Syllabus

Course Information:
PSYC 1301.001 Introduction to Psychology
Fall 2016
Tues/Th 9:30-10:50am
RBS 2024

Instructor Information:
Laura Owens, M.S.
Office location: HPR 210
Office Hours: T/Th 8:30-9:30, Mondays 5:00-6:00pm or by appointment
Office Phone: 903-566-7382
Email address: llamb@uttyler.edu (best way to contact me)

NOTE: A student at UT-Tyler is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from a university-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Course Catalog Description
A survey of empirically based knowledge of behavior and mentation of individuals

Student Learning Outcomes
1. Critical Thinking Skills (includes creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information). Students will be able to apply their critical thinking skills throughout this class. Through lecture time, students are presented with published research studies from psychology and information on how to critically analyze them.
2. Communication Skills (includes effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication. Students will be able to apply their communication skills through expression of ideas from psychology during class lecture time.
3. Empirical and Quantitative Skills (includes the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts and results in informed conclusions). Students will be able to apply empirical quantitative skills that illustrate an understanding of the techniques and methods of psychology.
4. Social Responsibility (includes intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national and global communities)
Although psychology is the study of individual characteristics, students are exposed to topics such as social psychology, in which interactions between people becomes the focus, including race relations and prejudice. Individual difference is explored in relation to both “nature and nurture,” the latter including contextual differences such as culture. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the factors which affect human interactions and relationships.

Evaluation and Grading:
• 14 Reading Quizzes (10 points each): 140 possible points
• 5 chapter tests (100 points each): 500 possible points
• 1 comprehensive final exam: 150 possible points

TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE: 790
A: 790-711
B: 710-632
C: 631-553
D: 552-474
F: 473 and below

*Final Exam date will be posted as soon as the university releases the official exam calendar.*
Teaching Strategies
It is VERY important that you come to class prepared. I lecture based on content from each week's module. Here is what I expect from you:

*** Before you come to class on Tuesdays you should be prepared in the following ways (you can always work ahead in this area should you choose):

- read the chapter
- have the chapter PP printed out and ready to take notes on it

Required Text, Materials/Supplies, and Related Readings
Psychology, 4/e
By: Cicarelli and White
ISBN13: 9780205972241

Course Policies (attendance, make-up assignments, etc.)
Research Requirement: CR/NC
This is a required (not optional) project you must complete in this course. If you fail to complete the research requirement (see description below), your grade will be dropped an automatic letter grade. You will need to gather all documentation and turn it in to your instructor by the dates listed above. There is no partial credit for this project. It is an all or nothing grade. I encourage you to being this immediately so you will not have any problem completing it.

Class Attendance Policy:
Class attendance is the responsibility of the student. When a student has a legitimate absence, the instructor may permit the student to complete missed assignments. In many cases, class participation is a significant measure of performance, and non-attendance may adversely affect a student’s grade. When a student’s absences become excessive, the instructor may recommend that the student initiate a withdrawal.

ATTENDANCE BONUS: I will take attendance EACH day. I will offer an incentive for coming to class (points will be added to you total number of points earned for the entire semester). If you miss:
0 absences: 3 points to FINAL grade
1 absence: 2 points to FINAL grade
2 absence: 1 point to FINAL grade
I do not “excuse” absences for this bonus exercise. It is an all or nothing policy. I understand things do happen like illness or funerals so that is why I choose to use attendance as a bonus. (NOTE: If you are a university athlete, please provide me with the paperwork the first week of class as you are exempt from this policy).
WHAT IF I MISS A TEST?
If you miss a test for an excused reason (doctor's documented illness, death/funeral, evacuation for natural disaster, or University related, religious observance), I may permit you to retake the test. You will be required to provide an acceptable form of documentation for missing the scheduled test prior to a makeup test.

Tests will most likely be administered on these dates but these dates are subject to change due to the instructor's discretion.

Topical Outline –
TESTS (administered in class unless otherwise noted):
Ch. 1-3: 9/20
Ch. 4-6: 10/10
Ch. 7-9: 10/31
Ch. 10, 12-13: 11/15
Ch. 14-15: 12/8

READING QUIZZES and dates for reading (administered online in Blackboard)- quizzes open at 12:01am on the date listed below and closes at 11:59pm on the dates listed below.
Ch. 1: 8/29-9/5
Ch. 2: 8/29-9/5
Ch. 3: 9/6-9/12
Ch. 4: 9/13-9/19
Ch. 5: 9/20-9/26
Ch. 6: 9/27-10/3
Ch. 7: 10/4-10/10
Ch. 8: 10/11-10/17
Ch. 9: 10/18-10/24
Ch. 10: 10/25-10/31
Ch. 12: 11/1-11/7
Ch. 13: 11/8-11/14
Ch. 14: 11/15-11/28
Ch. 15: 11/29-12/5

The chapter reading quizzes are 10 questions each (1 point for each question). The questions come from a very large test bank that aligns with your chapter readings. Each student’s quiz will be unique. That means that no one student will have the same quiz. It is likely that out of all students in the course, you will likely only share a question or two that your classmates have. Please use your notes and reading to help you complete the quizzes.

Comprehensive Final Exam: The date will be announced as soon as it is assigned by the university. It will only be administered on the date assigned by the university.
**Part 1 Research Documentation Due:** 10/20
**Part 2 Research Documentation Due:** 12/8

**THERE WILL BE NO Rounding OF GRADES SO PLEASE DO NOT ASK.**

*I am not allowed to move the final exam nor am I allowed to administer the exam at an earlier date.*

**TEACHING ASSISTANT:**
Rebecca Olson is my teaching assistant this semester. She will attend each class and take a set of class notes. She will be available 2 hours a week for tutoring or by appointment. The tutoring dates/times will be listed on the Blackboard Announcements page one week after the semester starts.

