



## Psyc 2301 003 General Psychology (F2F)

Course Syllabus: Fall 2022

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

**Instructor: Dr. Karyn Skaar**

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Office	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Online
Hours	1:30-4:00pm	1:30-3:00pm	1:30-3:00pm	1:30-5:30pm		

***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:** Three hours of lecture each week.

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

**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.

### **Core Curriculum 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 Curriculum 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.

### **Evaluation/Grading Policy:**

You will be required to complete **MindTap assignments** for each chapter we cover prior to class. These homework assignments will be worth, 375 points, almost a third of your total grade. MindTap is an outside of class assignment that is accessed through Blackboard. **Assignments cannot be completed after the deadline expires.** Dates listed on class calendar.

**There will be 4 exams:** All exams will be in a multiple-choice format. Dates for exams are listed on the class calendar. Make-up exams may be scheduled prior to the missed exam and will occur within 1 week of the exam date posted in the calendar. No make-up exams are given after the following exam has been given or after the last day of class. It is a good idea to take the exam as soon as you return to class so you do not get behind. The regular exams will each count 100 points. The final exam must be taken at the scheduled time to obtain credit in the course.

**Experimental Design Worksheet:** You will design and think through all aspects of your own psychological experiment on a worksheet. This will be a typed, double spaced paper written in the 3<sup>rd</sup> person and in complete sentences addressing the specific questions provided. It will be worth 100 points. Due date is listed on the class calendar.

**Research Summary Papers:** You will write two summary papers. You will choose an article to read from blackboard. You may only use Summary Paper 1 articles to write Summary Paper 1. There will be different articles for Summary Paper 2. You will summarize each section and label each section in your paper. Your paper will be typed, double spaced and written in the 3<sup>rd</sup> person and in complete sentences using APA format. 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 and list the reference 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 on the LRC homepage so you know how to write correctly in APA format.

**Reflection Paper:** Due to the COVID-19 we will be unable to visit the Hospitality House this year. Therefore, a replacement assignment has been developed. Students will watch two half hour videos and read a portion of Zeb Larson's Origins article: The first video is an Amazon Prime episode (#3) of Modern Love titled "Take me as I am, whoever I am". The second video is a BBC 2014 production from Films on Demand titled "Bedlam Behind Bars: Mental Health Problems in American Prisons". The article is titled "America's Long-Suffering Mental Health System". This paper will be worth 100 points. Due date is listed on the class calendar.

Always put your name, course number and section on all assignments submitted. **Late papers will lose 20 percentage points and will not be accepted later than 1 week after the due date.** Paper due dates as listed in class calendar.

**There will be two SLO quizzes.** Both quizzes will have 30 multiple choice items and be worth 30 points each. The first quiz will cover chapter 2 (Scientific methods). The second quiz will be comprehensive and cover the entire course. Dates listed on class calendar.

**Additional points:** Syllabus quiz worth 10 points, APA quiz worth 16 points, Research Methods worksheet worth 15 points, Physiological and Psychological worksheet worth 10 points, assigned email to professor 4 points, office visit to discuss Experimental design paper worth 5 points, and office visit to discuss 1<sup>st</sup> Summary paper worth 5 points.

## Grades

Grades will be computed as follows:

MindTap homework	=375 points
Four Exams:	=400 points
Experimental Design paper	=100 points
2 Summary papers	=100 points
Reflection Paper	=100 points
SLO quizzes	= 60 points
Additional points	= 65 points
Total points	=1200 points

**The grading scale below will be used to determine your final grade.** In general, a course grade of a "C" represents an acceptable level of work. A course grade of "B" represents substantial effort and achievement. It is clearly a grade for the better than average product and effort. An "A" is awarded only in the case of both outstanding efforts and quality in the required products. The grades will be awarded on the following basis:

Percentage	Points	Grade
90-100%	1080-1200	= A
80-90%	960-1079	= B
70-80%	840-959	= C
60-70%	720-839	= D
Below 60%	BELOW 719	= F

Also, five (5) additional bonus points may be added for perfect attendance and submission of all work.

If you have 12 credit hours, earn a "B" or better average in your psychology course(s) and your cumulative GPA is 3.25 or higher, you will qualify for membership in Psi Beta, which is the National Honor Society in Psychology. If interested, ask me about what Psi Beta does here on our campus.

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

**Publisher:** Cengage

**ISBN Number:** 9781337899383

**Optional Instructional Materials:** None

### Course Structure and Overview:

This class will be delivered in a traditional face-to-face format. This means you will spend approximately 3 hours per week in class. You should expect to spend **no less than 6 hours a week outside of class** in preparation for this course. Please complete the assigned reading and MindTap pre-

quiz BEFORE that Chapter is covered in class. Expect to read everything more than once! It is a good idea to take the practice quizzes in your text.

**Class attendance is required.** If you miss a class, you will be responsible for all information provided/discussed that day. The instructor will not repeat the lecture. A student may be dropped from class due to excessive absences (3) prior to the drop date.

If for any reason, you need to be absent from class, please notify the instructor as a courtesy.

Plan to participate in class and be interested in the subject matter. It is always a good idea to smile and have a positive attitude in class. Come to class prepared and ready to be an active learner. Earning the grade and learning should go hand-in-hand.

