



**PSY 341 Learning Theories and Process**  
COURSE SYLLABUS: Summer II 2022

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

**Instructor:** Dr. David Frank, Assistant Professor

**Office Location:** Binnion 215

**Office Hours:** Via email or Zoom by appointment

**Office Phone:** N/A

**Office Fax:** N/A

**University Email Address:** david.frank@tamuc.edu

**Preferred Form of Communication:** email

**Communication Response Time:** 48 hours excluding weekends

**COURSE INFORMATION**

***Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings***

***Textbook:*** Mark A. Gluck (2016), *Learning and Memory: From Brain to Behavior* 3<sup>rd</sup> edition or newer

ISBN: 1-4641-0593-6

***Software Required:*** None

***Course Description***

The aim of this course is to provide a general understanding of the basic principles and theories of learning.

***Student Learning Outcomes***

1. Students will be able to identify the various learning theories in psychology.
2. Students will be able to identify classic studies of learning and what they tell us about how the human mind works.

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

3. Students will be able to make predictions about learning performance based on the principles reviewed in the course (i.e., they will be able to apply the course content to novel situations).

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### ***Minimal Technical Skills Needed***

This course will use D2L.

### ***Instructional Methods***

This is an online asynchronous course. Video and textual lecture summaries and other supplemental course materials will be posted in D2L. Students will use these materials with the assigned reading to prepare for course assessments. Assessments will include quizzes and participation in online discussions. This online course contains the same content you'd expect in a traditional 14 week face-to-face version. You should plan on spending approximately 6-10 hours per week reading, viewing course content, completing course assignments, and participating in discussions.

### ***Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course***

Read the textbook. View the online materials. Complete all quizzes and discussion posts. Start your final paper early. Check you LeoMail EVERY DAY. Important class announcements will be made via email.

**Broken Link Policy:** Online content is checked in advance, but in rare cases a link may stop working mid-week. If a link is no longer working, notify the instructor immediately and no later than 24 hours prior to the chapter due date. Any broken links will be remedied and announced in D2L, and therefore no adjustments will be made to student grades if this occurs.

## **GRADING**

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

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REQUIREMENTS	Weight
Quizzes	50%
Discussion	50%
	<b>100%</b>

### **Assessments**

**Quizzes:** Quizzes for each chapter will be posted in D2L on the assigned content. These quizzes will consist of multiple choice questions. While these quizzes are technically “open book and open web,” you probably will not have time to look up answers so should carefully study the information before taking the quiz (same as you would an in-person exam). You will have 10 minutes to complete each quiz; taking longer than the designated time may result in a zero grade. You should plan to complete each quiz within 9 minutes after you open it given the possibility of computer timing errors. This gives you just under a minute per question, the same as a 50 item test taken in a 50-minute face-to-face course.

Do not take the quiz on a device with an unreliable internet connection. If your internet cuts out, you may not have a chance to complete the quiz before time runs out. I drop the 2 lowest quizzes to account for problems people may experience with their schedules or technology, so there is no need to report these to me (I will not drop more than one lowest grade). **All quizzes are due at 11:59 pm CT on the due date (see topic schedule for specific due dates).**

**Discussion Posts (Essays):** Discussion topics for each chapter are presented in D2L on the assigned content. Students will answer essay-style questions via discussion posts. Note that you should post to the Discussion forum only after having read and considered all of the material for the chapter. Posts should include ***insightful ideas and comments that are complete and well explained as well as defended by specific evidence***. Note that such defense does not require direct quotation from sources – use your own ideas and words. Posts must ***demonstrate that the student has reviewed, understood, and contemplated the material*** for the chapter. Posts that are weak, trivial, unclear, ungrammatical, or not defended by evidence will earn low points. If the discussion question contains multiple parts, be sure to address each. I drop the 2 lowest discussion posts. **All discussion posts are due at 11:59 pm CT on the due date (see topic schedule).**

**Discussion grades will be assigned as follows, with up to 5 points assigned per chapter: excellent posts = 5, good/complete posts = 4, and posts which contain inaccurate or insufficient information = 1 to 3, missing posts = 0.**

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**Research engagement:** A goal of this class is to help you familiarize yourself with research methods. One way to obtain this goal is to have you participate in online research studies. Participating in research studies contributes to students and faculty at A&M - Commerce, your understanding of how research is conducted, and human knowledge in general. All students in this class will be required to participate in the psychology department's participant pool or complete alternative assignments (see me for more information on alternative assignments). However, due to COVID-19, most studies this semester will take place online.

