# PSY 509.01W History & Systems of Psychology
COURSE SYLLABUS: SPRING 2019

**Instructor:** Jason McCain, Ph.D.
**Office Location:** Henderson Hall 226/230 (Try 226 first; if I'm not there, try 230)
**Office Hours:** MW 11am-1pm and by appointment
**Office Phone:** 903-886-5000
**Office Fax:** 903-886-5001

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*The best method to reach me is by email. I will respond to all emails within 24 hours during the weekdays and within 48 hours on the weekends; if you do not hear from me within that time, please resend your email, as I most likely did not receive it.*

**Course:** This class will include a general review of the history of psychology, but will mainly focus on the development and evolution of theories both within and across different content areas of psychology. It will also provide you with an opportunity to read some original source material.

**Format:** Like face-to-face classes, online courses can be assembled in many different ways. In this class there are 15 units (see below) and each unit has 1-6 objectives/questions. It is up to you find the answers to those objectives/questions and then provide a short summary of those answers as a discussion post.

*Having said that,* **a gloss from the "wiki" does not count as having found the answer**…

For many of the objectives/questions the "answer" will be obvious when you do the assigned reading. Others are designed for you to *locate material on your own* – the idea being, then, that different students will make very different contributions – creating a diverse, and high quality, discussion.

**Pace:** Feel free to work as fast as you want to. Each month's topics will open at the same time, and you will have approximately one month to complete these topics before they close. I do ask that you complete the topics in order, as they are designed to "build" off of each other. Do note that, given the amount of reading, this is not a class that you can "put off." Also, make sure to do **all** the objectives for a given unit.

***UNITS WILL SHUT DOWN ACCORDING TO THE DUE DATES INDICATED.***
Once a unit has been closed, you will not be able to work on it further.

**Texts:** *Connections in the History and Systems of Psychology*, Thorne & Henley, 3rd edition.

In addition to the textbook you will be asked to do **a lot** of reading from sources you can find on the Internet **and** from six original texts. Everyone should read the following:

Marcus Aurelius, *Meditations*
Charles Darwin, *Expression of the Emotions in Man and Animals*
B. F. Skinner, your choice – but approve through me
Sigmund Freud, your choice – but approve through me
Viktor Frankl, *Man's Search for Meaning*
Stephen Gould, *The Mismeasure of Man*

*A note about the textbook: In undergrad classes this book is often covered in its given order. Here, we are "jumping around." Having said that, the reading is cumulative. That is, material assigned for say unit 3 might also be used in unit 5 and beyond.*

**The Basics:** Don't cheat or plagiarize on *any assignments*. Plagiarizing **any source** will result in a failing grade. Graduate students are held to a higher standard than undergraduates, so if you have questions about exactly what that means, ask me. And, most importantly, KEEP UP WITH THE READING. If you do this you will find this class both educational and easy. Indeed, it should serve you well come comps.

**Requirements:** There are two sets of requirements in this course:

1. Reading and Discussion posts: As shown below there are 15 sections, each with 1-6 short writing assignments (30 total). For each assignment you will 1) make a substantive post demonstrating that you did the reading and 2) respond to at least one other post. I imagine this will total about 32 written pages, which seems very reasonable for a graduate course.

2. Psychologist biography paper: You will be given the name of an individual who made important contributions to the history of psychology and who likely shares some interests with you (based on information provided by you during the first week of class).  Typically, this individual will not be covered in the readings for this class.  You should search out three kinds of information about this individual: a) biographical material, b) papers and books written by the individual, and c) comments by others about the nature and significance of this individual's work, as well as other evidence of the person's influence.  The paper should discuss both the life and the work of your person.  It should be a maximum of eight (8) and a minimum of six (6) double-spaced pages, not counting your reference section.  Important: All of the psychologists assigned did far more work in their lifetime than could be described in such a brief paper, thus a focus on some small aspect of the person's work is critical to success on this assignment.  The paper should be structured as follows: biography (2 pages), focus on some

aspect of the person's published work (6 pages). What you select is up to you and should reflect your own interests. There is a tendency in writing these papers to present the individual in a largely positive light. In some cases, such an assessment may be entirely merited. But your job as "historian" in this assignment is to interpret the data as objectively as you can, and that means being critical when such criticism is called for. **This paper is due by 5 pm on April 8th, 2019**.

**Grades:** Your grade will be based on the two requirements listed above. Specifically:

1. 75% of your grade will be based on your best 26 post assignments. I start with the assumption that everyone has an "A," so all you have to do to make an "A" is not produce work that will pull that grade down. You will find me an easy grader if you take these assignments seriously, and this an easy course if you DO THE READING.

2. 25% of your grade will be based on your psychologist paper. Papers should follow the format outlined above and always be written in proper APA format.

