PSY 4329.D10 – Evolutionary Psychology (Online)

Professor: Dr. Stephen Lippi  
Email: stephen.lippi@angelo.edu  
Class time: Online (Meets using Blackboard)  
Office hours: email - I will respond promptly

Phone: 325-486-6923  
Class Location: Online  
Office location: Academic Bldg 104C

Credits: 3


Other required materials:

- To participate in one of ASU’s distance education programs, you need this technology:
- A computer capable of running Windows 7 or later, or Mac OSX10.8 or later
- The latest version of one of these browsers: Internet Explorer, Firefox, or Safari
- Microsoft Office Suite or a compatible Open Office Suite
- Adobe Acrobat Reader
- High speed internet access
- Ethernet adapter cable required (wireless connections can drop during tests and Collaborate sessions)
- Webcam

Refer to ASU’s Distance Education website for further technology requirements:  
https://www.angelo.edu/online-education/technology_requirements.php

Prerequisite Courses: None  
Co-requisite courses: None  
Prerequisite Skills: Accessing internet web sites, use of ASU Library resources, and proficiency with Microsoft Word and PowerPoint. Tutorials for ASU Library and for Blackboard are available through RamPort. The ASU Undergraduate/Graduate student handbook should be reviewed before taking this class.

Course Delivery

This is an online undergraduate student course offering. The course will be delivered via the Blackboard Learning Management System. The course site can be accessed at https://blackboard.angelo.edu

PSY 4329 (Evolutionary Psychology) Course Description

This fast-paced summer course will explore principles of evolutionary psychology and examine human behavior as a product of evolutionarily advantageous adaptations. This course will primarily focus on various principles of evolution, including adaptations and natural selection and how these adaptations have survived and evolved with various human behaviors, including: mating, parenting, and kinship/warfare.

Course Assignments

All lecture/course material for each given week will be uploaded by Monday of that week. Students are expected to be “active learners.” It is a basic assumption of the instructor that students will be involved (beyond the textbook and lectures presented in the course) discovering, processing, and applying the course information using Youtube videos, researching additional information and examples on the Internet, and discussing course material and applied experiences with peers.
Exams

There will be 5 exams throughout the summer term (4 noncumulative and 1 cumulative final). These exams will open on Friday and will be closed on Sunday at 11:59:59PM. (For instance, Exam 1 is due Sunday July 14 by 11:59:59PM; the link to Exam 1 will be available on Friday July 12). Each exam will be made up of multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, and/or short answer questions. Students will have 2 hours to complete each exam. Once an exam is started, it must be completed in that sitting; in addition, once 2 hours has elapsed, the exam will be automatically submitted. **Only one attempt is allowed per exam, so please be sure you are completely ready to take the exam when you start it** (e.g. don’t start it unless you can truly allocate the required amount of time to finish it). Once 11:59:59PM occurs, the link will disappear and students will be unable to submit the exam. Each noncumulative exam (Exams 1-4) will count as 50 points; Exam 5 (Final exam) will count for 100 points. A total of 300 points will be earned from exams.

Access to exams will be through Respondus Lockdown Browser and will be video recorded via Respondus. [See other required materials for a list of needed equipment]. Use of another electronic device is prohibited.

- There is one practice quiz: a short 10 question practice quiz over ASU trivia that is not graded. These tools will be available to the student to assure accessibility. Students are highly encouraged to go through this practice quiz in advance of taking a graded assessment (e.g. exam). This process will allow you to become familiar with the technology associated with testing and improve the testing environment. Instructional videos and more information regarding Respondus Monitor can be found under the Respondus Monitor Help tab in your Blackboard course.

Discussion Boards

There will be 4 discussion board posts due throughout the summer II term. These discussion board threads will be created by the professor before the topic is introduced/uploaded. Each discussion board post will center on the theme of the week and may involve a journal article and/or a news article relating to that topic of evolutionary psychology. Each student is expected to read the post and create a thread answering the prompt given by the professor and incorporate information learned/reviewed in that week’s lecture. In addition, each student will also need to make a post on some other students’ post. This response post needs to be thoughtful, not just “I agree.” The response posts will be due by one week after the original posts’ deadline (see course schedule for due dates for the original and response posts). Each discussion board will close on Saturday at 11:59:59PM (the day before the exam is due); no posts will be able to be made on them after this date. Each discussion board counts for 30 points (15 points for original post/ 15 points for response post); a total of 120 points will be earned from discussion board posts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Learning Outcome</th>
<th>Assignment(s) validating outcome achievement:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>By completing all course requirements, students will be able to:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gain a basic understanding of the subject (e.g., factual knowledge, methods, principles, generalizations, theories)</td>
<td>Exams (due each week by Sunday at 11:59:59PM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Learn to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, argument, and points of view</td>
<td>Article analysis discussion board posts (due each week by Saturday at 11:59:59PM - original and response posts to other students)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Late Work and/or Missed Assignments

Due dates and times for assignment submissions are posted in the schedule below. Discussion board posts will disappear after the due date and students will not be able to post once these links are gone – please be sure to allocate time to post a thoughtful discussion thread. Missed exams cannot be made up.

