

# PSYC 2301 General Psychology

## Course Syllabus

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*“Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide responsible, exemplary learning opportunities.”*

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Office Hours	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Online
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*The information contained in this syllabus is subject to change without notice. Students are expected to be aware of any additional course policies presented by the instructor during the course.*

**Course Description:** General Psychology is a survey of the major psychological topics, theories and approaches to the scientific study of behavior and mental processes.

### Required Textbook(s):

Kalat, J.W. (2017). *Introduction to Psychology, 11<sup>th</sup> edition*. Cengage Learning.

This textbook is required for this course.

The electronic textbook is available in Blackboard as part of the course. For your convenience and lower price, the bookstore has the loose-leaf edition available bundled with **MindTap**. MindTap assignments are required as part of your grade in Blackboard. Grades will be taken on specific assignments in MindTap for each chapter.

**Publisher:** Cengage Learning

**ISBN Number:** 978-1-337-12746-2

### Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Identify various research methods and their characteristics used in the scientific study of psychology.
2. Describe the historical influences and early schools of thought that shaped the field of psychology.
3. Describe some of the prominent perspectives and approaches used in the study of psychology.
4. Use terminology unique to the study of psychology.
5. Describe accepted approaches and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation.
6. Identify factors in physiological and psychological processes involved in human behavior.

### Course Objectives:

The goal of this course is to introduce students to the field of psychology. In the process, students will begin to think critically and evaluate research and behaviors they encounter every day.

## Lectures & Discussions:

Given that this is an online course, you must check your course calendar and know when assignments are due and submit them on time. Because the course is online, reading assignments are listed in the course outline and organized by module. There are four modules. You will have **chapter assignments** each week in the form of short MindTap activities, assignments, and quizzes. These assignments and discussions will be due the following Monday by 11:59 pm. **Points will not be given for chapter assignments that are received late.**

You will also have **three major projects** (experimental design, research analysis project, and Hospitality House paper) **and three online exams**. The due dates for these assignments are on your course calendar. These are an important part of your grade. See below for additional details.

## Evaluation/Grading Policy:

Grades will be computed as follows:

Exams (3) = 30%

Chapter Learning Activities & Assignments = 30%

Experimental Design = 10%

Research Summary Papers (2) = 10%

Reflection Paper = 10%

SLO quizzes (2) = 10%

The grading scale below will be used to determine your final grade.

<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Grade</u>
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100% - 90%	= A
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89% - 80%	= B
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79% - 70%	= C
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69% - 60%	= D
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BELOW	= F
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59%	
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Your grades will be posted in Blackboard in the "My Grades" link.

***Extra credit is not provided in the course.*** If you are not making the grade that you hoped for, please talk to me and I will try to give you ideas that may help bring up your grade. I will not, however, provide any additional assignments that you could complete to bring up your grade. Even though I do not offer any extra credit in this course and will give you only a few opportunities to earn bonus points, I will give you a chance to earn a few bonus points right now. If you send me an email titled "Syllabus" and tell me five things you learned about this course from reading your syllabus, I will give you 10 bonus points. But you must send me this email during the first week of class in order to earn these points.

## Tests/Exams:

**SLO Quizzes:** There will be two mandatory SLO quizzes. Every student in this class must take them. Both quizzes will have 30 multiple choice items and are worth 100 points each. The first quiz will be given at the beginning of the semester and will cover material from chapter 2. The second quiz will be given at the end of the semester and will be comprehensive and cover the entire course. You may take each quiz only one time. You can find the dates of these quizzes on your course calendar. They are listed as "SLO Quiz #1" and "SLO Quiz #2".

**Exams:** There will be 3 exams. All exams are comprised of multiple choice items and are worth 100 points. There are 10 items for each chapter. Exams will all be taken online. **Exam questions will come from the textbook.** You will have 1 hour and 30 minutes for each exam. The exams largely test a student's ability to APPLY the knowledge of the course content to specific scenarios. You may use your notes, textbook, and other resources to help you be successful. However, you should understand that you must have a thorough UNDERSTANDING of HOW TO APPLY the content being assessed.

If you miss an exam for any reason, you will be required to complete a make-up exam. It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor to schedule the make-up exam. Exams **may not** be made up after one week of their original due date.

### **Assignments:**

**Chapter Learning Activities and Assignments:** Your chapter assignments will consist of MindTap assignments and quizzes and are designed to increase your understanding of the material. They can be found posted in each Module linked on the home page. Click on the current chapter link, then "Learning Activities and Assignments". All chapter assignments and quizzes must be completed and submitted on time. **Points WILL NOT be given for late chapter assignments or discussions. You will earn a zero for items submitted past 11:59pm.** There are also optional study quizzes posted for each chapter. These are not calculated into your grade and are intended to help you better understand the material.

**Experimental Design:** You will answer questions about a journal article you will read. Additional information and the worksheet you must complete for a grade are found in the "Major Projects" on our Blackboard home page. The due date for this assignment can be found on your course calendar. This assignment will be graded using a rubric, which can be found in the link for this assignment.

**Research Summary Papers:** You will be given an article to read. You will summarize each section and label each section in your paper. Your paper will be typed, double spaced and written in the 3rd person and in complete sentences using APA format. Please refer to the sample paper provided in the link for this assignment in "Major Projects" on our Blackboard home page. Each Summary paper will be worth 50 points.

APA format is different from MLA! If, in any section of a written paper, you give information that comes from your textbook or other written source, you must use in-text citations in the APA format. Sources, which are cited in the text, must also be referenced at the end of the paper on your References page. You will need to look up the APA guidelines so you know how to write correctly in APA format. [Purdue Owl](#) is a great source for APA formatting guidelines.

**Reflection Paper:** You will be asked to review documents and resources highlighting mental illness. You will write an APA style reflection essay answering specific questions provided.

### **Other Course Requirements:**

**NTCC Academic Honesty Statement:**

"Students are expected to complete course work in an honest manner, using their intellects and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty policy stated in the Student Handbook."

**Academic Ethics:**

The college expects all students to engage in academic pursuits in a manner that is beyond reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuit. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. Refer to the student handbook for more information on this subject.

**ADA Statement:**

It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to request accommodations. An appointment can be made with Katherine Belew, Academic Advisor/Coordinator of Special Populations. She can be reached at 903-434-8218. For more information and to obtain a copy of the Request for Accommodations, please refer to the NTCC website - Special Populations.

**Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are considered "eligible students." In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain information concerning the child's college records without the written consent of the student. In compliance with FERPA, information classified as "directory information" may be released to the general public without the written consent of the student unless the student makes a request in writing. Directory information is defined as: the student's name, permanent address and/or local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution attended, other information including major, field of study, degrees, awards received, and participation in officially recognized activities/sports.