

**Introduction to Psychology-H**  
**Fall 2021**  
PSY 2301:01H (3SH)  
HEN206 (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, development, psychological disorders, and stereotypes. A primary goal of the class is to help students understand that psychologists take a scientific approach to understanding attitudes, behaviors, and cognitions.

Textbooks

Butler-Bowdon, T. (2017). *50 Psychology Classics*. London, UK. Nicholas Brealey Publishing.

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.**

I do want to throw out one caveat as we come off a global pandemic. You should not attend class when you might be ill (Remember COVID testing is free at the Student Health Center across the street from where you live. Additionally, they do the cheek swab, not the nostril gouging – so you needn't fret!).

**Even though I highly value your presence and participation – I will not be using your participation in this class as a formal part of your grade. I assure you, however, if your grade is on the**

**culp and you've been an active participant in class, you are much more likely to receive the benefit of the doubt (and hence, the higher grade).**

Oral/Online Presentation: Each student will be assigned a chapter from the text. You will do a brief (no longer than 10 minute) presentation on the reading. It should not be a recitation of what you read. Rather, who was the author? What key point (or points) were they trying to make? How does their reading fit in with our class? More details will be provided in the handout.

**Total=10%**

Questions: To nudge you to read, but more importantly to interact with your peers doing the presentation, I am going to ask you to prepare questions for 12 of the readings. Questions should be high quality – that is, they should speak to the content and application of the reading. They should not be things like “Did you like the reading?” Questions must be submitted on D2L the evening before the presentation in order to receive credit.

**Total=4%**

Exams: Exams will constitute a major portion of your course grade. First, there is a ton of information covered in this class. Measuring your understanding, at least partially through exam, makes sense. Second, as an introductory level class, part of my job is to prepare you for college. You'll take a lot of exams in college – hopefully I can help you improve that skill.

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 40% of your class grade (thus, once your lowest grade has been dropped each exam is worth 10% 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=40%**

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 (Exams 1-4) 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 weigh in on one of the debates raised in your *50 Psychology Classics* text. I will provide the class with a list of these debates – you will sign up for one of those, with a cap of no more than three students covering a topic (it gets boring to read the same paper over and over again!) Papers should be submitted on D2L. 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:

Oral Presentation	10%
Questions	4%
Exams	40%
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) COVID-19 Information**

Students should not attend class when ill or after exposure to anyone with a communicable illness. Communicate such instances directly with your instructor. Faculty will work to support the student getting access to missed content or completing missed assignments.

### **(2) 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/>

### **(3) 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.

### **(4) "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. 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>

**(5) 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.

**(6) 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](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel)

**(7) D2L Information:**

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 technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

[https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser\\_support.htm](https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm)

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

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](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu).

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.

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 here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

**(8) 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>
8/30 - Mon.	Class Introduction	
9/1 - Weds.	Origins and Key Ideas	
9/3 - Fri.	Key Ideas	1,3,19,31
9/6 - Mon.	<b>Labor Day – No Class</b>	
9/8 - Weds.	Memory	
9/10 - Fri.	Memory	
9/13 - Mon.	Behavioral Neuroscience	25,43
9/15 - Weds.	Behavioral Neuroscience	
9/17 - Fri.	Behavioral Neuroscience	
9/20 - Mon.	<b>Exam #1</b>	
9/22 - Weds.	Sensation and Perception	21,22,33
9/24 - Fri.	Sensation and Perception	
9/27 - Mon.	Sensation and Perception	
9/29 - Weds.	States of Consciousness	
10/1 - Fri.	States of Consciousness	
10/4 - Mon.	States of Consciousness	
10/6 -- Weds.	Learning	12,20,49
10/8 -- Fri.	Learning	
10/11 - Mon.	Learning	
10/13 -- Weds.	<b>Exam #2</b>	
10/15 -- Fri.	Social Psychology	2,10,37
10/18 - Mon.	Social	
10/20 - Weds.	Social	<b>HW#1 Due</b>
10/22 -- Fri.	Sex and Gender	
10/25 -- Mon.	Sex and Gender	
10/27 - Weds.	<b>Exam #3</b>	
10/29 - Fri.	<b>Library Research Day for HW#2</b>	
11/1 - Mon.	Lifespan Development	15,38,42
11/3 - Weds.	Lifespan Development	
	<a href="https://www.theatlantic.com/family/archive/2018/06/marshmallow-test/561779/">https://www.theatlantic.com/family/archive/2018/06/marshmallow-test/561779/</a>	
11/5 - Fri.	Lifespan Development	
11/8 - Mon.	Lifespan Development	
11/10 - Weds.	Health Psychology	
11/12 - Fri.	Health Psychology	
11/15 - Mon.	<b>Exam #4</b>	
11/17 - Weds.	Personality	6,9,32,36
11/19 - Fri.	Personality	<b>Hw#2 Due</b>
11/22 - Mon.	Personality	
11/24- Weds.	<b>Thanksgiving Break – No Class</b>	
11/26 - Fri.	<b>Thanksgiving Break – No Class</b>	
11/29 - Mon.	Psychological Disorders	13,45,46,48
12/1 - Wed.	Psychological Disorders	
12/3 - Fri.	Psychological Disorders	

12/6 – Mon.	Psychological Disorders
12/8 – Weds.	Therapy
12/10 – Fri.	Therapy

**Exam 5: Wednesday 12/8 10:30-12:30.**

Please note: All attempts will be made to follow the syllabus. However, events arise that may make it necessary to modify the syllabus (like, I don't know, a pandemic....?). Any changes to the syllabus will be announced with as much advance warning as possible.