PSY 2301 General Psychology
Fall 2017 (MWF, 11am)

Instructor: Dr. Crystal M. Kreitler
Email: crystal.kreitler@angelo.edu
Phone: 325-486-6122

Office: Academic Building 204G
Office hours: M/W: 1:00-3:00p
Tues: 10:00a-3:00p
(and by appointment)

Teaching Assistants:
Section 1: Mr. Cody Good, cgood2@angelo.edu
Section 2: Ms. Teresa Perez, tperez18@angelo.edu
Section 3: Mrs. Gema Rader, mrader@angelo.edu

Course Description and Objectives: This course is an introduction to the field of psychology. You will be challenged to think critically about many topics important to human behavior. Most people, even otherwise educated ones, grossly misunderstand the discipline. Our approach will be to integrate social/cultural, neural/biological, environmental, and social/cultural influences in the final analysis of cognition and behavior.

Student Learning Outcomes: 1) Understand basic psychological principles. 2) Be able to think critically about human behavior and causes of behavior. 3) Be familiar with various subfields of psychology. 4) Be able to understand how psychologists collect data and 5) apply the data/research to everyday life.

Required Readings:

Course Requirements:

Exams: There will be 4 cumulative exams. Regular exams: 15% each, Final exam: 20%. Although you may not like cumulative exams, it is unquestionably the case that reviewing a specific topic for 3 different exams is much better than reviewing it once, when it comes to subsequent memory of the given topic. The goal is that you will be more likely to remember the learned information when the class is complete. The exams will generally be composed of multiple choice, true/false, and short answer items. Exams will include information from handouts, discussions, lectures, homework assignments, and class activities.

Quizzes: Each random quiz will be composed of true/false, short answer or fill-in the-blank questions, and will be given during the first 5-10 minutes of class. You will be given approximately 7-8 quizzes, and of those, the 2 lowest quizzes will be dropped. Quizzes CANNOT be made-up. If you receive a zero on a quiz because you failed to attend class that day then it will be one of your two that will be dropped at the end of the semester.
Discussion Questions: Each Wednesday by 5pm, teaching assistants will post four discussion questions on Blackboard. Students need to write responses to each of these questions. In addition, students will come up with a discussion question of their own and write a response to it. Students will need to bring these responses (typed) to turn in during class on Friday. Responses will receive 0-15 points. Points will be based on the originality, depth, and relevance to theory and practice of the questions. Discussion questions can *only* be turned in during class on Fridays. We will not accept discussion questions late or via email. Two of your lowest discussion grades will be dropped.

Research Participation: Three credits are *required*. Failure to do this will result in a loss of 2 percentage points per credit on your final grade. You will need to register at: http://angelostate.sona-systems.com/. For more information, see class handout.

Extra Credit: Extra credit is offered in two forms. You can submit a short career paper and/or participate in extra Sona experiments. See Blackboard for details and due dates.

Attendance/Make-Up Policy: Attendance is required for this course. There will be NO makeup exams except in cases of serious illness or some other extreme event such as a death in the family. In these instances, you must obtain a note from your physician or Dean, and present it to the instructor. The instructor will determine if a student will be allowed to make-up the assignment. You will have 5 days after the missed exam to make it up and failure to do so will result in a zero. Final—Must be taken on the assigned day at the assigned time. Instructor must know no later than 2 weeks in advance if circumstances may prevent you from taking the final at the scheduled time. Simply informing instructor of the circumstances DOES NOT guarantee approval.

Conduct: Professional behavior during class is expected, which includes (a) participating in class discussions and group activities, as well as listening attentively when fellow students are contributing to class discussion, (b) reading the assigned material prior to each class and coming to class with questions to clarify any ideas in the readings that are unclear and (c) arriving to class on time and not leaving early. No electronic devices (cell phones, ipods, recorders, etc.) should be used during class without instructor permission. Usage of cell phones during class is not allowed. Expect to be called on by instructor and lose points if any conduct guideline is disregarded.

Grades:
- 4 Exams 65%
- Discussion Questions 20%
- Quizzes 15%

Grading Scale
- A = (90%-100%)
- B = (80%-89%)
- C = (70%-79%)
- D = (60%-69%)
- E = (below 60%)

Communication Policy/Meetings: Students are encouraged to email the instructor if they have any questions or concerns. When emailing the instructor, please include your class name and time in the subject line (for example, General Psych, 9am). Please be respectful in your emails. This includes addressing the professor (or TA) properly and signing your full name.

*If you would like to meet with Dr. Kreitler, please approach it this way: send her an email that gives her three options, in terms of days and time slots that work for you. She will then select one that also
works for her, and you can come at the scheduled time. Note also that very often Dr. Kreitler is
available to answer Qs after class. Take advantage of this.

ANGELO STATE UNIVERSITY CORE CURRICULUM OBJECTIVES FOR SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL
SCIENCES COURSES AND RELATED COURSE ASSESSMENTS:
Students in this course (General Psychology) will practice, utilize, and demonstrate proficiency
with the following core curriculum learning objectives: Critical Thinking, Communication,
Empirical and Quantitative Skills, and Social Responsibility. Students will demonstrate
competence in these areas by completing assessments (class exams, class activities), a written
assignments (for Friday classes with your teaching assistant), reflection on important class topics
and broader social issues in class, and via discussions in class.

• Critical thinking will be demonstrated via class exams, class activities, in -class quizzes, and
  in the discussions led by your teaching assistants on Fridays.
• Communication will be demonstrated with in-class quizzes and in your Friday discussion
  sections along with the short discussion papers turned in weekly.
• Empirical and quantitative skills will be demonstrated via in-class quizzes and class exams
  with questions specifically about research design and statistical analyses.
• Social responsibility will be demonstrated in the form of participation in Psychological
  research conducted at Angelo State University. It will also be demonstrated via the
  discussion papers due each week.

Student Absence student for observance of religious holy: A student who intends to observe a
religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence.

Honor Code: Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity
in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code,
which is available on the web at http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/honorcode5.pdf.

Supplemental Instruction: Information about becoming a more effective and efficient learner is
available through the Dept. of Psychology & Sociology website
at www.angelo.edu/dept/psychology_sociology/index.htm.

Writing Center: The ASU Writing Center (942-2093) is located on the 3rd floor of the ASU Library in
305C. Writing Center tutors can work with students in any discipline and at any skill level.

Disabilities: Persons with disabilities that warrant academic accommodations must contact the
Student Life Office, Room 112 University Center (942-2193), in order to request such
accommodations prior to their being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in
the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Title IX: Angelo State University is committed to the safety and security off all students. If you or
someone you know experience sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic or dating violence,
stalking, or discrimination, you may contact ASU’s Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone at 325-486-
6357.
Please note: This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

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**Wed. Dec 13th: Final exam at 10:30a**