

Introduction to Psychology-H

Fall 2019

PSY 2301:05H (3SH)

HEN207 (MWF 11-11:50)

Instructor

Dr. Raymond Green

Office Phone #: 903-468-3001

Office Hours: Office hours will be held in the Honors College office, first floor Prairie Crossing Apartments. I will be available M from 8 to 8:30 a.m. or **by appointment**. I can also be reached via email (Raymond.green@tamuc.edu).

Course Description

The aim of this course is to give a general understanding of the basic principles of psychology.

Purpose

This class is intended to introduce the student to the many different ways that psychology manifests itself. Some areas that will be covered include sensation and perception, memory, intelligence, psychological disorders, and stereotypes. A primary goal of the class is to help students understand that psychologists take a scientific approach to understanding thought and behavior.

Learning Outcomes

- (1) Students will be able to engage in communication that follows conventions of grammar and syntax appropriate to the audience, purpose, and message.
- (2) Students will be able to interpret, test, and demonstrate principles revealed in empirical data.

Textbooks

Both of these books are required and necessary.

Davis, S.F., Palladino, J.J., & Christopherson, K. (2012). Psychology (Seventh Edition). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall Inc. ISBN: 020584684X.

Lilienfeld, S.O., Lynn, S.J., Ruscio, J., & Beyerstein, B.L. (2010). 50 Great Myths of Popular Psychology. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell. ISBN: 1405131124

Grading

Class participation Expectations: I consider class participation to be one of the most important, yet underrated elements of a student's education. There are numerous elements that go into class participation: (1) Good attendance (according to University rules, students may be dropped from the class for excessive unexcused absences); (2) Arriving to class on time and **not packing up early**; (3) Somewhat frequent, and preferably intelligent, contributions to class discussion; (4) **Polite and civil** interactions with all members of the class ["All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning

environment.” (See Student’s Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct)]. **Turn off all cell phones. Students who fail to do so may be asked to leave the class. No laptops are allowed to be used in class.**

In-Class Assignments: Some elements of participation grades are difficult to objectively assign. Thus, approximately once a week in-class assignments will be completed (the day will not be announced ahead of time). These assignments may include quizzes, group projects, surveys, and problem solving sessions. Successful completion of the assignment (I am the final judge of what is successful) is worth 1% of your final grade. In general, these assignments are designed to augment your comprehension of the material. For obvious reasons, there are absolutely no make-ups for these in-class assignments (however, I suggest that you still ask about the assignment to see if it would help you better understand the material). **Total: 10%**

Exams: Exams will constitute a major portion of your course grade. There will be 5 exams (four tests during the semester and one during the final exam period). The lowest of your test grades will be dropped. Your exam grades are worth a total of 44% of your class grade (thus, once your lowest grade has been dropped each exam is worth 11% of your grade).

NO MAKE-UP EXAMS WILL BE GIVEN!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I mean this. Exams may be rescheduled, without penalty, only when arrangements have been made **in advance** of the testing date. I expect people to come to me within the first week of class if they have conflicts with the exam dates. Make-ups will only be given in the case of **verifiable** medical or legal emergencies. Verifiable means that written documentation is provided (e.g., signed doctors’ notes, court appearance tickets, newspaper obituaries). The final decision concerning make-up exams rests with the instructor. If no valid excuse (in the opinion of the professor) is presented your exam grade is a zero and this will become the exam grade that you drop.

Exams will include both multiple choice questions and essays. None of these exams are cumulative (except where the course material itself is naturally cumulative). You are responsible for all lecture and reading materials.

No cell phones are allowed on desks during exam day. In addition, calls may not be received – if you answer the phone your exam will be forfeited (unless arrangements are made with me ahead of time). Apple Watches, and the like, should be removed and stored out of sight during the exam.
Total=44%

Peerwise Multiple Choice Assignments: One way to study for exams is to write practice questions. A well written multiple choice question indicates that the writer (a) knew the right answer; (b) understood the content deeply enough to provide compelling, yet wrong, alternative choices. To motivate you to do this, and to provide your peers with practice questions you will have to create a minimum of 3 questions per exam through the Peerwise application. Further details on how to access the website and on expectations for the questions will be provided on a separate handout.
Total=6%

Social Norm and Myth Busting Papers: You have two papers to write this semester. One paper, worth 10% of your grade, will explore your experience with violating a social norm. The

second paper, worth 20% of your grade, will ask you to investigate a psychological myth like those found in your book *50 Great Myths of Popular Psychology*. Papers are due at the beginning of the class. Reminder: I am not required to accept assignments that are turned in after the due date, so I suggest that you turn the assignments in on time. Absence from class does not remove your responsibility for turning the assignment in on time. More details on these papers will be provided in separate handouts. **Total=30%**

Subject Pool Requirement: As part of your course requirement, you will need to participate in a total of 4 experimental credits of research studies. In order to participate in experiments you will need to register in the Experiment Management System (EMS). If you do this within the first two weeks of the semester you will receive a ½ experimental credit.

