

## Syllabus – Spring 2025 – PSYC 1301/003 Introduction to Psychology

**Instructor Information: Priscillia Ihionkhan, MA**

**Meeting Information: Arts and Sciences 210**

**Day/Time: Monday and Wednesday 2pm-3:25pm**

**Office Hours: Mondays 11am-12pm at HPR (TBD)**

Hi everyone! My name is Priscillia Ihionkhan. I am a 4<sup>th</sup> year Clinical Psychology PhD Candidate here at UT Tyler. This course will be a general overview of many domains of psychology including personality, cognition, history, and human development. I remember taking Introduction to Psychology and how it furthered my passion for psychology. I hope this course can be that for you and that you use the information in this course to help further your goals in your education and career path!

The best way to contact me is through my UT Tyler email [pihionkhan@uttyler.edu](mailto:pihionkhan@uttyler.edu). Please put your name and class number in the subject line. I will try to respond within 24 hours but understand that if the email is sent Friday evening or on the weekend there may be no response till Monday. On Mondays, I will be available from 11am-12pm for Office Hours at HPR (TBD). No appointment is needed to meet with me during office hours. If this time does not work for you, send me an email and we can try and schedule a meeting.

### **COURSE OVERVIEW:**

This class is designed to give you a broad overview of the field of psychology and behavioral sciences. We will cover a brief history of the field of psychology, research methods and ethics in psychology, and spend time learning about the main branches of the field, including learning and memory, cognitive psychology, social psychology, developmental psychology, and clinical and health psychology. Please see the course calendar for the full range of topics.

### **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

- Gain a familiarity with the biological, social, cognitive, and environmental underpinnings of human behavior.
- Apply the science of psychology to real world situations, including evaluating claims that you encounter in your environment.
- Students will foster critical thinking skills and apply these skills in analyzing psychological research and media.
- Students will practice communications skills (both written and oral) in the expression of ideas and analysis related to the psychology topics covered in class.
- Students will practice quantitative literacy skills by analyzing the findings in psychological research studies.
- Students will gain deeper understanding of the cultural and individual differences that are present in the range of topics discussed in class.

## TEXTBOOK:

We will be using a free online textbook *Psychology 2e*:  
<https://openstax.org/details/books/psychology-2e>

You can either download it as a PDF or view it online. I prefer to use it on the web.

## COURSE FLOW:

**This is a face to face, in person class.** I will generally introduce each topic with some background information and/or lecture on some selected aspect of each topic, but much of what you learn from the class will be information that you glean from the readings and class discussions. Active student attendance and participation will be required. **Classes will be delivered in person and will not be streamed on zoom.** It is important that you read over the chapter, come to class ready to participate.

## EVALUATION AND GRADING:

**EXAMS:** There will be 3 non-cumulative exams that cover material from class and the readings. The first 2 exams will take place during a regular class period, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> exam will take place during the final exam period (though it is NOT a cumulative final, it covers the last unit of material). Each non-cumulative exam will be worth **20% of your final grade**. The exams will utilize multiple choice.

**MAKE UP EXAMS:** Make-up exams will be given under *compelling* circumstances. If you need to make-up an exam, please let me know as soon as possible that you will not be able to take them exam on the scheduled day. Make-up exams will be in the same format as the regular exams, but will be an alternate version of the test (i.e., different questions than the rest of the class got). **Make up exams will be taken at the same time as your final exam during the scheduled exam period.** So, if you need to make up Exam 1, you will take an alternate version of Exam 1 and the regular Exam 3 in the same sitting.

## BIWEEKLY QUIZZES

Students will complete short quizzes approximately every two weeks. These quizzes are designed to reinforce reading comprehension, encourage consistent studying, and prepare students for exams. Quizzes may be administered in class or online via Canvas.

**FICTION MEETS REALITY PROJECT: CHARACTER ANALYSIS PAPER:** In addition to your exams and class participation, you will choose a fictional character from a movie, TV show, book, or video game and analyze their thoughts, feelings, and actions using **at least three psychological concepts** from *different* chapters in our course. You will explain each concept in your own words, connect it directly to examples from your character's story, and support your analysis with **at least five scholarly sources**.

