



Introduction to Psychology PSY 625--- 01B

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2019

Monday 4:30-7:10 pm, Location: Henderson 207

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Shulan Lu, Ph.D., Professor

Office Location: Henderson 218

Office Hours: M, W 2:00-3:15 pm, TBA

Note: Typically I am on campus M-F everyday. If you need to see me, don't hesitate to set up a time with me if these hours don't fit your schedule.

Office Phone: 903.468.8628

Office Fax: 903.886.5510

University Email Address: shulan.lu@tamuc.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: email

Communication Response Time: 24-48 hours on weekdays

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required

Bransford, J. D., Brown, A. L., & Cocking, R. R. (2000). How people learn: brain, mind, experience, and school. Washington, D.C: National Academy Press.

Optional Texts and/or Materials

Additional handouts and materials will be distributed in class or placed on D2L.

Course Description

This is NOT a course on how to teach psychology or a particular content domain. The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the field of applied cognitive science.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Specifically, the insights of cognition will be applied to learning and instruction in both natural and school settings.

There are numerous theories about how people learn different topics and in different settings. We will survey some of these, and focus will be given to the learning in school settings as many journals in this field tend to publish such studies. We will discuss some representative studies associated with learning particular domains (e.g., math, science, and reading).

Furthermore, we will discuss issues that are relevant to learning across domains. For example, are there principles of learning? What differences might different note taking methods introduce to initial learning and later review / relearning? How can we build technology into the learning process and how can we develop research along the line?

We will also discuss assessments and evaluations of learning. For example, consider the differences between near vs far transfer.

Lastly, we will briefly discuss the current and emerging development of the field, looking at the relationship of cognition, contexts, technology use /design.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)

1. Students will understand the scope of the field of cognition and instruction.
2. Students will be able to appreciate and critique the important approaches to the topics discussed in this course.
3. Students will be able to apply the theories and concepts learned in this course in critiquing the upcoming practices of learning and instruction.
4. Students will get exposed to developing research agenda in cognition and instruction.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

The essential computer skills in modern life: See an example at <http://www.yti.edu/blog/top-four-essential-computer-skills.asp>

Use D2L

Use Socrative on your mobile devices.

Instructional Methods

This is a face-to-face course. I cannot emphasize enough the value of collective listening, which is articulated so well by Professor Monessa Cummins at Grinnell College.

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“Can [students] listen to a political candidate with a critical ear? Can they go and listen to their minister with an analytical ear? Can they listen to one another? One of the things a lecture does is build that habit.”

During our lecture, we will focus on deepening your understanding of the important concepts and theories through lectures, demonstrations, and class discussions. We will also use quiz and short answer questions to encourage your pursuit of active learning.

Prior to each week’s lecture, you will be expected to read the relevant section of the textbook chapter and complete the assignments posted in D2L.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

Throughout our course, we will discuss the science of how to learn and encourage you to practice them. The following are some basics.

- Check and read class emails promptly for announcements, updates, clarifications, etc.
- Take notes while you read the assigned materials and listen to lectures. When we travel, we take our own pictures to organize our experience instead of downloading pictures online later. Similarly when we learn, we take our own notes to organize our thoughts.
- Quiz yourself often. Can you define a concept in your own words? Study the materials on a regular basis. Consider the Pomodoro technique. Set aside 20-25 minutes each time, and study.
- Take the initiative and read a few most recent research articles on the topics we discuss in our class.

GRADING

To be on the safe side, assume that I grade on a numerical scale. However, I reserve the right to reward exemplary attendance and participation.

A = 270-300 pts

B = 240-269 pts

C = 210-239 pts

D = 180-209 pts

F < 180 pts

Questions about Grades: Any questions about a grade for a particular Assignment Highlights, quiz, or exam should be brought to my attention within a week of the particular grade being posted.

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Assessments

Learning Engagement: This class will employ active learning techniques. There will be 1) learning engagement quizzes, and 2) class participation and discussion requirements. The criteria and expectations of each activity will be announced as the class unfolds.

Below are a few basic elements that go into class participation and discussion requirements.

