



## **PSY, 403, 01E, & Development of Modern Psychology**

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2024  
M-W-F 8:00-8:50am, BA room: 244

### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Instructor: Reynolds Ballotti, M.S.  
Office Location: Henderson 218  
Office Hours: MWF 1:30-4pm or by appointment  
Office Phone: N/A  
Office Fax: N/A  
University Email Address: Reynolds.Ballotti@tamuc.edu  
Preferred Form of Communication: **email**  
Communication Response Time: 48 hours

### **COURSE INFORMATION**

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) required; Hergenhahn's An Introduction to the History of Psychology, Henley, eighth edition  
ISBN: 978-1-337-56415-1  
Software Required; D2L

### **Course Description**

**Student Learning Outcomes** (Should be measurable; observable; use action verbs)

1. Students will come to understand the foundational aspects of how Psychology as developed as a discipline throughout time.
2. Students will come to appreciate the long history of philosophy and differing schools of psychology that has affected the psychology that is practiced today.
3. Students will consider important philosophical questions that have existed since the early Greeks.

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4. Students will consider the challenges of conducting psychological experiments, and how ethical guidelines have evolved in response to famous psychological experiments

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Minimal Technical Skills Needed**

The use of D2L.

### **Instructional Methods**

This is a survey/ lecture based course designed to provide you with a topical overview of the major players and ideas that have shaped psychology. That is to say, this course will cover key events in the history of psychology.

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

The best tip for success is to do the readings. Those that keep apace of the reading will have a much easier time understanding the material. This course is very easy to fall behind in- and those that do not keep up with the readings will almost certainly fail.

Attending class is paramount to succeed. Many topics that will be covered during the semester may be difficult to grasp if you are not already familiar to underlying concepts. Additionally, as the footer on each page suggests, this class and the syllabus may shift during the course of the semester to accommodate outside events. Therefore, it is important to attend class so you know if something had to be shuffled.

## **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**

There will be three in-class exams and three short papers (10 pages roughly). The exams and papers will be worth 50 points each. They will be composed of half-multiple choice and half essay questions. The exam questions will be composed from the class

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text or lectures. Final grades will be based on your 5 highest scores from the 6 assignments plus any extra credit you choose to do. The grading scale is shown above.

On the topic of extra credit, traditionally students participate in research studies through the SONA system to earn extra-credit. If no such studies are currently available, we can make alternative arrangements like writing extra papers. Those interested in extra-credit should speak with me before doing something to ensure that it will count.

**Late Penalties and Make-ups:** Papers turned in late will be charged a late penalty. The first missed exam will become your drop grade. If you miss more than one exam, you will need to see me about what to do for a make-up.

**Papers:** Students will compose a ~ 10-page paper on a topic that they choose. The choices are provided below. All papers will be submitted via the D2L course shell. This will be discussed more in class.

Topics 1- pick one of the following

1. Read one the Plato's Socratic dialogues. Extend that work after a "new sophist" who holds ab position common to a famous psychologist (e.g., Piaget on child development, Skinner on learning), and who joins the conversation.
2. Read Marcus Aurelius' *Meditations*; write an essay on how it relates to one or more aspects of clinical or social psychology here in 2024 America.
3. Find an academic work (or works) from anthropology or archaeology about the Neolithic Age that gives you some insights about the "social psychology" of Stone Age peoples. Discuss that.

Topic 2- pick one of the following

1. Read Darwin's *Expression of the Emotions in Man and Animals*, and then write an essay on its importance for the history of animal and/or evolutionary psychology.
2. Read James' *Varieties of Religious Experience*, then write an essay on the relationship between its psychology and religion relevant for today.
3. Read Skinner's *Walden Two*, then write a speculative fiction story on what life would be like if Skinner were the World Overlord.

Topic 3- pick one of the following

1. Read either Freud's *Civilization and Its Discontents* or his *Psychopathology of Everyday Life*. Discuss how what Freud actually says therein differs from what you expected.
2. Read Frankl's *Man's Search for Meaning*. Discuss the relevance of his experience and existentialism for psychology in 2024.
3. Read Gould's *Mismeasure of Man*. Discuss how intelligence testing has been used, and how it should be used in the public schools here in 2024.

