



PSYC2301 – General Psychology

Course Syllabus: Fall 2026

“Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide personal, dynamic learning experiences empowering students to succeed.”

Instructor: Wendy Mills

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Office Hours: Please contact me via email. Zoom appointments as needed.

Response Time: I will respond to all emails within 48 hours, with the exception of weekends and holidays.

This syllabus serves as the documentation for all course policies and requirements, assignments, and instructor/student responsibilities.

Information relative to the delivery of the content contained in this syllabus is subject to change. Should that happen, the student will be notified.

Course Description:

This course provides an overview of the major areas in the field of psychology. As a survey course, we will cover many diverse areas within the field. The following areas will be emphasized: major models in psychology, major principles of memory applicable to learning psychology, research methods used in psychology, social psychology, the organization of the human brain and the biological bases of behavior, principles of learning, major theories of personality development, stress and its effects on health, intelligence, lifespan development, and psychological disorders. Upon completion of the course, you should be able to identify the major theories, terminology, principles, processes, and methods in the above areas.

Course Goal

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.

Prerequisite(s): None

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.

Evaluation/Grading Policy:

The breakdown of the course requirements is as follows:

%	Requirement
5%	Introductory Activities
10%	Coffee Shop forum
25	Quizzes and Plans
20	Discussions
40%	Tests

Semester grades will be earned as follows

Percentage	Letter Grade
90% and above	A
80 %–89%	B
70 %–79%	C
60%–69 %	D
59.9% and below	F

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

Required Instructional Materials:

Introduction to Psychology eBook w/Waymaker OHM

Publisher: Lumen Learning

ISBN Number: 9781640872370

The electronic textbook is available in Blackboard as part of the course. On the Blackboard course site, look under the START HERE area for more textbook access information.

Minimum Technology Requirements:

In order to be successful in this course, students need to possess minimum technical skills such as the ability to send email, to attach documents to email, submit files through Blackboard, open and save attachments, type documents using a word processing application, and be familiar with web browsers.

1. You must have access to the Internet and email on a daily basis. If you do not have reliable and consistent internet access at home, at work, or in a public location, then you will need to withdraw from the course. Please check your Blackboard email and discussion board every day.
2. All assignments that are submitted **MUST** be in .doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf format. Formats other

than this will NOT be accepted. Please submit your assignments through the Blackboard learning modules. Please do not submit assignments to my NTCC email address.

3. Videos are often utilized in this course, which will require speakers or earbuds/headphones and a graphics card.
4. Access to a printer is highly recommended for printing out important course documents.

Course Structure and Overview:

You must check your class calendar and know when assignments are due and submit them on time.

Reading assignments are listed in the course outline and organized by UNITS. There are four units. You will have study plans & quizzes and Discussions each unit in the form of short Lumens (our learning platform) activities, assignments, and quizzes. Check the class calendar for individual assignment deadlines.

You will also have four “TESTS” in the form of projects or writing assignments (experimental design, 2 summary papers, and a reflection paper). The due dates for these assignments are on your class calendar. These are an important part of your grade.

Study Plans & Quizzes and Discussions:

Your chapter assignments will consist of Lumens assignments and quizzes and are designed to increase your understanding of the material. They can be found posted in each Unit linked on the home page, under COURSE CONTENT. Points WILL NOT be given for late chapter assignments or discussions. You will earn a zero for items submitted past 11:59pm.

Experimental Design:

You will answer questions about a journal article you will read. Additional information and the worksheet you must complete for a grade and are found in Blackboard. 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.

Two 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 Blackboard. Each Summary paper will be worth 100 points.

Reflection Paper:

You will watch two half-hour videos and read an article. Then, you will write a reflection of your learning according to the directions provided in Blackboard.

Communications:

I do not have an office on campus. That means all of our communication will be through email. Please email wmills@ntcc.edu for the fastest response.

I will return emails promptly. Emails sent over the weekend will be returned on Monday. If you are working on a homework assignment or an exam on Saturday or Sunday and have problems, please email me but know that I might not respond until Monday.

CORE COMPETENCY PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

Through the core curriculum, students will gain a foundation of knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world; develop principles of personal and social responsibility for living in a diverse world; and advance intellectual and practical skills that are essential for all learning.

