

# *Introduction to Psychology*

## *PSYC 1315*

<u>Class Information</u>	<u>Instructor Information</u>
Term: Fall, 2009 (August 25, 2008 – Dec 10, 2008) Time: Tuesday/Thursday, 9:30-10:50 a.m. Location: LS Building, Room 122 Credit hours: 3	Shannon Scielzo, Ph.D. LS Building, Room 306 Office Hours: Tuesdays, 3:00-4:00 and by appointment. scielzo@uta.edu 817-272-5464

### **Required Text:**

King, L. A. (2008). *The science of psychology: An appreciative view*. McGraw-Hill: New York.  
ISBN: 978-0-07-353188-5

The accompanying study guide is optional, but recommended. The text is also available as an eBook at <http://www.coursesmart.com> or <http://textbooks.vitalsource.com>.

### **Textbook Website:**

[http://highered.mcgraw-hill.com/sites/007353188x/student\\_view0/](http://highered.mcgraw-hill.com/sites/007353188x/student_view0/)

### **Course Description:**

Welcome to the study of Psychology! This is a life-oriented course in psychology, designed to give students a factual foundation in the techniques and vocabulary of psychology and an understanding of human behavior in general. This course surveys the research and application of psychology in areas of learning, intelligence, motivation, emotion, personality, behavior disorders, mental health and therapy.

### **Course Presentation:**

This course will attempt to demonstrate the application of psychological concepts into real-world scenarios. Thus, in order to maximize learning in this course it is important that everyone participates in class discussion, such as by contributing personal examples or ideas, and by asking questions. It is imperative that the values, questions, and comments presented by other individuals in this classroom be respected. Every individual will bring with him/her unique and diverse perspectives from which we can all benefit.

In addition, appropriate classroom decorum is imperative. Students are expected to adhere to the classroom behavior standards that are outline in the student handbook. Any behavior that is deemed inappropriate by the instructor will not be tolerated.

### **Course Objectives:**

This course is designed to provide an overview of general psychology and explore the relevance and application of the principles to daily life, in an effort to better understand ourselves and the world around us. The material will cover research, theories, and applications of a wide range of psychological concepts.

**Research Participation Requirement:** The Psychology Department requires that all students taking Introduction to Psychology complete a 6-credit research requirement. The main way in which you will be able to complete this requirement will be by participating in experiments conducted by department faculty and their research assistants. In lieu of participating in experiments, you may choose to write reviews of approved research articles. Completing this assignment will be done via Sona (<http://uta.sona-systems.com>). A departmental handout detailing this requirement (and important deadlines) can be found at <http://www.uta.edu/psychology>, under links. Any questions pertaining to this assignment that are not covered in the handout can be sent to [psycpool@uta.edu](mailto:psycpool@uta.edu). Points are not added to the course grade for completion of the research participation requirement.

**Assessment of Progress Toward Objectives:**

Attendance and participation in class:	10% of total grade
Three Exams/Final Exam	90% of total grade

**Overall Course Evaluation:**

90-100%	= A
80-89%	= B
70-89%	= C
60-69%	= D
0-59%	= F

**Class Attendance and Participation:**

On-time class attendance is expected. 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. Attendance will be periodically monitored. If you must miss a class for a religious holiday/purpose or require special accommodation due to a learning disability, please let me know at your earliest convenience.

In class, it is expected that you participate in discussions and group projects, as well as be able to answer/ask questions about concepts you have read. You will be informed if/when you are at risk for not receiving full participation points and provided with suggestions for improvement.

**Exams:** Three exams will be given throughout the semester, in addition to a comprehensive final exam, to monitor your understanding and learning of the material covered in class. Thus, four exams in total will be given, with the lowest exam grade being dropped, resulting in each of the 'retained' exams being worth 30% of your total grade. Exams will consist of multiple choice questions. Test material will be obtained from both the class readings and class lectures.

Make-up exams will only be allowed for extreme circumstances (e.g., hospitalization, family emergency, imprisonment), and will consist of completion of an assignment deemed commensurate or more difficult by the instructor (e.g., a 30 page essay on an assigned topic). It is your responsibility to contact the instructor regarding make-up assignments.

