

Introduction to Psychology

Course Information

PSY 1315 – 008 – Introduction to Psychology
Spring 2019

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.

Instructor Contact Information

Rachel Baldrige, M.S.

Email: rachel.baldrige@uta.edu

Office: Life Science (LS) 411

Office Hours: Wednesdays, 12 – 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 1315-008) 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.

Course Materials and Resources

Required Textbook/ Connect Plus software

King, Laura (2017) The Science of Psychology: An Appreciative View, 4th Edition e-book with accompanying Connect Plus software. ISBN: 9781260382303

The e-book and Connect Plus bundle can be purchased at the UTA bookstore. Using older additions of the textbook should be done at the student's own risk. There is also the option of purchasing online access to Connect and the digital textbook directly from the Connect website. Connect provides a free two-week trial so there is no excuse for missing the Unit 1 deadline. **You MUST purchase access to Connect in order to pass this course.** It is in your best interest that you do so before your two-week trial runs out, should you choose to go that route.

Blackboard

As an online course, Blackboard will be integral throughout the semester for access to your grades, Connect Plus resources and assignments among other things. Make sure you have access to Blackboard. Blackboard support is available 24/7 by calling 1-855-308-5542 or visiting <http://bbsupport.uta.edu>

Assignments & Exams

LearnSmart Module Assignments

LearnSmart is an interactive text designed to help you review the material learned in each chapter. The LearnSmart system continually adjusts to your level of content mastery. A link to each LearnSmart assignment can be found on Blackboard. **LearnSmart modules will be due on the last day of the unit by 5pm** – see course calendar for all due dates.

Each chapter on average will take approximately 45 to 60 minutes to complete and will include between 50 - 75 questions. Scores are assigned based on the percentage of mastery for each assignment. Each LearnSmart module will be worth 10 points.

There is a LearnSmart study module for each chapter, and the top 15 will be counted toward your grade (the lowest grade will be dropped).

The LearnSmart Assignments can also be accessed on your iPhone or iPad and synced with your Blackboard:

• Go here to download the iPhone app*: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/learnsmart/id365879172?mt=8>

***All work completed on the iPhone/ iPad app WILL sync with Blackboard; however, you MUST check in via computer once per chapter to get the mobile work to sync.**

Chapter Quizzes

There are 16 chapter quizzes that are worth 15 points each. The quizzes can be accessed on the Connect Plus site via BlackBoard. These quizzes are meant to help with better comprehension and application. For this reason, you may use your textbook to answer questions, and you will have two attempts with the highest score being recorded. **I will not give you one of your attempts back due to technical issues** (poor wifi connection, dead battery on your computer, etc) so please make sure that nothing is going to interfere with completing your quiz. The quizzes have a time limit of 45 minutes. **If you start a quiz and do not finish, Connect Plus will automatically submit your attempt so please be sure to not begin a quiz unless you have the time to finish it.**

Exams

There will be three regular exams (50 multiple choice questions) and a comprehensive final exam (100 multiple choice questions). The three unit exams will be worth 50 points each. **Unit exams must be submitted by 5pm on the last day of the unit, no exceptions. The final exam must be submitted by 5pm on May 9th** – see the course calendar for all due dates.

Unit exams will have a time limit of 60 minutes, while the final exam will have a time limit of 110 minutes. As with quizzes, please make sure to allot yourself adequate time to complete the exams. **Connect Plus will automatically submit your exam if you fail to finish the exam so make sure you have enough time to complete the exam and that you will not have technical issues that interfere.**

Attendance

At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required but attendance is a critical indicator in student success. 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. As the instructor of this online section, I have structured this course in a manner that facilitates your participation. Your progress with online reading assignments and quizzes will be monitored and tracked, similar to physical attendance in a traditional class setting.

While UT Arlington does not require instructors to take attendance in their courses, the U.S. Department of Education requires that the University have a mechanism in place to mark when Federal Student Aid recipients "begin attendance in a course." UT Arlington instructors will report when students begin attendance in a course as part of the final grading process. Specifically, when assigning a student a grade of F, faculty report the last date a student attended their class based on evidence such as a test, participation in a class project or presentation, or an engagement online via Blackboard. This date is reported to the Department of Education for federal financial aid recipients.

