



To access COVID-19 information, please visit the [Stay Healthy Lions Webpage](#).

PSY 2301 – 0CW, Introduction to Psychology

COURSE SYLLABUS: **Fall 2021 – Term 1**

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: George Swindell, MS
Office Location: Welcome Center 157D
Office Hours: Email or Telephone or Virtual by Appointment
Office Phone: 903-468-3322
University Email Address: George.Swindell@tamuc.edu
Preferred Form of Communication: **email**
Communication Response Time: within 24 hours

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials

This course has been designed using Open Educational Resources (OER). All materials are embedded within the course and are accessible via the internet. After taking the pretest, students are encouraged to bookmark, download, or save materials provided via the internet for use during quizzes, assignments, and projects in this class.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The aim of this course is to give a general understanding of the basic principles of psychology. We examine the broad spectrum of phenomena covered by psychological science, the study of human behavior and mental processes, from the basic operations of neurons all the way to complex decision-making and social behaviors, as well as clinical interventions when psychological processes operate abnormally.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Completion of this course provides the student with the knowledge to:

1. Identify factors in physiological and psychological processes involved in human behavior.
2. Describe the historical influences and early schools of thought that shaped the field of psychology.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

3. Identify various research methods and their characteristics used in the scientific study of psychology.
4. Describe some of the prominent perspectives and approaches used in the study of psychology.
5. Describe accepted approaches and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation.

Additional Learning Outcomes throughout course:

6. Critical Thinking-- to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information. Students will be able to analyze, evaluate, or solve problems when given a set of circumstances, data, texts, or art.
7. Social Responsibility -- to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities. Students will demonstrate an understanding of societal and/or civic issues.
8. Communications-- to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication. In written, oral, and/or visual communication, A&M-Commerce students will communicate in a manner appropriate to audience and occasion, with an evident message and organizational structure.
9. Empirical and Quantitative Skills - Students will be able to interpret, test, and demonstrate principles revealed in empirical data and/or observable facts.

REGULAR AND SUBSTANTIVE COURSE INTERACTION

As a general guide, students enrolled in a three semester hour course should spend one hour engaged in instructional activities and two to three hours on out-of-class work per week in a traditional semester. Students are expected to double this effort of engagement given that this course is being delivered in a seven-week term. Educational activities in this course are designed to ensure regular and substantive interaction between students and faculty to ensure that students are able to demonstrate competency.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed: Students will need reliable computer and internet access for this course. Students must be able to effectively use myLeo email, myLeo Online D2L, and Microsoft Office.

Instructional Methods: This course is an online course. To be successful in this course, all content and course modules should be read and reviewed. All assignments and quizzes (both graded and not graded) must be completed. Please contact the instructor by email for any assistance.

Email your instructor as soon as you complete your pre-test so the instructor can access and grade your work.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course: To be successful in this course, all content and course modules should be read and reviewed. All assignments and quizzes (both graded and not graded) should be completed. Please contact the instructor by email for any assistance.

ASSESSMENT

Pretest and Posttest for Each Module

The purpose of the pretests is to provide a baseline understanding of your knowledge in each module.

The Posttest is an assessment of your knowledge of the material required for the module. A score of 80% or higher is required on the Posttest to demonstrate competency. If you score less than

80% on any module you will have an opportunity to review the material and re-take the module Posttest. You will have up to three attempts at passing each competency. If you have not passed the module in three attempts, you will receive a letter grade of an F. In order to demonstrate competency, a score of 80% or higher is required.

Project

You will also have a project in this course. The project will be based on expanding your knowledge and applying the information you have learned in a more application based setting. A score of 80% or higher is required.

Final Grade Calculation

The final grade will be assigned by taking the average of the four passing posttests and the grade of the project.

GRADING

A score of 80% or higher on both the Culminating Project and Posttest is required to demonstrate competency and receive credit for the course. The following items will be used to calculate the final grade in the course.

Item	Worth
Module 1 - Posttest	100 points
Module 2 - Posttest	100 points
Module 3 - Posttest	100 points
Module 4 - Posttest	100 points
Course Project	100 points
Total	500 points

Grading Scale

A = > 450 points (90%-100%)

B = 400 – 449 points (80%-89%)

F = <399 points (79% or Below)

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are the technical requirements

Learning Management System (LMS) Requirements:

View the [Learning Management System Requirements Webpage](#).

LMS Browser Support:

Learn more on the [LMS Browser Support Webpage](#).

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

Visit the [Virtual Classroom Requirements Webpage](#).

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

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. Other support options can be found on the [Brightspace Support Webpage](#).

Interaction with Instructor Statement

This is an online course; therefore, expect most communication to be online as well. Correspondence will always be through university email (your "myLeo" mail) and announcements in myLeo online (D2L). The instructor will make every effort to respond to emails within 24 provided the correspondence follows the requirements listed below. Students are encouraged to check university email daily.

All emails from students should include:

- **Course name and subject in the subject line (ex. ORGL 3322 – Posttest)**
- **Salutation**
- **Proper email etiquette (no "text" emails – use proper grammar and punctuation)**
- **Student name and CWID after the body of the email**

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

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.

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 online in the [Student Guidebook](#).

Students should also consult the [Rules of Netiquette Webpage](#) for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum.

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy, please view the [Attendance Webpage](#) and the [Class Attendance Policy](#)

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 Policy](#)
[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

Students with Disabilities-- 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
Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu
Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

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.

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.

A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health

Counseling Services

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel.

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Week	Module	Assignments
Week 1	1: What is Psychology?	Pretest , Readings, practice, Posttest
Week 2	2: Foundations of Psychology	Pretest , Readings, practice, Posttest
Week 3	3: What drives behavior	Pretest , Readings, practice, Posttest
Week 4	4: Areas of Psychology	Pretest , Readings, practice, Posttest
Week 5	Project	Work on project
Week 6	Project	Work on project
Week 7	Project	Finish Project and ensure you have completed all modules.