

## PSYC 1301-Intro to Psychology Syllabus

### **Course Information:**

PSYC 1301.069-Intro to Psychology

Fall 2025-Full Semester

Virtual, Asynchronous

### **Instructor Information:**

Ceselie Tobin, MS, LPC-S

Email- [ctobin@uttyler.edu](mailto:ctobin@uttyler.edu) (best way to reach me)

On Campus Office- HPR 204

**Office Hours (Zoom or In-Person): Wednesdays 9:00-10:00 AM**

Meeting ID: 823 2335 0326

Passcode: 635950

### **Course Catalog Description:**

A survey of empirically based knowledge of behavior and mentation of individuals.

### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

- Demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, research methods, core empirical findings, and historic trends in psychology.
- Explain (including advantages and disadvantages) and compare major theoretical perspectives of psychology (e.g., behavioral, biological, cognitive, evolutionary, humanistic, psychodynamic and socio-cultural);
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the following general domains: biological bases of behavior and mental processes, sensation and perception, learning and memory, cognition, consciousness, personality, social processes, developmental changes in behavior and mental processes that occur across the lifespan, emotion, and motivation;
- Draw the distinction between scientific and non-scientific methods of understanding and analysis.
- Recognize and understand the impact of diversity on psychological research, theory and application, including (but not limited to): age, race, ethnicity, culture, gender, socio-economic status, disability, and sexual orientation.
- Understand and apply psychological principles to personal experience and social and organizational settings.
- Demonstrate critical thinking skills and information competence as applied to psychological topics.

### **Textbook:**

**Great news:** your textbook for this class is available for **free** online!

[\*Psychology 2e from OpenStax -Links to an external site.\*](#), ISBN 978-1-975076-45-0

### **Acknowledgment of Course Materials:**

Some course materials, including lecture videos and supplemental content, were developed by Kristie Allen, Lecturer in the Department of Psychology and Counseling at The University of Texas at Tyler, and are used in this course with her permission. These materials are incorporated to enhance student learning and ensure thorough coverage of course topics. All credit for the creation of these materials belongs to Kristie Allen.

### **Evaluation & Grading:**

<b>Assignments/Activities</b>	<b>Points Possible</b>
Quizzes (20 pts each, x6)	120
Discussion Board Posts (40 pts each, x3)	120
Reflections (40 pts each, x3)	120
Psychology in the News Assignment	70
Connect-the-Concepts Essay	70

**500 Total**

### **Grading Scale**

A: 450–500 points

B: 400–449 points

C: 350–399 points

D: 300–349 points

F: 0–299 points

### **Assignment Descriptions:**

#### **Quizzes**

There will be six quizzes throughout the course, each worth 20 points. Quizzes will cover material from the textbook, lecture videos, and other assigned resources. Questions may include multiple-choice, true/false, and matching items. Quizzes are timed (90 minutes) and must be completed by the posted due dates. You are allowed to use your notes and textbook; however, quizzes must be completed individually. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped. Late quizzes cannot be taken unless there are documented extenuating circumstances.

#### **Discussion Board Posts**

You are required to complete three Discussion Board Posts throughout the semester, each worth 40 points. Discussion posts give you the opportunity to engage with course content and your peers by applying psychological concepts to real-world examples. Each post will require:

- **An Initial Post:** 2–4 paragraphs addressing the assigned prompt.

- **Two Peer Responses:** Substantive replies to classmates' posts.

Posts should reflect thoughtful engagement, accurate use of course material, and proper grammar. Discussion prompts will align with course topics and will be posted on Canvas.

### **Reflections**

There will be three Reflection Assignments, each worth 40 points. These brief assignments (1–2 pages) encourage you to connect course material to personal experiences, observations, or media examples. Reflections are less formal than discussions but should still demonstrate critical thinking and clear writing. Reflections should be submitted via Canvas by 11:59 PM on the listed due dates.

### **Psychology in the News Assignment**

This assignment is worth 70 points and allows you to analyze a current event or recent news story through a psychological lens. Choose a topic relevant to any area of psychology (e.g., mental health, technology, stress, social behavior) and explain it using course concepts and one outside scholarly source. The paper should be 2–3 pages, APA formatted, and include references. Details and rubric will be provided on Canvas.

### **Connect-the-Concepts Essay**

The final paper is worth 70 points and serves as a capstone to the course. In 3–4 pages, you will synthesize at least three major psychological concepts from different modules and apply them to a real-world issue/experience. The paper should demonstrate your ability to integrate and apply course knowledge. APA formatting and references are required. Instructions and rubric will be posted on Canvas.