**IN CLASS PARTICIPATION:** I will enter your participation grade after our last in person

class day. Your grade will be based on class attendance, participation in discussion, and engagement with course material.

**SONA RESEARCH REQUIREMENT:** Students are required to complete **6 SONA research credits** through participation in psychology studies **or** complete an approved alternative paper if they opt out of participation. Failure to complete the SONA requirement by the deadline will result in a loss of points corresponding to this portion of the final grade.

### PERCENTAGE OF GRADE

Exam 1 20%

Exam 2 20%

Exam 3 20%

Fiction Meets Reality Project 15%

Biweekly Quizzes 10%

Attendance and In- Class Participation 10%

SONA Research Requirement 5%

**Total points 100%**

**Course Schedule \*Subject to change at any time\*:**

### Calendar of Topics, Readings, and Assignments

Week	Due Date	Chapters	Notes
1	January 12th	Chapter 1: Psychological Foundation	
2	January 19th	Chapter 2: Psychological Research	No class on Monday (Holiday). There is class on the 21st. Quiz 1 will be due end of this week.
3	January 26th	Chapter 3: Biopsychology	
4	February 2nd	Chapter 4: States of Consciousness	Submit character choice, media source, and 2-3 possible psychological concepts from different chapters for approval.  Quiz 2 will be due end of this week.
5	February 9th	Chapter 5: Sensation and Perception	<b>Exam 1 on Wednesday, February 11th</b>

6	February 16th	Chapter 6: Thinking and Intelligence	Five APA-style references on how they support your character analysis. 3 must be from peer-reviewed journal articles.  Quiz 3 will be due end of this week.
7	February 23rd	Chapter 7: Memory	
8	March 2nd	Chapter 8: Learning	Quiz 4 will be due end of this week.
9	March 9th	SPRING BREAK	NO CLASS
9	March 16th	Chapter 9: Lifespan Development	Outline or partial draft of fiction meets reality paper.
10	March 23rd	Chapter 10: Social Psychology	<b>Exam 2 on Wednesday, March 25th</b>
11	March 30th	Chapter 11: Personality	Quiz 5 will be due end of this week.
12	April 6th	Chapter 12: Emotion and Motivation	
13	April 13th	Chapter 14: Psychological Disorders	Final Fiction Meets Reality Paper due
15	April 20th	Chapter 15: Therapy and Treatment	
16	April 27th		<b>Exam 3 on Wednesday, April 29th</b>

### UT-TYLER DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY AND COUNSELING RESEARCH REQUIREMENT

The Department of Psychology and Counseling requires that all students enrolled in 1000-, 2000-, and 3000-level psychology courses to complete a research requirement. (Note that the Research Methods course, Psyc 2331, is exempt from this policy). Some 4000-level courses offer research participation to gain extra credit.

A course with the research requirement will require **6 credits**. If you are enrolled in more than one course with the research requirement, there is a **maximum of 12 credits required total – even if you are enrolled in more than two courses with the requirement**.

**To fulfill this requirement or access extra credit opportunities, all students should register in Sona within the first week of class. The registration will take only a few minutes and will include a brief survey to collect demographic data.** This data will serve as a screening tool to determine potential survey eligibility.

Once you register in the system, there are two ways to fulfill the research requirement:

#### **Options:**

- (1) You may complete research credits by participating in psychology studies. One credit is earned for every 30 minutes of research participation. Most studies are worth one credit.

- (2) The number of credits required varies from one course to the next, and your instructor will tell you how many credits are required to complete the research requirement in his or her specific course. **The 1000-, 2000-, AND 3000-level course research requirement is 6 credits each.** There is a **maximum of 12 credits total if you are enrolled in more than one course that includes the research requirement.**
- (3) In lieu of the research participation, you may instead complete a **5-page research report on a topic supplied by your instructor.** The instructor will also supply more detail regarding the proper format of the research report.

