Course Overview: This course will provide a general understanding of issues related to psychology by combining in-class lectures, reading assignments from the textbook, in-class discussions, and active learning exercises. This course should provide students with a basic understanding of the relationship between empirical evidence and theoretical explanations of major tenets within psychology.

Course Goals:
1. Students should gain factual knowledge (terminology, methods, etc.) about psychology.
2. Students should learn the fundamental principles and theories in psychology.
3. Students should gain a broader understanding and appreciation for psychology.
4. Students should learn to apply the course material to improve critical thinking and problem solving skills.

Required Textbooks:
noba Online Textbook: [http://noba.to/xkp8z2a3](http://noba.to/xkp8z2a3)
TopHat Purchase: $26 for the semester.

Team Based Learning:
The Team-Based Learning (TBL) approach will be used in this course. TBL advocates self-directed learning of course content and will facilitate your application of new knowledge within small collaborative teams and full classroom discussions. TBL requires you to be prepared for and attend all classes. Your participation will provide you with the opportunity to learn from your peers as well as work and negotiate within your team.

We live in an age of abundant information. We have nearly immediate access to information in a wide array of forms, from books and magazines, to videos and podcasts and Wikipedia. The traditional lecture is one very good way to deliver information, but it’s got a lot of competition. What makes the classroom unique is that it brings students and instructors together where they can learn from each other. TBL capitalizes on this feature. In a TBL class, lectures are very limited and are used almost exclusively to clarify questions that arise rather than simply imparting information. In a TBL class, students work in small groups that last the entire semester. Members of the team learn together and from each other, meaning that coming to class prepared is essential to your success and that of your team.

Since the central role of the lecture is reduced in TBL, students need to learn the basics before they get to class. To give you an incentive to do that preparation, you will be completing Readiness Assessment Tests (RAT) based on readings and short videos that must be completed before the RAT. Each RAT is completed twice: first individually (the iRAT), then as a team (the tRAT). We will also have many teams activities, usually requiring some preparation, that allow you to refine your understanding of material and improve your ability to use the psychological lens.

What TBL is not:
- It is not normal group work – there will be no group work required outside of the classroom.
- It will not be a drag on your grade–a tRAT score cannot reduce your grade relative to your iRAT score.
- It is not an excuse to slack off – Your participation will be evaluated by your peers and that will affect your grade.
Grading:
Grades for this course are comprised of both individual work (600 points) and teamwork (400 points). Individual work will include your midterm and your cumulative final, the iRATs, SONA participation and any additional worksheets, homework, etc that you bring to class. Teamwork is comprised of in class activities and tRATs.

Individual Work (600 pts):

iRATS (250 pts):
To get an understanding of the material you completed before class day, you will take a short quiz at the beginning of each class. This will start within 5 minutes of the course start time, and you cannot complete the quiz if you are late to class. So, work hard to be on time. This will also be your attendance for the class. These quizzes will be completed using TopHat -- either on your smartphone, on your tablet, or on your laptop. You should have been contacted by TopHat to get this set up, and you will need it starting on August 28th.

Other Work (120 pts):
This is work that will be assigned as the semester moves forward. It will be in tandem with readings, include worksheets/homework, reading reactions, etc.

SONA Credits (30 pts)
As a core part of some of the courses in the Psychology & Sociology Department, we require that students complete 3 SONA credits (equivalent to 3 hours of work) by participating as a subject in research experiments. This requirement can be fulfilled by serving as a participant, or by completing an alternate research activity, decided by myself. This is an all or nothing 30 points to your grade; if you don’t complete the activities, then you won’t get the 30 points, if you do complete them, then you get the 30 points. You have until November 20th to fulfill this requirement. If you want to complete an alternate assignment, you must make arrangements with me by September 11th.

Midterm Exam (100 pts)
The midterm exam will cover the material from the start of class to approximately Oct 16, and will be open book/notes. It will be completed through blackboard, using the Respondus Monitoring system (see below for more information). The exam will be open for one week, and you will have 3 hours to complete the exam. It must be completed in one sitting.

Final Exam (100 pts):
Your final exam will be online through Blackboard using Respondus Monitor. This is a cumulative exam. It is also open notes/book. You will have a week to complete your exam. Once you open the exam, you will have to complete it in that sitting. You will have 3 hours; it hopefully will not take you that long. See course schedule for when the final is due.

Testing via Respondus™ Monitor
Access to tests will be through Respondus™ Lockdown Browser and will be video recorded via Respondus™ Monitor [See Other Required Materials for a list of needed equipment]. Use of another electronic device is prohibited.

There is one practice quiz to acquaint you with the Webcam. These tools will be available to the student to assure accessibility. Students are required to go through these practice quiz in advance of taking a graded test. This process will allow you to become familiar with the technology associated with testing and improve the testing environment. These quizzes,
instructional videos, and more information regarding Respondus Monitor can be found under the Respondus Monitor Help tab in your Blackboard course.

