

## PSYC 5345: Human Learning and Memory

**INSTRUCTOR:** Timothy Odegard  
**TELEPHONE:** 817-272-3315  
**EMAIL:** [odegard@uta.edu](mailto:odegard@uta.edu)  
**OFFICE HOURS:** TUES 11 – 12:00 PM and by  
appointment  
**Classroom:** Life Science 420

**OFFICE:** 517  
**CLASS MEETINGS:** T, Th 9:30 – 10:50 AM  
**COURSE WEBSITE:** [webct.uta.edu](http://webct.uta.edu)  
**OIT HELPDESK:** 817-272-2208

### Course Description

**Purpose and Goal:** The course provides a survey of topics in human and learning and memory. Each week readings covering a specific topic will be discussed.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** This class will be interactive in nature revolving around class participation. As a result of taking this course you should gain the following knowledge

- 1) An understanding of basic theories of human learning and memory
- 2) An understanding of the research methods used to better understand human learning and memory
- 3) An understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the various research methods used to understand human learning and memory
- 4) An understanding of some of the applications of theories of human learning and memory to real world situations

Your knowledge of course material will be evaluated in three different ways:

- 1) Your ability to clearly communicate the complex issues inherent to the scientific understanding of memory on class participation assignments
- 2) Your ability to discuss the topics inherent to memory during class discussions
- 3) Your ability to accurately answer test questions about your scientific understanding of memory.

**Required Readings:** As a courtesy, all required readings are available in pdf format on WebCT.

### Specific Course Requirements

**Class Participation:** Each student is expected to come to class prepared to discuss the content of the assigned readings. Class participation is worth 50 possible points.

**Reading Questions:** The evening before class each student is to generate three questions about the readings assigned for class on the following day. These questions are to be e-mailed to the instructor the evening prior to class. These questions will serve as discussion topics during class. Reading questions are worth 50 possible points.

**Student Topics:** To help facilitate the student learning objectives, each student will pick a topic broadly categorized as falling into Human Learning and Memory. The inclusion of student topic days should allow for the topics covered in this course to be customized to the interests of the specific students in the class. The student leading class discussion will select three readings in his or her topic area for distribution to the other members of the class. The student will then lead class discussion on this topic. The student leading discussion is expected to have a deeper and broader knowledge of the topic than what is covered in the course readings. On student topic days the students not leading discussion are still expected to generate reading questions and to e-mail these to the instructor and student leading class discussion the evening prior to class.

**Section Exams:** Two essay exams will be administered in this course. There are no make-up exams. If for some reason you are unable to make an exam, you will be required to complete the exam early. Such provisions will only be granted for extreme circumstances, and will be handled on a case-by-case basis. Each exam will be worth 50 points.

### Course Policies

**Grading Policy:** A total of 200 points will be available for this class. A hundred of these points will come from your exams. Fifty of these points will come from the quality of your student topic class and the remaining fifty points will come from the quality of your class participation.

Grades for the course will be assigned according to the following "total points earned" cutoffs:

<b>200 – 180 points</b>	<b>- A</b>
<b>179 – 160 points</b>	<b>- B</b>
<b>159 – 140 points</b>	<b>- C</b>
<b>139 – 120 points</b>	<b>- D</b>
<b>119 – 0 points</b>	<b>- F</b>

**Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA):** If you are a student who requires accommodations in compliance with the ADA, please consult with me at the beginning of the semester. As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide a reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Your responsibility is to inform me of documentation authorizing the specific accommodation. Student services at UTA include the Office for Students with Disabilities (located in the lower level of the University Center), which is responsible for verifying and implementing accommodations to ensure equal opportunity in all programs and activities.

**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.

**Academic Dishonesty:** Academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form at The University of Texas at Arlington. 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.

Academic 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).

**Bomb Threats:** If anyone is tempted to call in a bomb threat, be aware that UTA will attempt to trace the phone call and prosecute all responsible parties. Every effort will be made to avoid cancellation of presentations/tests caused by the bomb threat. Unannounced alternate sites will be available for these classes. Your instructor will make you aware of alternate class sites in the event that your classroom is not available.