*The biggest problem that people have had with this class in terms past is that they have not (demonstrated that they have) done the reading – especially the original source material – in their posts. So again, just a "wiki-level" gloss will not work in this (or hopefully any other) graduate level course.*

*And, if you do what I ask you you'll learn a lot and make a good grade. If you do not, you will not do well in this class. Did I stress that you really have to do the readings….*

# TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

## Browser support

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released. New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers. However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L Support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution. Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers.

Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products.

Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive

support for critical issues; however, D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed. A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year.

Note the following:

- Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled.
- For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater.
- The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser, Microsoft Edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

## Desktop Support

| Browser | Supported Browser Version(s) | Maintenance Browser Version(s) |
|---|---|---|
| Microsoft® Edge | Latest | N/A |
| Microsoft® Internet Explorer® | N/A | 11 |
| Mozilla® Firefox® | Latest, ESR | N/A |
| Google® Chrome™ | Latest | N/A |
| Apple® Safari® | Latest | N/A |

## Tablet and Mobile Support

| Device | Operating System | Browser | Supported Browser Version(s) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Android™ | Android 4.4+ | Chrome | Latest |
| Apple | iOS® | Safari, Chrome | The current major version of iOS (the latest minor or **point** release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or **point** release of that major version). For example, as of June 7, 2017, D2Lsupports iOS 10.3.2 and iOS 9.3.5, but not iOS |

| Device | Operating System | Browser | Supported Browser Version(s) |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 10.2.1, 9.0.2, or any other version. Chrome: Latest version for the iOS browser. |
| Windows | Windows 10 | Edge, Chrome, Firefox | Latest of all browsers, and Firefox ESR. |

- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
  - 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
  - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
  - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution

- You must have a:
  - Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
  - Speakers or headphones.
  - *For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.

- Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: JAVA web site  http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp

- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.


Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.
  Pop-ups are allowed.
  JavaScript is enabled.
  Cookies are enabled.

- You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
  - Adobe Reader  https://get.adobe.com/reader/
  - Adobe Flash Player *(version 17 or later)* https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/
  - Adobe Shockwave Player   https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/
  - Apple Quick Time   http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/

- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

# ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

**Note:** Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

# COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT
## Brightspace Support

### Need Help?
### Student Support

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

### Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778 or click on the **Live Chat** or click on the words "click here" to submit an issue via email.

### System Maintenance

Please note that on the 4th Sunday of each month there will be System Maintenance which means the system will not be available 12 pm-6 am CST.

**myLeo Support**
Your myLeo email address is required to send and receive all student correspondence.
Please email helpdesk@tamuc.edu or call us at 903-468-6000 with any questions about
setting up your myLeo email account. You may also access information at myLeo.
https://leo.tamuc.edu

**Learner Support**
The One Stop Shop was created to serve you by providing as many resources as
possible in one location. http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/onestopshop/

The Academic Success Center provides academic resources to help you achieve
academic success.
http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/academicSuccessCenter/

# University Specific Procedures

## Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and
acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment.  The Code of
Student Conduct is described in detail in the Student Guidebook.
http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuid
ebook.aspx


Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding
how to interact with students in an online forum: Netiquette
http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html

## TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the Attendance webpage
and Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01.
http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx


http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedur
es/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf

*Academic Integrity*

The Student Handbook (Policies and Procedures, Code of Student Conduct) states that:

> "All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment."

Violation of this code will lead to an initiation of the disciplinary procedures described in the Student Handbook. Proper student conduct also includes maintaining a standard of academic honesty. In essence, **cheating** and **plagiarism** of all forms will not be tolerated. Plagiarism means that you cannot use the words and ideas of another person without giving that person credit. When using the exact words of someone else they should be placed in quotation marks with a proper (APA) citation to follow. When using the ideas of another person, their work should be cited appropriately immediately following or immediately prior to this use. Cheating has several definitions, but can be simply defined as "to act dishonestly or unfairly in order to gain or provide an advantage." If you have questions or concerns about what constitutes cheating or plagiarism, please see me.

> **Students who are identified as having engaged in cheating or plagiarism will earn an F in the course.**

For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf)

[http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf](http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf)

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf)

[http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf](http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf)

# ADA Statement

## Students with Disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

## Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library- Room 162
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/

## Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

## Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:
http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

**Organization:** The course is roughly divided into four parts…

Part I: Setting the Stage
      **1. Contextualism and The Problems of History**
      **2. The Philosophy of Science**
      **3. The Mind Body Problem**

Part II: The Philosophical Backdrop
      **4. Plato and Aristotle as Forerunners of Rationalism and Empiricism**
      **5. Roman and Medieval Misconceptions, then Renaissance Humanism**
      **6. Evolution as Metatheory**
      **7. Existentialism and Phenomenology**

Part III: The Background of Modern Psychology
      **8. The Origins of Psychology in Germany**
      **9. Early American Psychology**
      **10. Behaviorism**
      **11. Gestalt Psychology**

Part IV: Examples of Modern Academic Psychology
      **12. Social Psychology**
      **13. Cognitive Science**
      **14. Freud**
      **15. Psychometrics**