Instructor's Email Policy

Students need to do their due-diligence to find the answers to their questions regarding the course before reaching out to me via email so please refer to the syllabus and Blackboard before emailing me your question. I will try to respond to your email during the week in a timely manner, but you may follow up with me if I do not respond within 24 hours Monday through Friday. However, **if the answer to your question can be found in the syllabus, I may choose not to respond to your email.**

Grading Policy

Total Possible Points: 840 points

LearnSmart Study Modules: 16 study modules worth 10 points each for a total of 160 possible points

Quizzes: 16 quizzes worth 15 points each for a total of 240 possible points (**two attempts allowed per quiz with the highest score being recorded**)

End of Semester Core Curriculum Quiz: 40 possible points

Unit Exams: Three Unit exams, 100 points each, for a total of 300 possible points

Comprehensive Final Exam: 100 possible points

Grade of A = 756 – 840 points (90% or higher of the total possible points)

Grade of B = 672 – 755 points (80% or higher of the total possible points)

Grade of C = 588 – 671 points (70% or higher of the total possible points)

Grade of D = 504 – 587 points (60% or higher of the total possible points)

Grade of F = Less than 504 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. I do not round up to the next letter grade.

<p>January 14 – February 7</p>	<p>Unit 1: Chapters 1 – 5</p> <p>Chapter 1 – What is Psychology?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LearnSmart • Quiz <p>Chapter 2 – Psychology’s Scientific Method</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LearnSmart • Quiz <p>Chapter 3 – Biological Foundations of Behavior</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LearnSmart • Quiz <p>Chapter 4 – Sensation & Perception</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learnsmart • Quiz <p>Chapter 5 – States of Consciousness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LearnSmart • Quiz <p>EXAM 1</p> <p>ALL UNIT 1 COURSEWORK AND EXAM 1 ARE DUE BY FEBRUARY 7TH AT 5PM</p>
<p>February 7 – March 7</p>	<p>Unit 2: Chapters 6 – 9</p> <p>Chapter 6 – Learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LearnSmart • Quiz <p>Chapter 7 = Memory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LearnSmart • Quiz <p>Chapter 8 – Thinking, Intelligence & Language</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LearnSmart • Quiz <p>Chapter 9 – Human Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LearnSmart • Quiz <p>EXAM 2</p> <p>ALL UNIT 2 COURSEWORK AND EXAM 2 ARE DUE BY 5PM ON MARCH 7TH</p>

<p>March 7 – April 18</p> <p>LAST DAY TO DROP – March 29th</p>	<p>Unit 3: Chapters 10, 11, 17, 12 & 13</p> <p>Chapter 10 – Motivation & Emotion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LearnSmart • Quiz <p>Chapter 11 – Gender, Sex & Sexuality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LearnSmart • Quiz <p>Chapter 17 – Health Psychology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LearnSmart • Quiz <p>Chapter 12 – Personality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LearnSmart • Quiz <p>Chapter 13 – Social Psychology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LearnSmart • Quiz <p>EXAM 3</p> <p>ALL UNIT 3 ASSIGNMENTS, EXAM 3 ARE DUE BY 5PM ON APRIL 18TH</p>
<p>April 18 – May 2</p>	<p>Unit 4: Chapters 15 & 16</p> <p>Chapter 15 – Psychological Disorders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LearnSmart • Quiz <p>Chapter 16 – Therapies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LearnSmart • Quiz <p>CORE ASSESSMENT QUIZ</p> <p>THE CORE ASSESSMENT QUIZ AND ALL UNIT 4 ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE BY 5PM ON MAY 2ND</p>
<p>May 9th</p>	<p>DEADLINE FOR FINAL EXAM IS 5PM</p>

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 by **4pm on March 29th**. 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 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.

Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS): 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.*

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 or contact Ms. Michelle Willbanks, Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-4585 or titleix@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/>. You can also check out the following library tutorials: <http://libguides.uta.edu/copyright/plagiarism> and <http://library.uta.edu/plagiarism/>

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, or view the information at <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php>.

Active Shooter: The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by UTA Police regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. <https://police.uta.edu/activeshooter>

The IDEAS Center (2nd 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 or call (817) 272-6593.

The Library's 2nd floor Academic Plaza offers students a central hub of support services, including IDEAS Center, University Advising Services, Transfer UTA and various college/school advising hours. Services are available during the library's hours of operation. <http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza>

Librarian to Contact:

Leni Matthews – User Experience Librarian/Psychology Liaison

E-mail: leni@uta.edu

Office Number: 817-272-6519

[Link](#) to libguide (<http://libguides.uta.edu/psychology>)

<p>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.</p>