## Course Schedule:

Week	Topic/Readings	Assignments Due
Week 1- August 25, 27, 29	Module 1	Quiz #1 & Discussion Board #1 Due Sept. 7 by 11:59 PM
Week 2- Sept. 1, 3, 5		
Week 3- Sept. 8, 10, 12	Module 2	Quiz #2 & Reflection #1 Due Sept. 21 by 11:59 PM
Week 4- Sept. 15, 17, 19		
Week 5- Sept. 22, 24, 26	Module 3	Quiz #3 & Discussion Board #2 Due Oct. 5 by 11:59 PM
Week 6- Sept. 29, Oct. 1, 3		
Week 7- Oct. 6, 8, 10	Module 4	Quiz #4 & Reflection #2 Due Oct. 19 by 11:59 PM
Week 8- Oct. 13, 15, 17		
Week 9- Oct. 20, 22, 24	Module 5	Quiz #5 & Discussion Board #3 Due Nov. 2 by 11:59 PM
Week 10- Oct. 27, 29, 31		
Week 11- Nov. 3, 5, 7	Module 6	Quiz #6 & Reflection #3 Due Nov. 16 by 11:59 PM
Week 12- Nov. 10, 12, 14		
Week 13- Nov. 17, 19, 21	Module 7- No New Content	Psychology in the News Assignment Due Nov. 23 by 11:59 PM
Week 14- Nov. 24-28	Enjoy your break!	None 😊
Week 15- Dec. 1-5	Module 7- No New Content	Connect-the-Concepts Essay Due Dec. 7 by 11:59 PM

## Course Policies:

### Virtual Classroom Environment

Creating a respectful and inclusive virtual classroom environment is essential. Everyone should feel comfortable expressing their thoughts without fear of harsh or judgmental responses. I expect all students to be respectful of the diverse experiences and backgrounds of your classmates, and you can expect the same respect from me. Disrespect or discrimination of any kind, including but not limited to ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, physical ability, socioeconomic status, religion, or value system, will not be tolerated.

IMPORTANT: The classroom is NOT a place to discuss one's own problems or to obtain help if you are going through an acute problem. I can, outside of class, help direct a student to services they might need, although the best and most appropriate resource is often the Student Counseling Center, 903-566-7254, located in the University Center, which is covered by your student services fees.

<http://www.utt Tyler.edu/counseling/services.html>

### Online Course

This course is 100% online. Your ability to function within the Canvas system will facilitate your success in this course. Online learning requires students to be very self-disciplined. Be sure you

understand and are prepared to comply with all required class assignments and deadlines. For this course, refer to the syllabus for all assignments and due dates.

**Late Work**

Late work will be accepted for written assignments, excluding Discussion Board posts, with the understanding that points will be deducted due to lateness (10% will be deducted each day the assignment is late). Quizzes cannot be taken late unless there are severe extenuating circumstances.

**Utilizing AI**

UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools' ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy.

## **University Policies:**

### **Withdrawing from Class**

Students may withdraw (drop) from this course using the Withdrawal Portal. Withdrawing (dropping) this course can impact your Financial Aid, Scholarships, Veteran Benefits, Exemptions, Waivers, International Student Status, housing, and degree progress. Please speak with your instructors, consider your options, speak with your advisor, and visit the One-Stop Service Center (STE 230) or email [enroll@uttyler.edu](mailto:enroll@uttyler.edu) to get a complete review of your student account and the possible impacts to withdrawing. We want you to make an informed decision. UT Tyler faculty and staff are here for you and often can provide additional support options or assistance. Make sure to carefully read the implications for withdrawing from a course and the instructions on using the Withdrawal portal..

Texas law prohibits students from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career\*. The six courses dropped includes those from other 2-year or 4-year Texas public colleges and universities. Consider the impact withdrawing from this class has on your academic progress and other areas, such as financial implications. We encourage you to consult your advisor(s) and Enrollment Services for additional guidance. **CAUTION #1:** Withdrawing before census day does not mean you get a full refund. Please see the Tuition and Fee Refund Schedule. **CAUTION #2:** All international students must check with the Office of International Programs before withdrawing. All international students are required to enroll full-time for fall and spring terms. **CAUTION #3:** All UT Tyler Athletes must check with the Athletic Academic Coordinator before withdrawing from a course. **CAUTION #4:** All veterans or military-affiliated students should consult with the Military and Veterans Success Center.

\* Students who began college for the first time before 2007 are exempt from this law.

### **Final Exam Policy**

Final examinations are administered as scheduled. If unusual circumstances require that special arrangements be made for an individual student or class, the Dean of the appropriate college, after consultation with the faculty member involved, may authorize an exception to the schedule. Faculty members must maintain student final examination papers for a minimum of three months following the examination date.

### **Incomplete Grade Policy**

If a student, because of extenuating circumstances, is unable to complete all of the requirements for a course by the end of the semester, then the instructor may recommend an Incomplete (I) for the course. The "I" may be assigned in place of a grade *only when **all of the following conditions are met***: (a) the student has been making satisfactory progress in the course; (b) the student is unable to complete all coursework or final exam due to unusual circumstances that are beyond personal control and are acceptable to the instructor, and (c) the student presents these reasons before the time that the final grade roster is due. The semester credit hours for an Incomplete will not be used to calculate the grade point average.