These studies will be conducted by various faculty and students (graduate and undergraduate) in the department of Psychology and Special Education. Research credit will depend on the nature of the study and the time required.

Your participation in these studies is vital in order for the department to accomplish its research goals, make its contribution to the development of psychological science, and demonstrate what Texas A&M University-Commerce does in the national and international frontier of knowledge. Furthermore, the studies will give you an opportunity to learn about some of the things we do in this field and may turn out to be fun for you as well.

You have the right not to participate in these studies. If you decide not to participate in these studies, you will be given an alternative educational opportunity. Additionally, you cannot participate in these activities if you are younger than 18.

This requirement is worth 10 percent of your grade. You will either receive 10% for full completion of the requirement or 0% for anything less.

Your grade will be determined as follows:

In-Class Participation	10%
Exams	44%
Peerwise MC	6%
Subject Pool Requirement	10%
Two Papers	<u>30%</u>
	100%

Final grades are based on the total number of points earned during the term in accordance, generally, with the following levels of proficiency: A = 90-99; B = 80-89; C = 70-79; D = 65-69; F = below 65.

Other important information

(1) ADA Statement

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:

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

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

(2) Statement on Nondiscrimination:

A&M-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.

(3) "All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment." (See Student's Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct). **Turn off all cell phones and pagers. Texting during class is forbidden.**

Further, 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>

(4) 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 34.06.02R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to (<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>) and or consult your event organizer). 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.

(5) 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>

Finally, I cannot stress enough the importance of contacting me immediately if you find that you are having trouble with the course material. Come to my office hours, use my email, IM me on Facebook, ask me questions before, during, and after class. If we catch a problem early, it can be cured. I can do nothing for you when approached after the semester has been completed.

Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading</u>
8/26 - Mon.	Class Introduction	
8/28 – Weds.	Origins and Key Ideas	DP 1
8/30 – Fri.	Key Ideas and Memory	DP 4; L11,12
9/2 - Mon.	Labor Day – No Class	
9/4 – Weds.	Memory	
9/6 – Fri.	Memory	
9/9 – Mon.	Behavioral Neuroscience	DP 2; L2
9/11 – Weds.	Behavioral Neuroscience	
9/13 – Fri.	Behavioral Neuroscience	
9/16 - Mon.	Exam #1	
9/18 – Weds.	Sensation and Perception	DP 3; L3,5
9/20 – Fri.	Sensation and Perception	
9/23 - Mon.	Sensation and Perception	
9/25 – Weds.	States of Consciousness	DP 5: L12,19,20
9/27 – Fri.	States of Consciousness	
9/30 - Mon.	States of Consciousness	
10/2 -- Weds.	Learning	DP 6
10/4 -- Fri.	Learning	
10/7 - Mon.	Learning	
10/9 -- Weds.	Exam #2	
10/11 -- Fri.	Social Psychology	DP 15

10/14 – Mon.	Social	L27,28
10/16 - Weds.	Social	HW#1 Due
10/18 -- Fri.	Sex and Gender	DP 10; L29
10/21 -- Mon.	Sex and Gender	
10/23 - Weds.	Exam #3	
10/25 - Fri.	Lifespan Development	DP 9; L6
10/28 - Mon.	Lifespan Development	
10/30 - Weds.	Lifespan Development	
11/1 – Fri.	Lifespan Development	
11/4 – Mon.	Health Psychology	DP 14; L24
11/6 - Weds.	<i>No Class</i>	
11/8 – Fri.	<i>No Class</i>	
11/11 – Mon.	Health Psychology	
11/13 – Weds.	Exam #4	
11/15 – Fri.	Personality	DP 11; L33,35 Hw#2 Due
11/18 - Mon.	Personality	
11/20- Weds.	Personality	
11/22 – Fri.	Personality	
11/25 - Mon.	Psychological Disorders	DP 12; L37,38,41,42
11/27 – Wed.	Psychological Disorders	
11/29 – Fri.	<i>No Class –Thanksgiving Break</i>	
12/2 – Mon.	Psychological Disorders	
12/4 – Weds.	Therapy	DP 13; L44-46, 49
12/6 – Fri.	Therapy	

Exam #5: Wednesday December 11th 10:30 a.m. – 12:30pm

Please note: All attempts will be made to follow the syllabus. However, events arise that may make it necessary to modify the syllabus. Any changes to the syllabus will be announced in advance.