**TO BE ANNOUNCED THE FIRST WEEK OF CLASS.**

Please watch BB and your email for the location. I will send that out in an email as soon as we get the room reserved.

If you miss class and need a copy of the class notes for that day, you may meet with him during his 1 hour study session and make copies of the day of notes you missed. My TA is not a note taking service and will only provide you with notes for when you missed. I am not expecting that you will need many copies as you should not miss class much at all.

If you are having trouble with note taking, she will be glad to assist you with some note taking strategies.

**TA Contact info:** rolson2@patriots.uttyler.edu

**RESEARCH REQUIREMENT**

**Scientific and Social Responsibility Component for Lower-Division Psychology Courses**

We in the Psychology Department believe it is important that students in psychology courses demonstrate behaviors consistent with the conduct and understanding of scientific research. We also believe that it is important that we strive to improve the communities in which we live. Based on these ideals and values, the UT-Tyler Department of Psychology now requires that students in 1000 and 2000 level psychology courses complete **one** of the following two options to demonstrate social and scientific responsibility.

**Option #1: UT-Tyler Department of Psychology and Counseling Research Requirement**

The Department of Psychology and Counseling requires that all students taking 1000- and 2000-level psychology courses to complete a research requirement. Research Methods and Statistics are exempt from this policy. However, these two courses and certain 3000- and 4000-level courses also may include some type of research experience as either a course requirement or as extra credit.

**In order 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. A credit is earned for every 30 minutes of research participation. Most studies are 30 minutes long or less, so most studies will count as 1 credit. If the study is longer than 30 minutes, you will receive 2 credits. 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. Generally speaking, the 1000- and 2000-level course research requirement is 4 credits (2 hours).

(2) 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 3/15. Failure to do so will result in a 5% reduction to your final course grade. The remaining credits needed to fulfill the requirement must be submitted on 4/28. 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 10/20 for first review. If you fail to do so will result in a 5% reduction to your final course grade. If you are caught plagiarizing or engaging in other forms of academic dishonesty with regard to the research report, you will face university disciplinary measures in addition to the 10% reduction to your final grade. The final revised copy is due 12/8.

**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/Counseling 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 a large number of 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 in order 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 the majority of 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 absolutely 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 – in the event that 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 technical questions (e.g. setup, password, account issues, etc.) about SONA, you may contact the Sona System administrator, Dr. Stocks, directly at estocks@uttyler.edu.
Option #2: Students will complete a 5-page research paper. The topic is available on Blackboard under ‘Assignments’. You must submit your paper by the first research deadline via Blackboard as well as turn in a hard copy to me. If your paper is accepted then you will receive your 2 credits. If it is not acceptable, you will be notified to revise and resubmit by the final deadline. The paper is to be five-pages, double-spaced, 1-inch margins and written in Times New Roman 12pt. font.

*Paper Topic: You are to write a 5 page paper discussing 5 major research methods used in psychology. This paper must be APA style-no exception.*

**University Policies**

**Students Rights and Responsibilities**

To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: [http://www.utttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php](http://www.utttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php)

**Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies**

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at [http://www.utttyler.edu/registrar](http://www.utttyler.edu/registrar). Each semester’s Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar. Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions that students need to be aware of. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a “W” grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

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**State-Mandated Course Drop Policy**
Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date).

Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

**Disability Services**
In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychiatric disabilities. If you have a disability, including non-visible disabilities such as chronic diseases, learning disabilities, head injury, PTSD or ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment you are encouraged to contact the Student Accessibility and Resources office and schedule an interview with the Accessibility Case Manager/ADA Coordinator, Cynthia Lowery Staples. If you are unsure if the above criteria applies to you, but have questions or concerns please contact the SAR office. For more information or to set up an appointment please visit the SAR office located in the University Center, Room 3150 or call 903.566.7079. You may also send an email to cstaples@uttyler.edu

**Student Absence due to Religious Observance**
Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

**Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities**
If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

**Social Security and FERPA Statement:**
It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

**Emergency Exits and Evacuation:**
Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor’s directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.
**Student Standards of Academic Conduct**  
Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but 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.
(i) “Cheating” includes, but is not limited to:
• copying from another student’s test paper;
• using during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
• failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;
• possession during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed “crib notes”. The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test;
• using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
• collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;
• discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;
• divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructor has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student;
• substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;
• paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program, or information about an unadministered test, test key, homework solution or computer program;
• falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit;
• taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of U. T. Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct; and,
• misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit or injuring another student academically or financially.
(ii) “Plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the submission of it as one’s own academic work offered for credit.
(iii) “Collusion” includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty.

CEP Vision and Mission and Program Standards

Vision
The College of Education and Psychology is nationally recognized and respected for its academic programs and opportunities. It is a center of academic excellence, scholarly inquiry, and public service. The College prepares leaders to meet the critical challenges of the 21st Century, to make significant contributions to local and global communities, and to work toward individual and cultural equity.

Mission
The mission of the College of Education and Psychology is to provide a positive environment that fosters the acquisition of knowledge and skills. The mission is individually and collectively realized through a community of scholars that contributes to knowledge through scholarly inquiry; organizes knowledge for application, understanding and communication; and provides leadership and service. Additionally, the College is committed to affirming and promoting global perspectives, cultural diversity, and respect for individual differences as a means of enhancing learning, service, and scholarship.