Pay close attention to deadlines for all assignments. It is the student's responsibility to check Blackboard for important information/announcements regarding the course. Students should be working on course material via Blackboard every week. Do not wait until the last minute to complete and submit assignments in case of technology issues. Technical difficulties are no excuse for late assignments. **YOU CANNOT PASS THIS COURSE WITH OUT COMPLETING THE ASSIGNMENTS!**

If you do not understand an assignment or something that is said in class, talk to your professor (me) in person BEFORE THE ASSIGNMENT IS DUE! Come see me during office hours.

Students are always expected to be respectful toward classmates and professor! Review Student Conduct in the Student Handbook.

Cell phones and computers are permitted in class. With instructor permission, students may use audio and/or video recording devices to record lectures or portions thereof. All recorded materials are for the sole purpose of aiding the student in the completion of requirements for the course. Content recorded remains the property of NTCC and may not be duplicated for distribution and may not be sold to another party or uploaded to the internet.

- Anyone who wishes to withdraw from class must take the responsibility to formally drop with the Registrar; otherwise a failing grade will be given if you just stop attending. You should consult with me about your grade before withdrawing. At any time, you are concerned about your grade, please talk with me. **Withdrawal Date (Drop Date) Tuesday, November 15**

**A ZERO WILL BE GIVEN FOR ANY WORK THAT IS PLAGIARIZED. A ZERO WILL ALSO BE GIVEN FOR COLLUSION AND COPYING OF ANOTHER'S WORK.**

The syllabus quiz and acknowledgement form at the end of the syllabus must be completed and turned in or you will be dropped from the class.

**Communications:**

NTCC email is the official form of communication used by the college. Email communications from non-NTCC email addresses will not be answered. Emails will be responded to with 24 hours. If you do not receive a response within 24 hours, then the email was not received. When you email the professor,

**include your class and section number in the subject line.** I will also post reminder information through blackboard announcements. You should check your NTCC email daily.

### **Minimum Technology Requirements:**

You must have access to a computer to take this course. Your computer needs to have Windows XP SP3 or later or MAC OS X10.3 or higher. You will need Office 2003 or higher, and you will need broadband internet access. You can check your operating system by right clicking on the My Computer icon on the home screen. You can check your word processing program by going to Start and clicking on All Programs. You will find your Office program there. As a student, you can download Microsoft Office for free.

### **Required Computer Literacy Skills:**

Students should be comfortable with and possess the following skill sets: 1. Self-discipline 2. Problem solving skills 3. Critical thinking skills 4. Enjoy communication in the written word.

In order to be successful in this course, students should minimally possess the following technical skills:

- 1) The ability to properly use email, attach documents to email, and open, download, and save attachments
- 2) The ability to properly update personal computer settings
- 3) The ability to properly utilize online help when needed
- 4) The ability to properly use a word processing application
- 5) The ability to properly print an electronic file to a printer
- 6) The ability to properly submit files in the Blackboard assignment windows
- 7) The ability to properly save documents in a .docx or .pdf format and save in an electronic form in multiple places, e.g. computer hard drive, portable flash drive, cloud storage, etc.
- 8) The ability to properly connect to a broadband internet system
- 9) The ability to properly search for and locate information on the internet
- 10) The ability to properly scan documents for electronic submission. *NOTE: Free mobile phone applications are available that can substitute for a scanner. Scanned assignments must be submitted in pdf format through Blackbaord.*

### **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.

**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 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 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 Timeline (\*note\* instructor reserves the right to make adjustments to this timeline at any point in the term):**

You will find a calendar with the course due dates listed in the Start Here folder. Please print and bring to class.

## Calendar

- Week 1: Syllabus and Chapter 1 (What is Psychology?)
- Week 2: Chapter 2 (Scientific Methods in Psychology)
- Week 3: Chapter 3 (Biological Psychology)
- Week 4: Chapter 4 (Sensation and Perception)
- Week 5: Chapter 5 (Development)
- Week 6: Chapter 6 (Learning)
- Week 7: Chapter 7 (Memory)
- Week 8: Chapter 8 (Cognition and Language)
- Week 9: Chapter 9 (Intelligence)
- Week 10: Chapter 10 (Consciousness)
- Week 11: Chapter 11 (Motivated Behaviors)
- Week 12: Chapter 12 (Emotions, Stress, and Health)
- Week 13: Chapter 13 (Social Psychology)
- Week 14: Chapter 14 (Personality)
- Week 15: Chapter 15 (Abnormal Psychology: Disorders and Treatment)
- Week 16: Final



## Syllabus Quiz for Psyc 2301

1. What is your class and section number? Psyc \_\_\_\_\_.
2. How many absences does your professor consider excessive? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Can MindTap assignments be completed after the due date? Yes No
4. Where will you find the course due dates listed? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Do your papers have to be typed and double-spaced? Yes No
6. What is the penalty for turning in papers late? \_\_\_\_\_
7. What is the latest a late paper will be accepted? \_\_\_\_\_
8. What grade will be given for any plagiarized work? \_\_\_\_\_
9. If you do not understand an assignment or something said in class, you should  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. When you email your professor, include \_\_\_\_\_ and  
\_\_\_\_\_ in the subject line.

**\*Complete online prior to the second Friday of the semester.** This quiz is worth up to 10 points when submitted with your signature.

My signature below indicates that I have read the syllabus and understand the requirements of this class. I understand that it is in my best interest to attempt all assignments and discuss in person with the professor anything I do not understand.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature