It’s All Lies: Understanding Deception  
(GS 1181.F03) 

This course is an 8 week, 1 credit hour course  
Academic Building, Room 113  
MW 12–12:50am  

Dr. Drew Curtis  

Fall 2017  

Office: Academic 204D  
Office Hours: M 10:30-12; T: 11-2; W 8:30-12; Th: 8:30-9:30, 11-12 or by appt.  
Phone: 325-486-6932  
Email: drew.curtis@angelo.edu  

"Nobody believes a liar...even when he is telling the truth!"  
-Aesop  

"I'm not upset that you lied to me, I'm upset that from now on I can't believe you."  
-Friedrich Nietzsche  

“I don't ask why patients lie, I just assume they all do.”  
-Dr. Greg House, House, M.D.  

Required Text: There is no text to purchase for this course. Students are responsible for accessing and reading:  
1. Course Articles and Readings. These articles and readings will be posted in BlackBoard, directions to access the articles will be posted, or they will be provided in class.  
2. Students should access BlackBoard daily in order to access the readings and articles.  

1181 Freshman Seminar (1-0). Seminar on various contemporary topics. This course is designed to introduce incoming freshmen to the intellectual and cultural environment of the university and the impact it will have on their lives as students. Freshman Seminars incorporate various integral elements in order to facilitate first-year students’ transition from high school to college-level learning. Emphasis will be on communication, critical thinking, and information literacy. Open to all majors; restricted to and required of first-time-in-college students.  

Course Description:  
Everyone lies. How do we know when we are being lied to? Unfortunately, people do not show signs of deception by their nose growing. In this course we will discuss and read material related to deception, its occurrence in various contexts, its effects, and abilities to detect deception. Students in this course will discuss deception, read selected literature, write about deception, and watch video segments that will enhance understanding of deception and promote successful academic skills.  

Prerequisites and skills required:  
1. The ability to email and use web based search engines.  
2. Blackboard Course Management System (https://blackboard.angelo.edu/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp ). This class will use Blackboard in conjunction with face-to-face class time. Therefore, you must have access to Blackboard on a daily basis. Information and updates will be posted to Blackboard. You should set your notifications in Blackboard to make sure that you receive important updates. It is recommended that you run Blackboard using an internet browser other than internet explorer.  
3. ASU e-mail address. You are responsible for checking your ASU e-mail address on a daily basis. Notifications about the course will be sent via blackboard to your ASU e-mail address. No other e-mail address is acceptable for use in this course.  

Course Objectives:  
1. Gain factual knowledge (terminology, classifications, methods, trends)  
2. Learn fundamental principles, generalizations, or theories  
3. Learn to apply course material (to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions)
Core Student Learning Outcomes:
By the end of this course, you should be able to:
- Gather, analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information relevant to a question or issue (CT1).
- Develop, interpret, and express ideas through effective written communication (CS 1)
- Demonstrate the ability to evaluate choices, actions and consequences as related to ethical decision-making (PR 1).

Classroom Policies/Expectations

Readings
It is expected that each student will have the required reading completed before the class during which we will discuss the material (see course schedule). Some material may be challenging upon first read, but lectures will be easier to follow if you have read the chapter.

***If I feel the class is not keeping up with the reading, I will have the option to start giving quizzes at any time during any class. Just remember that reading prior to class is really to your benefit!

Research indicates that students who read before class learn more from lectures. Thus,
- Read
- Come to the Lecture with Questions and Comments

Policies/Expectations
1. Students are expected to take responsibility for their success in class. You are encouraged to be active participants in the education process by asking questions and being alert in class.
2. Distracting or disrespectful students will be asked to leave the class (this includes use of cell phones and other electronic devices).
3. If you have any concerns related to this class, you are encouraged to speak with your instructor in a timely manner. As a general rule, you should raise any issues within one week of receiving a grade or completing a given project.
4. Students will be expected to access the Blackboard online classroom on a regular basis for announcements, course materials, assignments, and grades.
5. The instructor reserves the right to use plagiarism prevention software.

Class Sessions
- The majority of the class will be lecture and discussion.
- You MUST take your own notes in class in order to pass.
- Media presentations and demonstrations may be used to help illustrate the concepts being discussed.
- Classes may include discussions, group projects, films, and activities.
- Questions and comments are always welcome! (Please be respectful.)
  *DISCLAIMER: This class examines a variety of cultural and personal issues and subjects students to ideas and material that they may find disagreeable. If students are unable or unwilling to tolerate other perspectives or their own value systems in the context of the class, then they are encouraged to speak with the instructor regarding their concerns and may wish to reconsider their enrollment in the course. Should you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions at any time during the semester, please feel free to contact me.