The student and the instructor must submit an Incomplete Form detailing the work required and the time by which the work must be completed to their respective department chair or college dean for approval. The time limit established must not exceed one year. Should the student fail to meet all of the work for the course within the time limit, then the instructor may assign zeros to the unfinished work, compute

the course average for the student, and assign the appropriate grade. If a grade has yet to be assigned within one year, then the Incomplete will be changed to an F, or NC. If the course was initially taken under the CR/NC grading basis, this may adversely affect the student's academic standing.

### **Grade Appeal Policy**

Disputes regarding grades must be initiated within sixty (60) days from the date of receiving the final course grade by filing a Grade Appeal Form with the instructor who assigned the grade. A grade appeal should be used when the student thinks the final course grade awarded does not reflect the grades earned on assessments or follow the grading scale as documented in the syllabus. The student should provide the rationale for the grade appeal and attach supporting document about the grades earned. The form should be sent via email to the faculty member who assigned the grade. The faculty member reviews the rationale and supporting documentation and completes the instruction section of the form. The instructor should return the form to the student, even if a grade change is made at this level. If the student is not satisfied with the decision, the student may appeal in writing to the Chairperson of the department from which the grade was issued. In situations where there is an allegation of capricious grading, discrimination, or unlawful actions, appeals may go beyond the Chairperson to the Dean or the Dean's designee of the college from which the grade was issued, with that decision being final. The Grade Appeal form is found in the [Registrar's Form Library](#).

NOTE: The Grade Appeal Form is different from the Application for Appeal form submitted to the Student Appeals Committee, which does not rule on grade disputes as described in this policy.

### **Disability/Accessibility Services**

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA), the University of Texas at Tyler offers accommodations to students with learning, physical, and/or psychological disabilities. If you have a disability, including a non-visible diagnosis such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, ADHD, or a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment, you are encouraged to visit <https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler/> and fill out the New Student application. The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office will contact you when your application has been submitted and an appointment with the Assistant Director Student Accessibility and Resources/ADA Coordinator. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at <https://www.uttyler.edu/disability-services>, the SAR office located in the Robert Muntz Library, LIB 460, email [saroffice@uttyler.edu](mailto:saroffice@uttyler.edu), or call 903.566.7079."

### **Military Affiliated Students**

UT Tyler honors the service and sacrifices of our military-affiliated students. If you are a student who is a veteran, on active duty, in the reserves or National Guard, or a military spouse or dependent, please stay in contact with your faculty member if any aspect of your present or prior service or family situation makes it difficult for you to fulfill the requirements of a course or creates disruption in your academic progress. It is important to make your faculty member aware of any complications as far in advance as possible. Your faculty member is willing to work with you and, if needed, put you in contact with university staff who are trained to assist you. The [Military and Veterans Success Center \(MVSC\)](#) has campus resources for military-affiliated students. The MVSC can be reached at [MVSC@uttyler.edu](mailto:MVSC@uttyler.edu) or via phone at 903.565.5972.

### **Students on an F-1 Visa**

To remain in compliance with Federal Regulations requirements you must do the following:

- Traditional face-to-face classes: Attend classes on the regular meeting days/times.
- Hybrid Classes: Attend all face-to-face classes convened by the instructor according to the schedule set for your specific course.
- Online course: Only one online course can count toward your full-time enrollment. Students are expected to be fully engaged and meet all requirements for the online course.

### **Academic Honesty and Academic Misconduct**

The UT Tyler community comes together to pledge that "Honor and integrity will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do." Therefore, we enforce the Student Conduct and Discipline policy in the Student Manual Of Operating Procedures (Section 8).

### **FERPA**

UT Tyler follows the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) as noted in University Policy 5.2.3. The course instructor will follow all requirements to protect your confidential information.

### **Absence for Official University Events or Activities**

This course follows the practices related to Excused Absences for University Events or Activities as noted in the Catalog.

### **Absence for Religious Holidays**

This course follows the practices related to Excused Absences for Religious Holy Days as noted in the Catalog.

### **Absence for Pregnant Students**

This course follows the requirements of Texas Laws SB 412, SB 459, SB 597/HB 1361 to meet the needs of pregnant and parenting students. Part of the supports afforded pregnant students includes excused absences. Faculty who are informed by a student of needing this support should make a referral to the Parenting Student Liaison. NOTE: Students must work with the Parenting Student Liaison in order to receive these supports. Students should reach out to the Parenting Student Liaison at [parents@uttyler.edu](mailto:parents@uttyler.edu) and also complete the Pregnant and Parenting Self-Reporting Form.

### **Campus Carry**

We respect the right and privacy of students who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at <http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>.

### **CEP Mission**

**The mission of the CEP is to prepare competent and passionate professionals in the fields of education, psychology, and counseling; to advance knowledge and expertise; and to impact these fields locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally.**



**CEP Vision**

**The CEP will be a global leader in responding to needs in the fields of education, psychology, and counseling, with a focus on the East Texas region, by creating innovative academic and scholarly pathways and partnerships.**