



PSY 300.02W, Learning Processes and Development

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2025

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Leah Phillips, Ph.D., LSSP

Office Location: Virtual

Office Hours: By Appointment

University Email Address: leah.phillips@etamu.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: Email

Communication Response Time: Within 48 hours (excluding weekends). If you have not heard back from me after 48 hours, feel free to send another email.

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required

Woolfolk, A. (2023). *Educational psychology* (15th ed.). Pearson.

ISBN-13: 9780136945116 (eTextbook)

Course Description

This course is designed to provide the student with information about the application of psychological theories to the learning processes and provide information about the development of children and adolescents. Principles and procedures of measurement and evaluation are also included. The primary objective is to facilitate a clear understanding of the complex and dynamic processes of learning and development.

The four major areas that will be covered in this course are:

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- 1) development;
- 2) learning and motivation;
- 3) measurement and evaluation; and,
- 4) professionalization issues, including critical thinking.

Student Learning Outcomes

- 1) distinguish age-appropriate behaviors as they relate to learning and teaching;
- 2) apply the theories of the teaching-learning processes to how people learn, what factors motivate them, and how they retain knowledge;
- 3) distinguish between measurement and evaluation and the implication of each for assessing student progress.
- 4) Apply the theories of learning processes and development in real-world scenarios.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Research Participation:

A goal of this class is to help you become familiar with psychological research. One way to obtain this goal is to have you participate in research studies. Participating in research studies contributes to students and faculty at East Texas A&M, 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).

Students must complete a total of 6 experiment credits. However, if you complete your first 4 experiment credits without any "no-shows" you will receive 2 free *punctual participant credits*. In other words, if you show up to your experiments on time you will only need to complete 4 experiment credits. When you first sign into the experiment management system (EMS) you will be asked to take a prescreen. The prescreen takes about 20 minutes to complete. If you complete the prescreen in the first two weeks of the semester you will receive ½ free experiment credit. This can be combined with later experiments that are worth ½ credit.

If you fail to complete this portion of the class your grade will be lowered by one full grade. In effect, if you have an 'A' in the class but fail to complete your research participation (either through participating in research studies, alternative assignments, or a mixture of both) your final grade in the class will be a 'B.' More information about participating in research, such as how to log in to the EMS, is given at the end of this syllabus.

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Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Be able to use

- the learning management system
- Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint
- Windows system or Mac system.

Instructional Methods

This is an online course, which is not to be interpreted as self-paced. Rather, you are required to log on regularly (preferably every day) in order to succeed. You may consume the material at a more rapid pace than set by the below schedule, but assignments, quizzes, and exams will still take place according to the schedule. Quizzes and Exams will be open for 2-3 days. If you are unable to complete the exam in this time frame, you must contact me ahead of time to re-schedule.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

Read the text: Read the chapter we are covering when it is assigned. This prepares you to complete the assigned work.

Ask questions: If there is something you do not understand, ask questions. You may email me directly! Ask questions as early as you can! – The most important! *Please feel free to contact me any time you have questions. I make a rule for myself, and I would like for you to follow it. If I spend an hour on something, and really **give it my all, but I still can't get it, it's time to ask for help.** Don't be afraid to ask for help! Don't just sit there getting frustrated!*

Take notes: Take GOOD notes while you read. It is a good study habit to go over your notes at the end of each week, filling in the blanks from the supplemental video(s) and assignment. It is also a good idea to make friends in the course and get the phone numbers of a couple of people who you can clarify notes with.

Utilize D2L: All instructions, due dates, and submission of graded material are to be completed in D2L. **Email submission will not be accepted.** Please take some time to familiarize yourself with the system and contact me or IT with questions in advance.

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale: 400 total points

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- A = 90%-100%
- B = 80%-89%
- C = 70%-79%
- D = 60%-69%
- F = 59% or Below

Assessments

Assignment Type	Quantity	Points Each	Total Points
Discussions	10	10	100
Quizzes	15	20	300
Total	—	—	400

- 1.) **Discussions** (10 discussions, total 100 points): Each discussion is worth 10 points and is designed to encourage participation, reading, and to ensure that you engage in the content thoroughly with peers. The initial post should be a substantial discussion on the topic you pick. At least two peer responses are needed to receive the full credit. There are no make-up opportunities for missed or late submissions for missed discussions and peer responses.
- 2.) **Quizzes** (15 exams, total 300 points): Each exam is timed and worth 20 points, consisting of 20 multiple-choice questions.