**OTHER REQUIRED MATERIALS**
- Computer with Mac or Windows Operating System
- High Speed Internet Access
- Ethernet Cable
- Webcam

**Teamwork (400 points):**

**tRATS (300 pts):**

tRATs will mirror the quiz you did with the iRAT, but is meant to help the team come to answers together and help with understanding the material. You will be able to uncover the answer immediately, and the tRATs will be turned into the professor at the end of the class time for grading.

**Other Work (100 pts):**

A key component of this class are the activities that we will be doing to help you solidify the information you’ve learned. These will take the form of worksheets, creative assignments, presentations, etc., and will all be graded as team grades.

**Peer review of teammates:**

Prior to the midterm exam and at the end of the semester, each student is required to evaluate each other member of his or her group. On the forms, students will give qualitative feedback to each member and award points to the other members of his or her team. The grade points will then be averaged across each assessment and to have points awarded for the students.

**Extra Credit:**

There will be various extra credit opportunities throughout the course, including acting as a mock therapy client, attending events, and volunteering for different things.

**Grades in this class will be based on the following scale:**

- **A** 900-1000 pts
- **B** 800-999 pts
- **C** 700-799 pts
- **D** 600-699 pts
- **F** 599 pts or below
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Date</th>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Topic for the Day</th>
<th>In Class Things</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug 28</td>
<td>What on Earth is this Class?</td>
<td>Welcome, Intros, Syllabus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 30</td>
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<td>Group Formation</td>
<td>Practice RATs</td>
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<td>Sept 4</td>
<td>What is Psychology?</td>
<td>Psychology’s Roots</td>
<td>RAT</td>
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<td>Sept 6</td>
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<td>Conducting Research</td>
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<td>Sept 11</td>
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<td>Biology</td>
<td>RAT</td>
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<td>Sept 13</td>
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<td>Alternate Assignment Request</td>
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<td>Sept 18</td>
<td>How the Brain Processes Things</td>
<td>Sensation &amp; Perception</td>
<td>RAT</td>
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<td>Sept 20</td>
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<td>Sept 25</td>
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<td>Motivation &amp; Emotion</td>
<td>RAT - will cover through memory</td>
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<td>Sept 27</td>
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<td>Oct 2</td>
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<td>Oct 9</td>
<td>Brain contd.</td>
<td>Learning &amp; Memory</td>
<td>Midterm Opens</td>
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<td>Oct 11</td>
<td>Changes Across the Life</td>
<td>Development</td>
<td>RAT</td>
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<td>Oct 16</td>
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<td>Midterm Due by 11:59PM</td>
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<td>Oct 18</td>
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<td>Cognition, Thought, Consciousness</td>
<td>RAT - through Language</td>
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<td>Oct 23</td>
<td>How do we Think?</td>
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<td>Oct 25</td>
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<td>Language</td>
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<td>Oct 30</td>
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<td>Sex, Gender, Sexuality</td>
<td>RAT - covering social psychology</td>
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<td>Nov 1</td>
<td>Social Psychology</td>
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<td>Groups</td>
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<td>Nov 6</td>
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<td>Famous Studies</td>
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<td>Nov 8</td>
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<td>Stereotyping &amp; Prejudice</td>
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<td>Nov 13</td>
<td>Clinical Psychology</td>
<td>Personality</td>
<td>RAT</td>
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<td>Nov 15</td>
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<td>Nov 20</td>
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<td><strong>No Class - Thanksgiving!</strong></td>
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<td>Nov 22</td>
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<td>Nov 27</td>
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<td>Psychological Disorders</td>
<td>RAT through Stress &amp; Wellbeing</td>
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<td>Nov 29</td>
<td>Clinical Psychology cont.</td>
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<td>Last Day for SONA Credits</td>
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<td>Dec 4</td>
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<td>Therapy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 6</td>
<td></td>
<td>Stress &amp; Wellbeing</td>
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**Final Exam due Dec 11 at 1230PM**

**Prior to Class:** Using TopHat, you will need to complete the learning modules assigned for each class. They will open one week prior to the topic date (so, for example, the “Conducting Research” module will open on August 28th). You will need to complete all readings/videos in each module to be ready for class.

**In Class:** When you come to class, we will either be doing RATs or Activities. Watch the course schedule to know which is which and what RATs are covering.
Other things of note:

Policy on Children in Class:
Currently, the university does not have a formal policy on children in the classroom. The policy described here is thus, a reflection of my own beliefs and commitments to student parents.