Grading System

Course grades will be dependent upon completing course requirements and meeting the student learning outcomes. A total of 420 points can be earned throughout the course of the semester. A students’ grade can be calculated at any time by referring to the “Total points” column in Blackboard and by dividing this total by how many points are currently available.

The following grading scale is in use for this course:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Percentage (Points)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90 – 100% (378 – 420 points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80 – 89.99% (336 – 377 points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70 – 79.99% (294 – 335 points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60 – 69.99% (252 – 293 points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0 – 59.99% (0 – 251 points)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Incomplete Grade Policy

https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures

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.

Student Responsibility and Attendance

On-line: This class is asynchronous, meaning you do not have to be on-line at a certain time. There are readings which you will have to complete and lectures you should watch to be able to adequately participate & do well in/on assignments. In order to complete this course successfully, you do have to participate in all course activities (i.e. discussion board posts, and exams). Students are expected to engage in course activities and submit work by due dates and times. The hope is that students will make substantive contributions and optimal effort on all assigned materials. For planning purposes, this class will probably require a minimum of 6-9 hours of studying per week on average.

Communication

Email: I will respond to email messages within 24 hours (usually quicker) during working hours Monday through Friday. Weekend messages may not be returned until Monday. All private communication will be done exclusively through your ASU email address. Check frequently for announcements and policy changes.

Blackboard: It is an expectation of this class that you use formal writing skills giving appropriate credit to the source for your ideas. Follow APA 6th edition guidelines for referencing in your discussion board posts as appropriate. Any adjustments to the course schedule/assignments and any announcements will be made via Blackboard announcements.

Syllabus Changes
The faculty member reserves the option to make changes as necessary to this syllabus and the course content. If changes become necessary during this course, the faculty will notify students of such changes by email, course announcements and/or via a discussion board announcement. It is the student’s responsibility to look for such communications about the course on a daily basis.

**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 (including tests, discussion posts, and plagiarism) is subject to disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

The Archer College of Health and Human Services adheres to the academic honesty statement as set forth in the ASU Student Handbook. [https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php](https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php) 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 discussion board posts and/or short answer/essay test questions, it is unacceptable to copy word for word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. The *APA Style Manual of the American Psychological Association* is to be used as a guide for all writing assignments. Quotes should be used sparingly. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center: [https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/](https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/)

**Students with Disabilities**

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. 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 students’ responsibility to initiate such a request by emailing ADA@angelo.edu, or by contacting:

Mrs. Dallas Swafford  
Director of Student Development  
Office of Student Affairs University Center, Suite 112  
325-942-2047 Office 325-942-2211 Fax  
Dallas.Swafford@angelo.edu

**Course Evaluations**
Students are provided the opportunity, and are strongly encouraged to participate in a course evaluation at the end of the semester. More details about this IDEA evaluation will be provided to students later in the semester.

**Important Semester Dates:**

- First class day of the Summer II 2019 term: July 8, 2019
- Last class day of the Summer II 2019 term: August 7, 2019
- Final exam period: August 7, 2019

**Tentative Course Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Exam Dates</th>
<th>Discussion Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Introduction to Evolution, the field of Evolutionary Psychology, and Survival</td>
<td>Ch. 1-3</td>
<td>Exam 1 due by July 14th at 11:59:59PM</td>
<td>Intro Post &amp; Discussion board 1 due by July 13th at 11:59:59PM</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Discussion board 1 Response due by July 20 at 11:59:59PM</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Discussion board 2 Original post due by July 20th at 11:59:59PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Challenges of sex and mating</td>
<td>Ch. 4-6</td>
<td>Exam 2 due by July 21st at 11:59:59PM</td>
<td>Discussion board 2 Response due by July 27th at 11:59:59PM</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Discussion board 3 original post due by July 27th at 11:59:59PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Challenges of parenting &amp; kinship Cooperative alliances</td>
<td>Ch. 7-9</td>
<td>Exam 3 due by July 28th at 11:59:59PM</td>
<td>Discussion board 3 response post due by August 3rd at 11:59:59PM</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Discussion board 4 original post due by August 3rd at 11:59:59PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Problems of group living</td>
<td>Ch. 10-12</td>
<td>Exam 4 due by August 4th at 11:59:59PM</td>
<td>Discussion board 4 response post due by August 7th at 11:59:59PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 7</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td></td>
<td>Final Exam due by August 7th at 11:59:59PM</td>
<td>Discussion board 4 response post due by August 7th at 11:59:59PM</td>
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