**Student Code of Conduct:** Students who engage in any activities that lead to classroom disruption may be directed to leave the class, may be withdrawn from the class, receive a disciplinary warning, probation, suspension, expulsion, or other appropriate and authorized actions.

**Academic Integrity:** It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. 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, Part One, Chapter VI, Section 3, Subsection 3.2, Subdivision 3.22)

**Americans with Disabilities Act:** The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of federal equal opportunity legislation; reference Public Law 93112 -- The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. With the passage of new federal legislation entitled Americans with Disabilities Act - (ADA), pursuant to section 504 of The Rehabilitation Act, there is renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens. As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide "reasonable accommodation" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Student responsibility primarily rests with informing faculty at the beginning of the semester and in providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels.

**Student Support Services:** The University supports a variety of student success programs to help you connect with the University and achieve academic success. They include learning assistance, developmental education, advising and mentoring, admission and transition, and federally funded programs. Students requiring assistance academically, personally, or socially should contact the Office of Student Success Programs at 817-272-6107 for more information and appropriate referrals.

**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.

**Withdrawal Deadline:** The last day to drop this class without academic penalty is **October 30**.

**Syllabus Changes:** I reserve the right to make changes to this syllabus or course schedule according to the learning needs of the class.

**Your Success!** As a final note, it is very important to me that you succeed in this course. I hope that you enjoy this course, successfully complete it, and benefit from the concepts that you learn from it in the future. Please contact me with any concerns or problems that you may have.

## Tentative Course Schedule

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Chapters</i>
25-Aug	Orientation, Syllabus - What Is Psychology? Complete the Plagiarism tutorial at <a href="http://library.uta.edu/tutorials/Plagiarism/">http://library.uta.edu/tutorials/Plagiarism/</a> .	Chapter 1
27-Aug	Psychology's Scientific Methods	Chapter 2
1-Sep	Biological Foundations of Behavior	Chapter 3
3-Sep	Biological Foundations of Behavior	Chapter 3
8-Sep	Human Development <b>**Sept. 9 – Census Date**</b>	Chapter 4
10-Sep	Sensation and Perception	Chapter 5
15-Sep	<b><i>Exam 1, Chapters 1-5</i></b>	
17-Sep	States of Consciousness	Chapter 6
22-Sep	Learning	Chapter 7
24-Sep	Learning and Memory	Chapter 7 & 8
29-Sep	Memory	Chapters 8
1-Oct	Thinking, Intelligence, and Language	Chapter 9
6-Oct	Thinking, Intelligence, and Language	Chapter 9
8-Oct	Motivation and Emotion	Chapter 10
13-Oct	Motivation and Emotion	Chapter 10
15-Oct	<b><i>Exam 2, Chapters 6-10</i></b>	
20-Oct	Psychology Applied! Special Topics	
22-Oct	Psychology Applied! Special Topics	
27-Oct	Personality	Chapter 11
29-Oct	Social Psychology <b>**Oct. 30 - Last Day to Drop**</b>	Chapter 12
3-Nov	Social Psychology	Chapter 12
5-Nov	Industrial and Organizational Psychology	Chapter 13
10-Nov	Industrial and Organizational Psychology	Chapter 13
12-Nov	Psychological Disorders and Therapies	Chapter 14 and 15
17-Nov	Psychological Disorders and Therapies	Chapter 14 and 15
19-Nov	Health Psychology	Chapter 16
24-Nov	<b><i>Exam 3, Chapters 11-16</i></b>	
26-Nov	<b><i>Thanksgiving Holiday</i></b> (No class – Study!)	
1-Dec	Special Topics - <b><i>Final Review Week</i></b>	
3-Dec	Special Topics - <b><i>Final Review Week</i></b>	
10-Dec	Final Exam – 8:00 a.m. – 10:30 p.m. <a href="http://www3.uta.edu/registrar/FinalFall2009.asp">http://www3.uta.edu/registrar/FinalFall2009.asp</a>	Chapters 1-16