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# 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 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)

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

[https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom\\_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu](https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu)

## 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.

## 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 here:

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

## COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

## Interaction with Instructor Statement

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Typically, I will respond to your emails within 24 hours from Mon to Fri. It will take longer during the holidays and weekends. I can also meet with you via Zoom. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

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

### **Course Specific 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.

### **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 can be found at <https://www.tamuc.edu/student-code-of-conduct/>.

If you believe someone has engaged in behaviors that do not align with the Code of Student Conduct or you have other concerns, please visit the File a Report page at <https://www.tamuc.edu/office-of-student-rights-and-responsibilities/concerns-incident-reporting/>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum:  
<https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

#### **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 student academic dishonesty policy  
[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

Undergraduate student academic dishonesty policy  
[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

Graduate student academic dishonesty policy:  
<https://inside.tamuc.edu/aboutus/policiesproceduresstandardsstatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10.pdf>

Graduate student academic dishonesty form:

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<https://inside.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateSchool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

### **TAMUC Attendance**

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage.

### **Artificial Intelligence**

Texas A&M University-Commerce acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, Chatbots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

### **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 Services  
Velma K. Waters Library- Room 162

**Phone (903) 886-5930**

Fax (903) 468-8148

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

**Website:** <http://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/campusServices/StudentDisabilityServices/default.aspx>

### **Mental Health and Well-Being**

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The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.



### **A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health**

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)

### **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>

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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.

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### **Department or Accrediting Agency Required Content**

#### **COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR**

Week 1	Date	Topic	Notes
	08/26	Syllabus	1 <sup>st</sup> day of class
	08/28	Basic issues in history	Ch.1
	08/30	Basic themes and issues in the philosophy of psychology	
Week 2			
	09/02		No class-labor day
	09/04	Philosophy of the Greeks and others	Ch.2
	09/06	Plato and Aristotle	
Week 3			
	09/09	Later Greeks and Rome	Ch.3
	09/11	The middle ages and Islamic influence	
	09/13	Renaissance Philosophy and Science	Ch.4

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Week 4			
	09/16	Descartes and others	
	09/18	British Empiricism	Ch.5
	09/20	Associationism and French Sensationalism	
Week 5			
	09/23	Early Rationalism Kant and Hegel	Ch.6
	09/25	The Scottish school and German Faculty Psychology	
	09/27	Romanticism and Existentialism	Ch.7
Week 6			
	09/30		Test 1 and Paper 1
	10/02	Early Physiology and Phrenology	Ch.8
	10/04	Early Psychophysics	
Week 7			
	10/07	Voluntarism and Wundt	Ch.9
	10/09	Structuralism and Titchener	
	10/11	Phenomenological alternatives to Structuralism	
Week 8			
	10/14	Evolution and Animal Psychology	Ch.10
	10/16	Galton and British Psychology	
	10/18	Individual Differences	
Week 9			
	10/21	American Psychology by William James	Ch.11
	10/23	James Contemporaries and Functionalism	

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	10/25	Thorndike	
Week 10			
	10/28	Russian Psychology	Ch.12
	10/30	Watson and Behaviorism	
	11/1	Positivism 2.0 and Guthrie and Hull	Ch.13
Week 12			
	11/4	Skinner	
	11/6	Tolman and beyond	
	11/8		Test 2 and Paper 2
Week 13			
	11/11	Gestalt Psychology	Ch.14
	11/13	Psychopathology before Freud	Ch.15
	11/15	Freud's Psychology	Ch.16
Week 14			
	11/18	More Freud	
	11/20	Freud and beyond	
	11/22	Existential and Humanistic Alternatives	Ch.17
Week 15			
	11/25	Psychobiology	Ch.18
	11/27		Thanksgiving
	11/29		Thanksgiving
Week 16			
	12/2	Cognitive and Social Psychology	Ch.19
	12/4	Cognitive Science	
	12/6	Beyond	Ch.20
Finals week	7-13		Test 3 and Paper 3

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