Courses in the foundation area of social and behavioral sciences focus on the application of empirical and scientific methods that contribute to the understanding of what makes us human. Courses involve the exploration of behavior and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, and events, examining their impact on the individual, society, and culture.

Core Competency Objectives for the social and behavioral sciences:

Critical thinking:

- CT1: Students will demonstrate the ability to 1) analyze complex issues, 2) synthesize information, and 3) evaluate the logic, validity, and relevance of data.
- CT2: Students will demonstrate the ability to 1) make informed decision, 2) arrive at reasoned conclusions, 3) solve challenging problems, and 4) use knowledge and understanding in order to generate and explore new questions.

Communication Skills:

- CS1: Students will effectively develop, interpret and express ideas through written communication.
- CS2: Students will effectively develop, interpret and express ideas through oral communication within a specific timeline.
- CS3: Students will effectively develop, interpret and express ideas using visual communications components.

Empirical and Quantitative Skills:

- EQS1: Students will manipulate numerical data or observable facts by organizing and converting relevant information into mathematical or empirical forms (e.g. equations, graphs, diagrams, tables, or words).
- EQS2: Students will analyze numerical data or observable facts by processing information with correct calculations, explicit notations, and appropriate technology.
- EQS3: Students will draw informed conclusions from numerical data or observable facts that are accurate, complete, and relevant to the investigation.

Social Responsibility:

- SR1: Students will demonstrate understanding of intercultural competence.
- SR2: Students will demonstrate knowledge of civic responsibility.
- SR3: Students will demonstrate the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

Institutional/Course Policy:

Alternate Operations During Campus Closure and/or Alternate Course Delivery Requirements:

In the event of an emergency or announced campus closure due to a natural disaster or pandemic, it may be necessary for Northeast Texas Community College to move to altered operations. During this time, Northeast Texas Community College may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include, but are not limited to, online through the Blackboard Learning Management System, online conferencing, email messaging, and/or an alternate schedule. It is the responsibility of the student to monitor NTCC's website (<http://www.ntcc.edu/>) for instructions about continuing courses remotely, Blackboard for each class for course-specific communication, and NTCC email for important general information.

Additionally, there may be instances where a course may not be able to be continued in the same delivery format as it originates (face-to-face, fully online, live remote, or hybrid). Should this be the case, every effort will be made to continue instruction in an alternative delivery format. Students will be informed of any changes of this nature through email messaging and/or the Blackboard course site.

Statement Regarding the Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Technology:

Employees and students shall be permitted to explore artificial intelligence (AI) and implement its use in and out of the classroom in accordance with policy and administrative regulations. The use of AI shall only be as a support tool to enhance student outcomes or as necessary to engage in research and shall never take the place of faculty, staff, and student decision-making. Any use of AI must comply with law, policy, and administrative regulations relating to student and employee privacy and data security. A student shall only use AI tools with faculty permission and shall be expected to produce original work and properly credit sources, including AI tools used in creating the work.

Example:

APA (7th edition)

OpenAI. (2026). ChatGPT (March 25 version) [Large language model]. <https://chat.openai.com/>

MLA (9th edition)

OpenAI. ChatGPT. 25 Mar. 2026, <https://chat.openai.com/>.

Employees or students who use AI tools to deceptively harm, bully, or harass others shall be disciplined in accordance with policy. [See DH, DIA series, FFD series, FFE, FLB, and the FM series] AI Use by Employees and Students. Northeast Texas Community College 225500 TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES CRB ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (LOCAL) DATE ISSUED: 12/8/2025 1 of 1 UPDATE 50 CRB(LOCAL)-AJC Adopted: 12/16/2025

NTCC Academic Honesty/Ethics Statement:

NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. The college expects all students to engage in their academic pursuits in an honest manner that is beyond reproach using their intellect and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty and Academic Ethics policies stated in the Student Handbook. Refer to the student handbook for more information on these subjects.

ADA Statement:

It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodation 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 accommodation as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to request accommodation. An appointment can be made with the Academic Advisor/Coordinator of Special Populations located in Student Services and can be reached at 903-434-8264. For more information and to obtain a copy of the Request for Accommodations, please refer to the special populations page on the NTCC website.

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.

Tentative Course Schedule:

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