



PSY 341 Learning Theories and Process

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2025

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Zane Brand
Office Location: Binion 208: Applied Cognition Lab
Office Hours: TBA
Office Phone: N/A
Office Fax: N/A
University Email Address: zane.brand@tamuc.edu
Communication Response Time: 24 hours excluding weekends

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook: Mark A. Gluck, Eduardo Mercado, & Catherine E. Myers (2020), *Learning and Memory: From Brain to Behavior 4th edition*

ISBN-13: 978-1-319-10738-3

ISBN-10: 1-319-10738-9

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 about how the human mind works.
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).

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Skills needed include being able to use the learning management system to access course materials. Additionally, proficiency in Microsoft Office or similar program is needed.

Instructional Methods

We will meet face to face three times a week for lecture, in class discussions, and demonstrations. 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 am available by email at any time and in Binion 208 pretty regularly. 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

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

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. 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.

ESSAY: 20%

You will be required to complete an essay at the end of the term related to learning and/or memory. Topic(s) to be announced.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University 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

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

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.

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 East Texas A&M University 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.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Interaction with Instructor Statement

All course-related question can be asked during after class, during my office hours, or by email. I will respond to emails within 24 hours. Please do not re-send your email unless at least 24 hours have passed since your last email.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

No quizzes, exams, or homework will be accepted after the deadline unless permission is provided in advance of the deadline by the instructor.

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>

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Academic Integrity

Students at East Texas A&M University 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:
<https://inside.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateSchool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

East Texas A&M University Attendance

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

Artificial Intelligence

East Texas A&M University 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.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

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

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

Mental Health and Well-Being

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.



East Texas A&M University Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M University, 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

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Nondiscrimination Notice

East Texas A&M University 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 East Texas A&M University 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 East Texas A&M University 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 East Texas A&M University campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.