### **Timeline:**

If you choose to complete the research participation, **at least 2 of the credits must be submitted on or before midterms.** The specific due date for these credits will be determined by your course instructor. Failure to do so will result in a **5% reduction** to your final course grade. **The remaining 2 credits needed to fulfill the requirement must be submitted on or before the last day of the regular semester (i.e., before the start of finals week).** Failure to submit the remaining credits by this date will result in an **additional 5% reduction** to your final grade.

If you choose, instead, to complete the research report, the final report must be submitted to your instructor **no later than midterms.** The specific due date for this report will be determined by your course instructor. Failure to do so will result in a **10% reduction** to your final course grade. If you are caught plagiarizing or engaging in other forms of academic dishonesty regarding the research report, you will face university disciplinary measures in addition to the 10% reduction to your final grade.

### **Initial Registration and Account Setup:**

The psychology pool administrator maintains the student credits in the department's online research participation system, which is called Sona Systems. Students are required to register with this online system to track and submit their credits.

#### **How to Create an Account for the Research Sign-up System**

Go to the following website: <http://uttyler.sona-systems.com>

Please follow these steps:

- (1) On the right-hand side of the page, click the link that says, "Request Account."
- (2) Type in your information. Your user ID can be anything you wish. However, note that **YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS MUST BE ACCURATE!!!!** You will also enter your telephone number and select the psychology course(s) that you enrolled in this semester.
- (3) The system will use your email address to send you a password.
- (4) Log into the system at the web address above with your username (that you created) and password (that the system will email to you). You may change your password upon logging in to the system for the first time.
- (5) Click the link that says "Study Sign Up"
- (6) Click the link of the study you wish to participate in (the number of credits the study is worth will be listed on the webpage).

(7) Click the link that says, “Timeslots Available.” Note that a specific study is available until the study is completed, after which you can no longer sign up for it. New studies are posted throughout the semester, but the timing of new study availability depends on the individual researchers in charge of those specific studies.

**Start early!!!! Do NOT wait until the end of the semester to start your research participation. There will NOT be many studies available toward the end of the semester because the researchers and their student assistants are trying to analyze the data from their semester projects before the semester ends.** Check Sona each week throughout the semester to find new studies in which you can participate!!!!

(8) Select a date and time that will work for you. Some studies are completely online, so you can complete that study immediately. Other studies require that you show up to one of the psychology research laboratories on campus. There are three psychology laboratories on campus, so please note which one you need to attend.

(9) The Sona system will send you an email reminder about your study sign up (including information about the day, time, and location of the study) at 5:00 pm the night before the study is to take place.

(9) Repeat Steps 5 - 8 until you have completed all credits that are required for your course. Any credits you complete beyond those required for your course(s) can potentially be used for extra credit, at the discretion of your instructor.

**Once you participate, the system will track the number of credit hours you have completed. This information is available by clicking the “My Schedule/Credits” link.**

### **Types of Studies:**

There are two basic types of studies. The first is a laboratory study, and you will meet with a researcher at a specific location on the UT-Tyler campus. The second type is an online study. With this type of study, you can complete it from any computer connected to the internet. Although most studies are of the first type, a few online studies may be posted during the semester for your convenience. The type of study will be listed in the description of the project on the website.

### **Cancelling an Appointment:**

If you need to cancel an appointment for a timeslot you have signed up for, you can do this from the My Schedule / Credits page on the website. Select this link, and you will see all the studies you have signed up for, as well as those you have completed. Click “Cancel” on the appointment you need to cancel, and you will see a confirmation page. Note, however, that you should avoid cancelling an appointment unless necessary. Aside from not receiving the credit from the study, you are also inconveniencing the student researchers who are waiting at the laboratory to greet you. If you do need to cancel, you may try to contact the researcher in charge of the study (listed on the website) to reschedule.

**To assign credits to specific courses –If you are in more than one course that requires participation and/or offers extra credit for participation – please do the following:**

(1) Click the “My Schedule/Credits” link.

- (2) Assign the credits for each study in which you have participated to a specific course. This may include volunteer hours for student counseling.
- (3) The system will allow you to assign any number of the total credits you have accumulated to any specific course. However, you only have your total number of accumulated credits to distribute to your course(s). For example, if you have two courses that require participation and you have 10 accumulated credits, you can allocate those 10 credits to one course, the other course, or divide them in some way between both courses.

