Psychology 2301: Introductory Psychology
COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2023

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Zane Brand
Location: Art Building, Room 206
Time: Monday & Wednesday - 8:20 am - 9:15 am; Friday – online, asynchronous
University Email Address: zane.brand@tamuc.edu
Preferred Form of Communication: email
Communication Response Time: 24 hours, excluding holidays

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook
Psychology 2e. (2020). Jenkins, W. J., et al.
https://openstax.org/books/psychology2e/pages/preface

Optional Texts and/or Materials
Additional handouts and materials may be distributed in class or placed on D2L.

Course Description
Welcome to Introduction to Psychology! The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the field of psychology and to give a general understanding of the basic principles of psychology. Since it is intended to cover a variety of topics within psychology, it provides an overview of the field necessary for later courses.

This course will highlight some of the most interesting experiments within the field of psychology, discussing the implications of those studies for our understanding of the human mind and human behavior. We will explore the brain and some of the cognitive

abilities it supports like learning, memory, perception, language, and consciousness. We will examine human development --- both in terms of growing up and growing older. We will discuss the manner in which the behaviors of others affect our own thoughts and behavior. Finally, we will discuss some of the many recognized mental disorders and treatments for them.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Develop an overview of the field of psychology by studying and reflecting on the topics.
2. Appreciate how psychologists take a scientific approach to understanding human behavior and thought.
3. Practice the convention of scientific discourse appropriate to the audience, purpose and message.
4. Explain real-world phenomena by applying the concepts, theories, and methods learned in our course. Learning how to learn is a good start.
5. Nurture scientific thinking. This is an approach to information that combines a high degree of skepticism (questioning what "everybody knows"), followed by objectivity (using empirical data to separate fantasy from reality) and rationalism (practicing logical reasoning).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Basic computer skills, ability to use Microsoft Word and D2L.

Instructional Methods

This is a hybrid course. Face-to-face meetings will occur on Mondays and Wednesdays while Fridays will be online. Attendance is required but you will also need to use D2L on a regular basis to complete assignments and access class materials. Please see the information below for accessing D2L.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

Come to Class:

There will be class demonstrations, discussions, assignments, and videos designed to enrich your learning experience. Coming to class will help clarify concepts and focus your studying. Also, you will be given an attendance grade. Please see attendance policy below.

Read the assignments:
Read the assigned chapters. This helps you in at least two ways: (1) makes it easier for you to understand the lecture material and thus get more out of it; and (2) it prepares you with questions that might arise from the reading and may then be asked in class while the topic is being discussed.

Take notes:
Take good notes. It is a good study habit to go over your notes right after class, filling in the blanks, clarifying concepts and cryptic scribbles while the lecture is still fresh in your mind. It is also a good idea to make friends in the class and get the phone numbers of a couple of people whose notes you can rely on when you have to miss class (and to clarify your own lecture notes).

Be considerate:
Please be considerate and thoughtful of all others in the classroom. If you are disrupting the class, and you will not correct the behavior, you will be asked to leave. Also, we will occasionally have class discussions, BUT - with the freedom to share your ideas comes responsibility. Please use discretion and consideration when commenting -- we do not all share the same views and upbringing. **Please mute all pagers and cell phones** so as not to disrupt the class.

Reach out:

I do not have an office or dedicated office hours, but you can email at any time to set up an online or in person meeting. My schedule is pretty flexible, so I should be able to set up a meeting quickly. Alternatively, if you have a quick question, you may catch me before or after class.

Utilize D2L:

The university utilizes an online course management system called D2L. Assignments, class handouts, announcements and other class materials will be posted online for your convenience through this system. You will also take your quizzes and exams using this system. Please learn how to use it.

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

ASSESSMENTS

EXAMS: 50%
There will be **four exams**, each covering approximately one-quarter of the course material. The fourth exam will be given during finals week and will be cumulative. Exams will be a mix of question types, including but not limited to multiple choice, free response, and short answer questions. The questions will require not only recognition of concepts and correct answer, but will be designed to test comprehension and application of concepts as well. Material for the exams will be drawn from the text, the lectures, and the classroom experiences. Exams will be available on D2L and are to be completed by **11:30pm** on the dates specified on D2L. Exams are intended to be completed individually, without the aid of the internet or textbook. Therefore, there will be a time limit. ***DO NOT WORK TOGETHER ON EXAMS.***