1. All exclusively breastfeeding babies are welcome in class as often as is necessary to support the breastfeeding relationship. Because not all women can pump sufficient milk, and not all babies will take a bottle reliably, I never want students to feel like they have to choose between feeding their baby and continuing their education. You and your nursing baby are welcome in class anytime.

2. For older children and babies, I understand that minor illnesses and unforeseen disruptions in child care often put parents in the position of having to choose between missing class to stay home with a child and leaving him or her with someone you or the child does not feel comfortable with. While this is not meant to be a long-term childcare solution, occasionally bringing a child to class in order to cover gaps in care is perfectly acceptable.

3. In all cases where babies and children come to class, I ask that you sit close to the door so that if your little one needs special attention and is disrupting learning for other students, you may step outside until their need has been met. Non-parents in the class, please reserve seats near the door for your parenting classmates.

4. Finally, I understand that often the largest barrier to completing your coursework once you become a parent is the tiredness many parents feel in the evening once children have finally gone to sleep. I hope that you will feel comfortable disclosing your student-parent status to me. This is the first step in my being able to accommodate any special needs that arise. While I maintain the same high expectations for all students in my classes regardless of parenting status, I am happy to problem solve with you in a way that makes you feel supported as you strive for school-parenting balance.

Additional Support:
Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day, or who lacks a safe and stable place to live, and believes this may affect their performance in the course, is urged to contact the Dean of Students for support. Furthermore, please notify the me if you are comfortable in doing so. This will enable me to provide any resources that I may possess.

Attendance Policy:

Missed RAT
If you know ahead of time that you will be absent on a RAT day, please let your teammates know and arrange with me to take the RAT early. That way your team will have the benefit of your answers. If on a RAT day you are sick or some other emergency unexpectedly prevents you from coming to class, let me know by email before class time that you will be absent and we will schedule a time for you to take a make-up RAT as soon as possible. Even if you are absent you will receive credit for your team’s RAT score as long as you notified me in advance of your impending absence. If you simply do not show up for a RAT without notifying me you will receive a 0 for both the individual and team score for that RAT.

Missed Class
If you have to be absent on a class day, let me and your team know ahead of time that you won’t be there, and do your best to make up for your absence in some way. Otherwise, your team mates might penalize you for your absence on their peer evaluation, particularly if you are often absent without notice to your team. In addition, I reserve the right to lower your grade by anywhere from 1/3 of a grade to one full grade (B to C) for excessive absenteeism (typically four or more absences during the semester).

Laptops & Technology:
All assignments must be submitted through Google Drive. When you are ready for me to grade the assignment,
you will add me as a collaborator. This will allow me to real-time edit documents and for you to make any adjustments needed for future assignments. Additionally, Google Docs/Drive allows me to see comments/changes that you make. It’s a powerful tool and I will help you with the learning curve that inevitably exists when one requests changes.

**Written Work:**
ALL written work that contains citations and/or references should conform to the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association. Every student would benefit from having access to this manual. It is available in most bookstores (i.e., Barnes & Noble; amazon.com) and the reference for it is:


You can also access [Purdue OWL APA Style Help](https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01) as a source for help with citations. Their website is:

Please remember that mere submission of assignments does not necessarily constitute successful completion of them. Each piece of work submitted and/or presented will be evaluated in regard to quality factors such as cogency, clarity of presentation, adherence to APA publication and other guidelines, evidence of effort, and timeliness. All of these will be factored into your grade for each assignment.
ANGELO STATE UNIVERSITY SYLLABUS STATEMENTS

Disability Services
ASU 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 of 2008 (ADAAA), and subsequent legislation.

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: Ms. Dallas A. Swafford (dallas.swafford@angelo.edu)

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. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day for more information.

Incomplete Grade Policy
It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 Grading Procedures for more information.

Title IX
Angelo State University is committed to the safety and security of 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 Nicole Boone (michelle.boone@angelo.edu). You may also speak with her if you need help with pregnancy accommodations.

I also want you to know that I will seek to keep any information you share with me private to the greatest extent possible, but as a professor, I have a mandatory reporting responsibilities to share information regarding sexual misconduct and crimes I learn about to make our campus safer for all. This includes in written assignments or conversation. This is called being a “Responsible Employee” is a legal responsibility that I have to uphold. It is meant to connect you with resources and to inform you of your options in addressing the report.

Conduct Policies
Academic Integrity
Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. 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.

Plagiarism
Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU’s Academic Integrity policy in the Student Handbook.
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. 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 Turnitin. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center.

Copyright Policy
Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers.

SYLLABUS DISCLAIMER
This syllabus constitutes an agreement between the student and the instructor. Your continued enrollment in this course constitutes your agreement to abide by the terms of this syllabus. If changes must be made to the schedule or to any other aspect of the syllabus, all students will be notified in class and in writing as soon as possible. Any changes made to the course policies or the schedule/calendar will apply to all students.