Psyc 2301 Introduction to Psychology

Course Syllabus: 2019

"Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide responsible, exemplary learning opportunities."

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Office Hours	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Online
	By appt.		By appt.			

The information contained in this syllabus is subject to change without notice. Students are expected to be aware of any additional course policies presented by the instructor during the course.

Catalog Course Description (include prerequisites): 3 credit hours.
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Lecture/Lab/Clinical: Three hours of lecture each week.

This course is an introduction to the fundamental principles of behavior. Special emphasis is placed on methods of research and critical thinking skills. This is a survey course and covers a variety of topics, theories and approaches to the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. PSYC 2301 is reading and writing intensive and is a college sophomore course.

Required Textbook(s):
Kalat, J.W. (2017). *Introduction to Psychology, 11th edition. With MindTap*
Publisher: Cengage Learning
ISBN Number: 978-1-337-57251-4

Student Learning Outcomes:
Upon successful completion of this course, Students will**:**

1. **Identify various research methods and their characteristics used in the scientific study of psychology.**
2. **Describe the historical influences and early schools of thought that shaped the field of psychology.**
3. **Describe some of the prominent perspectives and approaches used in the study of psychology.**
4. **Use terminology unique to the study of psychology.**
5. **Describe accepted approaches and standards in psychological assessment and evaluation.**
6. **Identify factors in physiological and psychological processes involved in human behavior.**

Lectures and Discussions:

Week 1 What is Psychology/Schools of Psychology
Week 2 Methodology
Week 3 Brain & Nervous System
Week 4 Sensation & Perception
Week 5 Development
Week 6 Learning
Week 7 Memory
Week 8 Cognition & Language
Week 9 Intelligence & Consciousness
Week 10 Motivated Behaviors
Week 11 Health & Stress
Week 12 Social Psychology
Week 13 Personality
Week 14 Psychological Disorders/Hospitality House fieldtrip
Week 15 Treatments for Psychological Disorders
Week 16 Final examination

Course Goal:
The primary goal of all introductory psychology courses is to explore the subject matter of the field and to become familiar with the vocabulary, concepts, and with some of the research findings upon which our knowledge of human thought and behavior is based.

This class will emphasize development of critical thinking skills and prepare you to be a cautious and analytical consumer of

information that is proclaimed to be scientific or based on research.
I also hope that you will derive personal benefits from this class; that at the end of the term you will have increased your understanding and acceptance of yourself and others; and that you will gain something from this class that will enrich your personal relationships and add to your success in your chosen occupation.

Course Expectations:

To complete this course successfully, you should do the following:

- Read all of the textbook assignments.
- Complete the MindTap assignments for each Chapter prior to class.
- Participate in the course activities.
- Complete exams and quizzes.
- Prepare and submit all writing assignments.
- Complete the self-improvement and tutor requirements

Evaluation/Grading Policy:

Grades

Grades will be computed as follows:

MindTap homework	=30%
Four Exams:	=30%
Experimental Design paper	=10%
2 Summary papers	=10%
HH visit and paper	=15%
SLO quizzes	= 5%

Points	Grade
90-100%	= A
80-89%	= B
70-79%	= C
60-69%	= D
BELOW 60%	= F

Tests/Exams:

There will be 4 exams: All exams will be in a multiple-choice format. Dates for exams are listed on the class calendar. Make-up exams may be scheduled prior to the missed exam and will occur within 1 week of the exam date posted in the calendar. No make-up exams are given after the following exam has been given or after the last day of class. It is a good idea to take the exam as soon as you return to class so you do not get behind. Exams are each worth 100 points. The final exam must be taken at the scheduled time in order to obtain credit for the course.

Retests: If you are not satisfied with your in-class exam grade, you may take the exam repeatedly until you are satisfied with your test grade. These retests will be given in the Testing Center, located in the Business Technology Building, during **their** hours of operation, and you must provide a photo id. Your highest grade will be the one recorded. In order to retest, you must have been present for and have taken the original in-class exam. If you did not take the original in-class exam, then you must make-up that missed exam before any retests can be allowed. Retests are available for a limited time and must be completed before the last day of classes.

There will be two SLO quizzes. Both quizzes will have 30 multiple choice items and each is worth 100 points. The first quiz will cover chapter 2 (Scientific methods). The second quiz will be comprehensive and cover the entire course. Dates are listed on class calendar.

Assignments:

You will be required to complete **MindTap assignments** for each chapter we cover prior to class. These homework assignments will be worth 30% of your total grade. MindTap is an outside of class assignment that is accessed through Blackboard. Assignments cannot be completed after the deadline expires. Assignment dates are listed on class calendar.

Self-improvement opportunities: Syllabus quiz worth 10 points, APA quiz worth 16 points, office visit to review first quiz

worth 5 points, office visit to review the first 2 exams worth 5 points each (prior to retest), and bonus quiz (Ch. 3) worth 15 points.