Communication
- Email is the best way to contact your instructor.
- All emails should include “GS 1181” in the subject line.
- All emails should include your first and last name.
**Methods of Assessing Learning Outcomes**

Learning outcomes will be assessed via quizzes, presentation, critique paper, and an exam.

**Information Literacy:** There are a total of 8 videos and 8 short quizzes you need to take. These videos will inform you about a number of research-related topics, such as how to find sources and how to tell if a source is likely credible, especially as these topics relate to using the ASU library resources to do research. The videos, all together, should take approximately 30 minutes to watch. The quizzes, all together, should take approximately 14 minutes to complete. Grand total of time needed to watch videos/take quizzes = approximately **45 minutes**. I would recommend doing this assignment on an ASU computer, not on your laptop or cell phone, due to needing to watch videos to complete this assignment. Quizzes must be completed by **10:00 a.m.** on the day they are due. You can reference the videos as you take the quizzes if you wish, you are able to take the quizzes as many times as you would like, and your highest score (as of the due date/time) will be the score taken. You can still take the quizzes after this 10:00 a.m. deadline, but the grades you get after 10:00 a.m. will not be considered.

The important thing is that you are familiar with the content of the videos, as that is what will actually be useful when you begin your research. I will, though, be taking grades for the quizzes as well. You will need to exit the GS 1181 Blackboard course and go to the view of Blackboard that lists all of your Blackboard courses.

**Where Myth Meets Deception-Critique:** You will select an area within deception (e.g., detecting deception) or related to deception (e.g., white lies in relationships) that you find interesting. This writing assignment will consist of 2 parts:

1. You will write on your preliminary beliefs and thoughts about the subject you select in 1 page. You will submit this writing into BlackBoard. This portion of the paper will be worth 20 points.
2. Then you will find and review scholarly articles related to this area and write an integrative narrative on your findings. You will discuss the literature you read and how it aligns and is discrepant from your initial thoughts on the subject in 1 to 3 pages. You are expected to cite at least 3 scholarly references (excluding materials posted in BlackBoard) from psychology or other relevant journals according to APA guidelines. This portion of the paper will be worth 80 points.

**Rubric**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>APA format (grammar, cover page, Reference page, structure, formatting)</td>
<td>10 pts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 scholarly references</td>
<td>10 pts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Content (addressing the subject in a coherent manner; not mechanical)</td>
<td>30 pts.</td>
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<td>Integration and synthesis of articles (well thought out and discussed rather than thrown into the paper)</td>
<td>30 pts.</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>80 pts.</strong></td>
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For your writings, follow APA format, double-spaced, 12 pt. Times New Roman font. You do need a cover page and do NOT need an abstract. Feel free to look at APA Publication Manual or use other online resources for writing: [https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/](https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/)

To access scholarly articles, you will utilize your information literacy components. You may go to the ASU library website: [http://www.angelo.edu/services/library/](http://www.angelo.edu/services/library/), and type in the topic area into the search. You will need to select scholarly articles (check box to the left of the screen) in order to only review scholarly articles. More information related to searches will be discussed in class.

**Grade**

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<th>Component</th>
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<tr>
<td>Initial paper draft (preliminary beliefs and thoughts (1 page)</td>
<td>20 pts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Draft (1-3 pages)</td>
<td>80 pts.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100 pts.</strong></td>
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**Campus Event:** You will be expected to attend a campus event. This will be worth 50 points of your grade. The details for the event will be posted in BlackBoard and announced in class. The two events to consider attending will be either the Great War Series: Sept. 28 or the Holland Symposium is October 16 this year. More information when I have it.

**Group Project/Presentation:** Your group is expected to interview someone with the intent to see how others view deception and how it relates to their personal and/or professional life. You will spend 30 min. to 1 hour interviewing the individual. You must get permission from the person to interview them and they must be at least age of 18, to provide consent. You will ask a series of questions about what they think deception is and is not, the best and worst kinds of lies, how deception affects people, how good they are at detecting deception, what they may rely on when detecting deception, and how deception may have affected them in their personal or professional lives. Afterwards, your group will present your project to the class. In class you will spend 7-10 minutes presenting your project to the class. You may use PowerPoint or any other learning aids that facilitate your presentation.

**Exam:** There will be one final exam, which will be given in the course. Exams are designed to assess students’ factual knowledge, understanding of principles and theories, and ability to apply critical thinking. The exam may be comprised of any of the following: multiple choice, short answer, true/false, matching, ordering, and/or essay questions. The exam will be based on class PowerPoint materials, discussions, and class readings. **Make up exams will only be given in extenuating circumstances and the student may be required to prepare an essay on the material.** If a student is allowed to make up an exam, then the student will have only 1 week and 10 points will be deducted from the exam.

