructor Policy

### Class Participation:

At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required. Rather, each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students' academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance.

To successfully complete the course requirements for PSYC 1315 and receive a passing grade, students will be expected to attend all classes and participate in class discussion as evidence of motivation, persistence and commitment.

As the instructor of this section, classroom attendance is required and necessary for success in this course. Lecture material and classroom activities will supplement material covered in the reading. Your Class Participation grade will be based on participation in class discussions, in class activities, as well as coming to class. Attendance will be taken randomly during the semester, sometimes at the beginning and end of the same class period. Students can miss up to three (3) days attendance with no penalty to their Class Participation grade.

There will be no opportunities to make-up missed Class Participation credit, regardless of the reason, so use your freebies wisely. I frequently hear from students (frequently enough in fact, that I've added it to this syllabus) after missing the first three classes that they had an excellent reason for the fourth class they missed, such as illness, family emergency, or car trouble. I highly recommend saving up your freebies for unforeseen circumstances that may indeed arise.

Students do not need to submit any documentation for missed days of lectures, the first three missed days will simply be dropped, and all subsequent missed days will result in a deduction of 10 points, regardless of the reason (this does not apply to Exams; see below). Students who miss a class meeting(s) for any reason or miss portions of classes due to tardiness or early departure will still be held accountable for all of the material that is covered during those sessions, including materials presented in lecture that are not in the book. If you miss a class, find a classmate (or two) with whom you can share resources. Please do not email or phone the professor to ask what materials you missed in class. Material covered in class is your responsibility

**Make-up Exams:** If you will be missing an exam, you must contact the instructor **NO LATER** than the day and time for which the exam is scheduled. If no contact is made, a grade of zero will be recorded, and you will not be allowed to make up the exam.

Research Participation Requirement:

The Psychology Department *requires* that all students taking Introduction to Psychology complete a 6-credit research requirement. This requirement consists of participating in experiments conducted by Department Faculty and their Research Assistants. The UT Arlington Human Research Review Committee approves these experiments. A typical 30-minute experiment is worth 0.5-credit. The purpose of the requirement is to give you first-hand knowledge of psychological experimentation. In lieu of participating in experiments, you may choose to write reviews of current research articles. Each review is worth 1-credit. You will not be graded on your performance in an experiment or on your reviews. **FAILURE TO COMPLETE THE REQUIREMENT WILL RESULT IN AN INCOMPLETE FOR THE CLASS.** You will then need to complete your requirement during the next semester or the incomplete will turn into an “F.”

For additional information about this requirement, please go to <http://www.uta.edu/psychology> and click on **Participant Pool Information (in the Links section)** to receive a copy of the latest **Psychology Pool Handout**. More details will be provided in an orientation session and in an information handout. Points are **not** added to the course grade for completion of the research participation requirement.

## Course Calendar

January 17	Syllabus Overview
January 19	Introductions/Class-Elected Topic Discussion
January 22	Chapter 1 What is Psychology?
January 24	Chapter 1 What is Psychology?
January 26	Chapter 2 Psychology's Scientific Method
January 29	Chapter 2 Psychology's Scientific Method
January 31	Chapter 4 Sensation & Perception
February 2	Chapter 5 States of Consciousness
February 5	TBD
February 7	Chapter 3 Biological Foundations of Behavior
February 9	Exam 1 Review
February 12	Exam 1 (Chapters 1, 2, 4, 5)
February 14	Class-Elected Topic
February 16	Chapter 6 Learning
February 19	Chapter 6 Learning
February 21	Chapter 7 Memory
February 23	Chapter 7 Memory
February 26	Chapter 8 Thinking, Intelligence & Language
February 28	Chapter 9 Human Development

March 2	Chapter 9 Human Development
March 5	Chapter 9 Human Development
March 7	Review for Exam 2
March 9	Exam 2 (Chapters 6 – 9)
March 12 – 16	SPRING BREAK – NO CLASS
March 19	Class-Elected Topic
March 21	Chapter 10 Motivation & Emotion
March 23	Chapter 10 Motivation & Emotion
March 26	Chapter 11 Gender, Sex, and Sexuality
March 28	Chapter 17 Health Psychology
March 30	LAST DAY TO DROP Chapter 12 - Personality
April 2	Chapter 12 Personality
April 4	Chapter 13 Social Psychology
April 6	Chapter 13 Social Psychology
April 9	Chapter 13 Social Psychology
April 11	Exam 3 Review
April 13	Exam 3 (Chapters 10, 11, 17, 12, 13)
April 16	Class-Elected Topic
April 18	Chapter 15 Psychological Disorders
April 20	Chapter 15 Psychological Disorders
April 23	Chapter 15

	Psychological Disorders
April 25	Chapter 16 Therapies
April 27	Chapter 16 Therapies
April 30	Final Exam Review
May 2	Final Exam Review
May 4	Final Exam Review
May 7	Final Exams
May 9	Final Exams

---



**START STRONG Freshman Tutoring Program**  
**University Tutorial and Supplemental Instruction (UTSI)/ University College**

All first time, first-year students can receive six FREE hours of tutoring for this course and other selected subjects for this semester. Students must sign up and complete their first hour of tutoring by **September 29<sup>th</sup>**. To sign up, visit UTSI in 205 Ransom Hall/University College.

Upon completion of your first tutoring appointment, you will receive five hours of additional free tutoring. Flexible tutoring hours are available from 7:00am – 9:00pm, seven days a week in the Central Library. All tutors receive extensive training. Find out more at [www.uta.edu/startstrong](http://www.uta.edu/startstrong)

---

**Drop Policy:** 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://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

**Disability Accommodations:** UT 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)*, *The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA)*, and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a **letter certified** by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD). Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

**The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD):** [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or calling 817-272-3364. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability).

**Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS):** [www.uta.edu/caps/](http://www.uta.edu/caps/) or calling 817-272-3671 is also available to all students to help increase their understanding of personal issues, address mental and behavioral health problems and make positive changes in their lives.

**Non-Discrimination Policy:** *The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit [uta.edu/eos](http://uta.edu/eos).*

**Title IX Policy:** The University of Texas at Arlington (“University”) is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated. For information regarding Title IX, visit [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX) or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or [jmhood@uta.edu](mailto:jmhood@uta.edu).

**Academic Integrity:** Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses 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.*

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code in their courses by having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents’ Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university’s standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with



University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University. Additional information is available at <https://www.uta.edu/conduct/>.

**Electronic Communication:** 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. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. 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>.

**Campus Carry:** Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/>

**Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in face-to-face and online classes categorized as "lecture," "seminar," or "laboratory," are 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 via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. Students' anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

**Final Review Week:** for semester-long courses, a period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

**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 exits, which are located to the right or left upon exiting the classroom. 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.

**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: <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/current/academic-support/learning-center/tutoring/index.php>
- Major-based learning centers: <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/college-based-clinics-labs.php>
- Developmental education
- Advising and mentoring: <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/advising.php>
- Personal counseling: <https://www.uta.edu/caps/>
- Federally funded programs: <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/current/academic-support/mcnair/index.php>

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](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php>.

**The IDEAS Center** (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of Central Library) offers **free** tutoring to all students with a focus on transfer students, sophomores, veterans and others undergoing a transition to UT Arlington. To schedule an appointment with a peer tutor or mentor email [IDEAS@uta.edu](mailto:IDEAS@uta.edu) or call (817) 272-6593.

**Emergency Phone Numbers:** In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at **817-272-3003** (non-campus phone), **2-3003** (campus phone). You may also dial 911.