Mandatory tutorial requirements: A psychology tutor is available to help all Psyc 2301 students (see Bb home page for information). The tutor can assist you with logging into MindTap, studying, and preparing papers. **If you earn a grade of less than 65% on any exam or paper, you will be **required** to see the psychology tutor within 1 week of the posted grade. Upon completion of the mandatory tutoring sessions, you will bring the tutor form to the professor and the posted grade will be adjusted by 5%.

Writing Assignments:

Experimental Design Worksheet: You will design and think through all aspects of your own psychological experiment on a worksheet. This will be a typed paper written in the 3rd person and in complete sentences, addressing the specific questions provided. It will be worth 100 points. Due date is listed on the calendar.

Research Summary Papers: You will be given an article to read. You will summarize each section of the article clearly and label each section in your paper. Your paper will be typed, double spaced, and written in the 3rd person and complete sentences, using APA format. Each Summary paper will be worth 50 points.

APA format is different from MLA! If, in any section of a written paper, you give information that comes from your textbook or other written source, you must use in-text citations in the APA format. Sources, which are cited in the text, must also be referenced at the end of the paper on your References page. You will need to look up the APA guidelines on Blackboard, under the Summary Paper tab, so that you will know how to write correctly in APA format. Citation Machine & Easybib are additional helpful sources to ensure proper APA citation.

Hospitality House Visit and Paper (FIELD TRIP!!): You will visit the Hospitality House in Mt. Pleasant during one of your scheduled class times. With 100 points on the line, it is important that you tour with your class AND write the paper. You will be asked to write about YOUR experiences during the visit. This is a reaction paper, thus it is personal and written in 1st person. You will tell me how you feel about the visit. **Do not** use the names of any residents; you must respect their privacy. **This IS an "I" paper! No APA documentation is required on this one. You will also be required to bring a signed consent form to the Hospitality House if you are under 18 years of age. You will find this form posted in BlackBoard.**

Always put your name, course number and section on all assignments submitted. **Late papers will lose 20 percentage points and will not be accepted later than 1 week after the due date**. Paper due dates are listed on the class calendar.

Other Course Requirements:

Attendance/Participation Policy

If you miss a class, you will be responsible for information covered/discussed that day. The instructor will not repeat the lecture. Most classes will include exercises and activities designed to increase your understanding of the material.

You should check your NTCC email account regularly. This email account will be the official form of communication for this course. Your email address is your first initial + your last name + the last three digits of your SSN. If you do not have a social security number, use the last three digits of your birth year. Your password is your birthday in the form of mmddyyyy (Ex: May 8, 1992 would be 05081992). Once you are logged in to the MyEagle portal, you can access your email by clicking on the Gmail icon. A good suggestion is to set up your email on your phone so that you will not miss important messages about the course.

Late Work Policy:

Students are to submit assignments on or before the stated due date/time. Late assignments will only be accepted at the instructor's discretion and will not receive full credit. Emergency situations will be handled on an individual basis.

Plagiarism:

In any written paper, you are guilty of the academic offense known as plagiarism if you copy (in whole or part) another author's sentences or words. Usually this results in an automatic grade of "F" for the course. You cannot mix the author's words with your own or "plug" your synonyms into the author's sentence structure. To prevent unintentional borrowing,

resist the temptation to look at the source as you write. **If you use another person's words, phrases, sentences, even if you are paraphrasing, you must cite the source.**

Student Responsibilities/Expectations:

Computer Requirements:
You must have access to a computer to take this course. Your computer needs to have Windows XP SP3 or later or MAC OS X10.3 or higher. You will need Office 2003 or higher, and you will need broadband internet access. You can check your operating system by right clicking on the My Computer icon on the home screen. You can check your word processing program by going to Start and clicking on All Programs. You will find your Office program there. If you do not have access to a computer with the minimum computer requirements, computers are available for your use in the Learning Commons building.

Withdrawal Policy/Date:
It is your responsibility to drop a course or withdraw from the college. If you stop attending the course without withdrawing, you will still receive a grade, whether passing or failing.

Diversity:
The course content and the course environment are dedicated to an understanding of and acceptance of all people. Disparaging remarks in relation to others' ethnic or racial background, sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, socioeconomic background, etcetera, will not be tolerated.

Other Course Policies:

NTCC Academic Honesty Statement:
"Students are expected to complete course work in an honest manner, using their intellects and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty policy stated in the Student Handbook."

Academic Ethics:
The college expects all students to engage in academic pursuits in a manner that is beyond reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuit. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. Refer to the student handbook for more information on this subject.

ADA Statement:
It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to request accommodations. An appointment can be made with Shannin Garrett, Academic Advisor/Coordinator of Special Populations located in the College Connection. She can be reached at 903-434-8218. For more information and to obtain a copy of the Request for Accommodations, please refer to the NTCC website - Special Populations..

Family Educational Rights And Privacy Act (Ferpa):
The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are considered "eligible students." In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain information concerning the child's college records without the written consent of the student. In compliance with FERPA, information classified as "directory information" may be released to the general public without the written consent of the student unless the student makes a request in writing. Directory information is defined as: the student's name, permanent address and/or local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution attended, other information including major, field of study, degrees, awards received, and participation in officially recognized activities/sports.