**Attendance/Participation:** A roll sheet will be passed around at the beginning of each class. Signing the roll sheet is the evidence that you attended, thus, it is imperative that you not only attend class but that you sign the roll. When you miss class, you miss out on important information and it is up to you to find out what you missed. Please show everyone respect by arriving on time and remaining in class until dismissed. Attendance will also be worth 20 points.

**Extra Credit:** The instructor provides opportunities for extra credit throughout the course. Extra credit may come through various formats (e.g., research participation, attendance at a university event, etc.). Your instructor will announce the opportunities in class. You may only receive 20 points of extra credit maximum. One form of extra credit will be through research participation. You register for these activities through the following website: [http://anglostate.sona-systems.com/](http://anglostate.sona-systems.com/). One SONA credit is worth 3 pts of extra credit, for a maximum of 20 extra credit points total.

*Please note that SONA credits can be used only once. You may not use SONA credits for credit in more than one course. Also, the deadline for reassigning credits will be the day after data collection ends for the semester. Attempts to use SONA credits for more than one course will result in no extra credit for this course.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE POINT DISTRIBUTION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Information Literacy (8 quizzes):</td>
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<td>Campus Event:</td>
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<td>Where Myth Meets Deception-Critique</td>
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<tr>
<td>Group Project/Presentation:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance/Participation:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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<td>Extra Credit:</td>
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**Total Possible Points:** 360
**Final Grades:**
A = 324-360  
B = 288-323  
C = 252-287  
D = 216-251  
F ≤ 215  

**Tentative Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/28</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8/30</td>
<td>What counts as Deception?</td>
<td>Quiz 1</td>
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<td>9/6</td>
<td>Origins of Deception: History and Culture</td>
<td>Quiz 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/11</td>
<td>Reasons for Lying, Types of Deception, and its Consequences</td>
<td>Where Myth Meets Deception-Critique- (First paper due)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/13</td>
<td>Indicators and Beliefs about Deception</td>
<td>Quiz 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/18</td>
<td>Deception Detection: Are people good at it?</td>
<td>Quiz 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/20</td>
<td>Deception Detection: What is the Polygraph?</td>
<td>Quiz 5</td>
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<td>9/25</td>
<td>Deception and Emotion</td>
<td>Quiz 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/27</td>
<td>Lying to Lovers: Lies in Relationships</td>
<td>Quiz 7</td>
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<td>10/2</td>
<td>Lying to the Ones You Love: Familial Deception</td>
<td>Quiz 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/4</td>
<td>Deception in Psychotherapy and Counseling</td>
<td>Where Myth Meets Deception-Critique- (Second paper due)</td>
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<td>10/9</td>
<td>Health Care and Deception</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/11</td>
<td>Group Project/Presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/16</td>
<td>Group Project/Presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/18</td>
<td>Group Project/Presentation</td>
<td>FINAL EXAM</td>
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<td></td>
<td>FINAL EXAM</td>
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**Syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor**

**STUDENT ABSENCE FOR OBSERVANCE OF RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS**
“A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence.”

**ACADEMIC HONESTY**
Academic honesty is expected on all work. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their online experiences. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

The Department of Psychology, Sociology, and Social Work adheres to the academic honesty statement as set forth in the Angelo State University Student Handbook (2011-2012) [http://www.angelo.edu/content/files/17358-university-honor-code](http://www.angelo.edu/content/files/17358-university-honor-code). The University "faculty expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach and to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experience both in and out of the classroom setting and may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty, including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials."

**PLAGIARISM**
Plagiarism at ASU is a serious topic. The Angelo State University's Honor Code gives specific details on plagiarism and what it encompasses. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else's work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one's own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word for word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. We use the *APA Style Manual of the American Psychological Association* as a guide for all writing.
assignments. Quotes should be used sparingly. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list. Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality via Bb Turnitin. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center http://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
1. “Angelo State University is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAA), and subsequent legislation.”

2. The Office of Student Affairs is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability, and it is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting the Office of Student Affairs, University Center, Room 112 at (325) 942-2047 or (325) 942-2211 (TDD/FAX) or by e-mail at studentservices@angelo.edu to begin the process. The Office of Student Affairs will establish the particular documentation requirements necessary for the various types of disabilities.

Reasonable accommodations will be made for students determined to be disabled or who have documented disabilities.

Tutoring:
The ASU Tutor Center is located in the Library C301 (3rd floor). Tutoring is free to all ASU students.

Withdrawals:
Please review withdrawal policies: http://www.angelo.edu/services/registrars_office/withdrawals_refunds.php