1. Maintain good attendance. While anyone can be late on rare occasions, habitual lateness is unacceptable. Also once in class, be prepared to stay for the entire class period. If you must miss class you are responsible for what transpires during class sessions whether you are there or not.
2. Be respectful toward all members of the class and their views.
3. We may not always have time for everyone to speak up in every class. Come to the class prepared, and make a point of participating. To earn full points for in-person class discussion, you will need to contribute to class discussions at least twice each lecture; your contributions reflect a reasonable understanding of the course materials.

This part will be largely based on my observations, notes and impressions. For the efficiency of the class, I will not count the number of times you participate in discussions and what you say in each class.

Learning Engagement Total: 20 points

Assignment: *The questions aligns with each of the 4 learning outcomes, in particular, Learning Outcome 1, 2, and 3.* There are T/F questions, multiple choice questions, short answer questions and essay questions. You are NOT allowed to submit late assignment. If for some REAL emergency you must delay your submission, make sure that you contact me immediately. When official documentation is provided, you can do a make-up.

To do well on these assignments, you will have to attend the lectures---especially since our lectures will not regurgitate the textbook chapters.

Assignment Total: 120 points

Research Development and Preregistration: *This requirement aligns with learning outcome 2 and 4.* Identify one very recent research on note taking, present the highlights of the research to the class, and propose follow up research. After class discussions and feedback, you will complete a mock up preregistration. The class as a whole will discuss the effects of preregistration of research.

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In your presentation of research, you at least need to highlight the hypotheses and predictions, the operational definitions of the variables, research design and connections to the topic discussed in our class. The ease of the communication (e.g., the use visualization) and the accuracy of the information will also be assessed.

As for preregistration, follow the van't Veer & Giner-Sorolla (2016) Preregistration form via OSF. More details will be announced as class progress.

Highlight Total: 60 points

Exams: There is one comprehensive exam. *This requirement aligns with learning outcome 1, 2, and 3.* **There will be NO after the fact make-up examinations.** If for some REAL emergency you must miss the exam, make sure that you contact me immediately.

Exam Total: 100 points.

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,

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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, D2L supports iOS 10.3.2 and iOS 9.3.5, but not iOS 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.

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- 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](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/](https://get.adobe.com/reader/)
 - [Adobe Flash Player \(version 17 or later\) https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/)
 - [Adobe Shockwave Player https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/](https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/)
 - [Apple Quick Time http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/](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 Highlights 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.

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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.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement

You are welcomed to see me before and after class, contact me via email, and schedule an office visit appointment.

If you email me and do not receive an email response within 48 hours, most likely, your email was not received.

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COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

All quizzes and exams are to be *taken closed-book* if there is no additional notice. You are not allowed to take any quiz, exam, or submit any Assignment Highlights after its respective deadline unless you notify me of extenuating circumstance and I give permission in advance.

In case of unforeseen emergency, contact me or Dept ASAP. When official documentation is provided, you can do a make-up.

No incompletes. If you cannot complete the course with a grade that find satisfactory, it is *your responsibility to drop it*.

Academic Honesty:

Unless authorized by me, you are expected to complete all course Assignment Highlightss, including quizzes, Assignment Highlightss and exams, without assistance from any source.

You are expected to develop *original* work for this course; therefore, you may not submit course work you completed for another course to satisfy the requirements for this course.

Students who violate academic integrity may receive a penalty grade, including a failing grade on the Assignment Highlights or in the course.

Contact me if you are unsure about the appropriateness of your course work.

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

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/registrar/documents/studentGuidebook.pdf).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/documents/studentGuidebook.pdf>

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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)
<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/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. 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>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<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 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: Rebecca.Tuerk@tamuc.edu

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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.

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TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Week	Date	Topic
1	Jan 14	Introduction to the course Bransford's principles of learning
2	Jan 21	University closed. No class.
3	Jan 28	Analyzing tasks, behaviors, and representations
4	Feb 04	*Science education and multimedia learning
5	Feb 11	Effective teaching
6	Feb 18	Reading
7	Feb 25	Visual math
8	Mar 4	Technology and tool use
9	Mar 11	Technology and tool use: note taking
10	Mar 18	Spring break, no class
11	Mar 25	Learning and transfer
12	Apr 01	Embodied and situated learning
13	Apr 08	*Learning analytics
14	Apr 15	Research development and preregistration
15	Apr 22	Learning characteristics: learning style
16	Apr 29	Trends and highlights; Preregistration
17	May 06	Exam

Notes: For topics with *, please attend to class and D2L announcement in advance.

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