QUIZZES: 20%
It is helpful for you to **read the assigned chapters in the textbook**. To "encourage" that behavior, you will be required to complete **online quizzes**. These will be available on D2L and **will cover all of the assigned readings.** You will have a new quiz to complete **11:30pm** every Friday**.** Quizzes are intended to be completed individually. ***DO NOT WORK TOGETHER ON QUIZZES.***

ATTENDANCE: 10%

Class attendance is vital to learning the material. Therefore, your attendance will count for 10% of your grade. Class meetings missed due to legitimate reasons (i.e., school related activities, sickness, or emergencies) will be dropped from the gradebook and will not count against you. However, whenever a missed meeting is foreseeable, you **must let me know ahead of time.**

ESSAYS: 20%

You will need to complete **two** short essays. There will be **five opportunities** to do so, with due dates spaced throughout the semester. These essays will fit with the material being taught at that time. If you desire, you may complete more than two of these five essays, and the highest two among them will be recorded in the gradebook.

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

Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)	Maintenance Browser Version(s)
Microsoft® Edge	Latest	N/A
Microsoft® Internet Explorer®	N/A	11
Mozilla® Firefox®	Latest, ESR	N/A
Google® Chrome™	Latest	N/A
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 point release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major
			version). For example, as of June 7, 2017, D2Lsupports 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 o Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution

- You must have a: o 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.

- 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

- 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/ ○ Adobe Flash Player *(version 17 or later)* https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/ ○ Adobe Shockwave Player https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/ ○ Apple Quick Time 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**.**

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
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

D2L runs monthly updates during the last week of the month, usually on Wednesday. The system should remain up during this time unless otherwise specified in an announcement. You may experience minimal impacts to performance and/or look and feel of the environment.

Interaction with Instructor Statement

EMAIL POLICY
In addition to traditional face-to-face office hours, the instructor is available virtually by email. If you would like to schedule an appointment, the best way is to email. We can then set up a time to chat when it is convenient for you. Please send emails from your university accounts. The instructor will not discuss grades over email. If you would like to discuss your grade, please make an appointment.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Missed Exams:
Students who can demonstrate a legitimate University-excused absences, religious holiday or major illnesses are allowed to miss one exam during the term. Their grade for that exam will be the average of the other exams.

Late Quiz and Exam Policy:
Exams and Quizzes that are not submitted by the due date and time will not be accepted without a legitimate University-excused absence.

Late Essays
Late essays will be accepted, but with a 10 point penalty for each day they are late.

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.
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

TAMUC Attendance

Students are expected to be present for all face-to-face classes. Students are responsible for notifying the instructor of an excused absence and providing appropriate documentation when necessary. Students are also responsible for requesting any makeup work during excused absences.

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.

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

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

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
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: 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.

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 903886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Week:	**Dates:**	**Content:**	**Assignments Due:**
1	8/28, 8/30, & 9/1	Syllabus, Intro to Psychology (Ch. 1), & Psychology as Science (Ch. 2)	
2	9/6 & 9/8 **No class 9/4**	Neuroscience and Biological Foundations of Psychology (Ch. 3)	Quiz 1
3	9/11, 9/13, & 9/15	Sensation & Perception (Ch. 5)	Quiz 2 Essay 1
4	9/18, 9/20, & 9/22	Learning (Ch. 6)	Quiz 3 Exam 1
5	9/25, 9/27, & 9/29	Thinking & Intelligence (Ch. 7)	Quiz 4
6	10/2, 10/4, & 10/6	Memory (Ch. 8)	Quiz 5
7	10/9, 10/11, & 10/13	States of Consciousness (Ch. 4)	Quiz 6
8	10/16, 10/18, & 10/20	Lifespan Development (Ch.9)	Quiz 7 Exam 2 (midterm) Essay 2
9	10/23, 10/25, & 10/27	Emotion & Motivation (Ch. 10)	Quiz 8
10	10/30, 11/1, & 11/3	Personality (Ch. 11)	Quiz 9 Essay 3
11	11/6, 11/8, & 11/10	Social Psychology (Ch. 12)	Quiz 10 Exam 3
12	11/13, 11/15,	Health Psychology (Ch. 14)	Quiz 11

	& 11/17		Essay 4
13	11/20-11/24	**No Class: Thanksgiving Break**	
14	11/27, 11/29, & 12/1	Abnormal Psychology (Ch. 15)	Quiz 12
15	12/4, 12/6 & 12/8	Therapy & Treatment (Ch. 16)	Quiz 13 Essay 5
16	TBD	Finals week	Exam 4 - Final