NO MAKE-UP EXAMS WILL BE GIVEN. All exams (including the final) will be due at 11:59 pm on Sunday. However, you're strongly encouraged to complete it by Friday. Exams may be rescheduled, without penalty, only when arrangements have been made **48 hours** in advance of the testing date. Please contact me within the first week of class if they have conflicts with the exam dates. Make-up exams 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 me, the instructor. If no valid excuse is presented, your exam grade is a zero. You are responsible for all lecture/supplemental videos and reading materials. The exams are not open notes or textbooks and should be taken individually.

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TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M 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 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>

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COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

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

Interaction with Instructor Statement

I am here to support you. If you would like to set up a Zoom meeting, please email me to schedule a time. My normal email response time is 24 hours, but it may take up to 48 hours. If you do not hear back from me within 2 business days, please email me again in case I did not receive your message.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

EMAIL POLICY

Scheduling & Email Guidelines:

Email is the best way to schedule an appointment. We'll set a time convenient for both of us. If you don't get a reply within 48 weekday hours, your email likely wasn't received.

Email Requirements:

- Subject line: Course & section # (e.g., PSY 300-01W) + topic if desired.
- Greeting: "Dr. Phillips..."
- Use proper grammar: avoid acronyms/text-style writing.
- Ask specific, well-thought-out questions. If requesting help, state what steps you've taken (e.g., checked syllabus/rubrics/D2L, asked a classmate, reviewed textbook).
- End with your name & CWID.
- Use your University Leomail account.

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/>.

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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 East Texas A&M 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 Attendance

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

Artificial Intelligence

East Texas A&M 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).

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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 this course, the use of such AI software for individual work is DISALLOWED. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. **I will be use AI-enabled Turnitin to check work originality throughout this semester.** Students should be aware of such requirements and follow this guideline

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

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.



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East Texas A&M Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M, 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

Nondiscrimination Notice

East Texas A&M 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 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 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 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

All assignments are due on Sunday at 11:59 pm

Week	Date	Topic	Discussion	Quiz
1	8/25 -8/31	Syllabus and Intro	Intro Discussion	
2	9/11-9/7	Chapter 01: Learning, Teaching, & Educational Psychology		Quiz 1
3	9/8 – 9/14	Chapter 02: Who Are You? Who Are Your Students? Culture and Diversity		Quiz 2
4	9/15- 9/21	Chapter 03: Cognitive Development	c3 Discussion	Quiz 3
5	9/22/- 9/28	Chapter 04: The Self, Social & Moral Development		Quiz 4
6	9/29 -10/5	Chapter 05: Learner Differences & Learner Needs	c5 Discussion	Quiz 5
7	10/6- 10/12	Chapter 06: Language Development & Diversity, and Immigrant Education		Quiz 6
8	10/13 – 10/19	Chapter 07: Behavioral Views of Learning	c7 Discussion	Quiz 7

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9	10/20 – 10/26	Chapter 08: Cognitive Views of Learning	c8 Discussion	Quiz 8
10	10/27 – 11/2	Chapter 09: Complex Cognitive Processes	c9 Discussion	Quiz 9
11	11/3 – 11/ 9	Chapter 10: Constructivism and Designing Learning Environments	C10 Discussion	Quiz 10

12	11/10- 11/16	Chapter 11: Social Cognitive Views of Learning & Motivation	C11 Discussion	Quiz 11
13	11/ 17 – 11/ 23	Chapter 12: Motivation in Learning & Teaching	c12 Discussion	Quiz 12
14	11/24 – 11/ 30	Chapter 13: Creating Supportive Learning Environments	c13 Discussion	Quiz 13
15	12/1 – 12/5	Chapter 14: Teaching Every Student	c14 Discussion	Quiz 14
16	12/6 – 12/12	Chapter 15: Classroom Assessment, Grading, & Standardized Testing		Quiz 15

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