Students must complete a total of 5 credits. When you first sign into the experiment management system (EMS) you will be asked to take a prescreen survey. The prescreen takes about 20 minutes to complete. If you complete the prescreen in the first two weeks of the semester you will receive  $\frac{1}{2}$  free experiment credit. This can be combined with later studies that are worth  $\frac{1}{2}$  credit.

Alternatively, students may choose not to participate in research, but instead to learn about research by reading and summarizing research articles from psychology. For any article you read and summarize, you will receive 2 research credits.

If you do not complete 5 credits total your final grade will be reduce by 10 points.

**Extra credit via Sona (up to 2 points on your final grade)**

For each credit beyond 5 that you earn, you will receive  $\frac{1}{3}$  of a point on your exam total (up to 2 points max). Thus, if you final grade is 78 and you earn 11 Sona credit, this will increase your final grade to an 80. This can include Sona credits from any combination of in-person studies, online studies, and research papers. Schedule

## Schedule

Note: Chapters 1 and 2 are optional. Read them if you feel you need a review over what you learned about learning and neuropsychology in your Intro to Psychology course.

Chapter	Topic	Discussion post and quiz due date
3	Habituation, Sensitization, and Familiarization: Learning about Repeated Events	7/12
4	Classical Conditioning: Learning to Predict Important Events	7/15
5	Operant Conditioning: Learning the Outcome of Behaviors	7/19
6	Generalization and Discrimination Learning	7/22
7	Episodic and Semantic Memory: Memory for Facts and Events	7/26
8	Skill Memory: Learning by Doing	7/29
9	Working Memory and Cognitive Control	8/2
10	Emotional Influences on Learning and Memory	8/5
11	Social Learning and Memory: Observing, Interacting, and Reenacting	8/9
12	Development and Aging: Learning and Memory across the Lifespan	8/11 Note: This post is due on <b>Thursday</b> not Friday.

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## **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

### **Browser support**

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released. New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers. However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L Support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution. Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers.

Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products.

Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive support for critical issues; however, D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed. A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year.

Note the following:

- Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled.
- For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater.
- The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser, Microsoft Edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

### **Desktop Support**

<b>Browser</b>	<b>Supported Browser Version(s)</b>	<b>Maintenance Browser Version(s)</b>
Microsoft® Edge	Latest	N/A
Microsoft® Internet Explorer®	N/A	11
Mozilla® Firefox®	Latest, ESR	N/A
Google® Chrome™	Latest	N/A

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Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)	Maintenance Browser Version(s)
Apple® Safari®	Latest	N/A

### Tablet and Mobile Support

Device	Operating System	Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)
Android™	Android 4.4+	Chrome	Latest
Apple	iOS®	Safari, Chrome	The current major version of iOS (the latest minor or <b>point</b> release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or <b>point</b> release of that major version). For example, as of June 7, 2017, D2L supports iOS 10.3.2 and iOS 9.3.5, but not iOS 10.2.1, 9.0.2, or any other version.  Chrome: Latest version for the iOS browser.
Windows	Windows 10	Edge, Chrome, Firefox	Latest of all browsers, and Firefox ESR.

- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
  - 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
  - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
  - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution
- You must have a:
  - Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
  - Speakers or headphones.
  - \*For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.

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- Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: [JAVA web site http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp](http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp)
- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.

Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.

Pop-ups are allowed.

JavaScript is enabled.

Cookies are enabled.

- You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
  - [Adobe Reader https://get.adobe.com/reader/](https://get.adobe.com/reader/)
  - [Adobe Flash Player \(version 17 or later\) https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/)
  - [Adobe Shockwave Player https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/](https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/)
  - [Apple Quick Time http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/)
- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

## **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](mailto: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.

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## **COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

### **Brightspace Support**

#### ***Need Help?***

#### **Student 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 or click on the **Live Chat** or click on the words "[click here](#)" to submit an issue via email.



#### **System Maintenance**

Please note that on the 4th Sunday of each month there will be System Maintenance which means the system will not be available 12 pm-6 am CST.

#### **Interaction with Instructor Statement**

All course-related question should be direct to me via email. My intention is to respond to all email inquiries within 24 hours. If I am unable to give an answer within that time frame (e.g., if I have to check with a superior regarding a university policy) I will communicate that as well and provide a response as soon as possible.

## **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

### **Course Specific Procedures/Policies**

See "*Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course.*"

### **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.

### **University Specific Procedures**

#### **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 in the [Student Guidebook](#).

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<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: [Netiquette](http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html)  
<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

## **TAMUC 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>

## **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 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

## **ADA Statement**

### **Students with Disabilities**

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 162  
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

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Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu)

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

### **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.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

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.