**Before the end of the semester, be sure that you “apply” the credits that you have accumulated to the course(s) that require research participation and/or that offer extra credit for participating in research or volunteering for counseling.**

**If you have any questions about Sona or the research participation requirement for your course, please talk with your course instructor. Or you may contact the Sona System administrator, Dr. Stocks, directly at [estocks@uttyler.edu](mailto:estocks@uttyler.edu).**

## **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:**

Canvas has tools that shows when/if a student has plagiarized information. It will generate a report once you submit your work and any information matching other sources will be highlighted in a document. I am sure you know that this would be considered to violate our Academic Dishonesty Policy, and you will be turned into the Student Affairs office for review. Your work must be original and in your own words. I cannot stress enough; make sure ALL your work is ORIGINAL. If you aren't sure if the work, you are about to submit abides by the academic dishonesty policy of the university) don't submit it. You know if the work you are submitting is completely original. Make sure that you always include in-text citations as well as a Works Cited page in APA format with all your work. For assistance with APA formatting, you may visit the writing center on campus and find this site to be helpful:  
<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>.

## **University Policies and Information**

### **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.

### **Artificial Intelligence Statement**

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.

AI is not permitted in this course at all.

- a. Example 1: I expect all work students submit for this course to be their own. I have carefully designed all assignments and class activities to support your learning. Doing your own work, without human or artificial intelligence assistance, is best for your efforts in mastering course learning objectives. For this course, I expressly forbid using ChatGPT or any other artificial intelligence (AI) tools for any stages of the work process, including brainstorming. Deviations from these guidelines will be considered a violation of UT Tyler's Honor Code and academic honesty values.
- b. Example 2: To best support your learning, you must complete all graded assignments by yourself to assist in your learning. This exclusion of other resources to help complete assignments includes artificial intelligence (AI). Refrain from using AI tools to generate any course context (e.g., text, video, audio, images, code, etc.) for an assignment or classroom assignment.
- c. Example 3: The work submitted by students in this course will be generated by themselves. This includes all process work, drafts, brainstorming artifacts, editing, and final products. This extends to group assignments where students must create collaboratively create the project. Any instance of the following constitutes a violation of UT Tyler's Honor Code: a student has another person/entity do any portion of a graded assignment, which includes purchasing work from a company,



hiring a person or company to complete an assignment or exam, using a previously submitted assignment and/or using AI tools (such as ChatGPT).

### **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.

### Resources to assist you in the course

- [UT Tyler Student Accessibility and Resource \(SAR\) Office](#) (provides needed accommodations to students with document needs related to access and learning)
- [UT Tyler Writing Center](#)
- [The Mathematics Learning Center](#)
- [UT Tyler PASS Tutoring Center](#)
- [UT Tyler Supplemental Instruction](#)
- [Upswing \(24/7 online tutoring\) - covers nearly all undergraduate course areas](#)
- [Robert Muntz Library](#) and [Library Liaison](#)
- [Canvas 101](#) (learn to use Canvas, proctoring, Unicheck, and other software)
- Digital Support Toolkit (for supported courses only. Students are automatically enrolled in the toolkit for supported courses)
- LIB 422 -- Computer Lab where students can take a proctored exam
- [The Career Success Center](#)
- [UT Tyler Testing Center](#)
- [Office of Research & Scholarship Design and Data Analysis Lab](#)

### Resources available to UT Tyler Students

- [UT Tyler Counseling Center](#) (available to all students)
- [MySSP App](#) (24/7 access to Student Support Program counseling through phone or chat and online wellness resources available in a variety of languages)
- [Student Assistance and Advocacy Center](#)
- [Military and Veterans Success Center](#) (supports for our military-affiliated students)
- [UT Tyler Patriot Food Pantry](#)
- [UT Tyler Financial Aid and Scholarships](#)
- [UT Tyler Student Business Services](#) (pay or set up payment plans, etc.)
- [UT Tyler Registrar's Office](#)
- [Office of International Programs](#)
- [Title IX Reporting](#)
- [Patriots Engage](#) (available to all students. Get engaged at UT Tyler.)