Course Purpose and Learning Objectives

This course is designed to cover in breadth the field of motivation theory in psychology. A variety of theoretical perspectives will be presented, compared and contrasted, and practical applications of these theories will be offered.

The follow learning outcomes are expected:

⇒ Students will be able to describe, compare and contrast core theories in motivation
⇒ Students will be able to critically evaluate fictional and non-fictional portrayals of human behavior within the context of core motivation theories
⇒ Students will be able to identify ways in which the course content can be applied to their own life circumstances to affect positive change

Student Performance Criteria

Students will be measured according to their performance on the following criteria:

⇒ Examinations (E). Four examinations shall be administered in class including the final. No other activities will occur on test days.
⇒ Application Papers (P). Students shall create a series of papers over the term. Most will require analysis of popular movies through a motivational lens (instructions will be provided for each).
⇒ Quizzes (Q). A series of unannounced quizzes shall be administered at the start of certain class periods.

Grade Calculation Formula

\[ 0.32(E) + 0.28(Q) + 0.40(P) \]

Required Materials


Attendance Policy

I do not take formal attendance, BUT:

⇒ You must have a non-zero grade for at least \( 50\% \) of the quizzes offered. Failure to meet this criteria shall result in **automatic failure of the course**.
⇒ You must pass \((x > 55\%)\) **ALL PORTIONS** of the course individually. Failure to meet these criteria shall result in **course failure**.

Note that the instructor has the authority to suspend these rules in individuals cases where circumstances dictate. This will ALWAYS be done to ensure that the student receives the fairest grade possible and will NEVER be used to punish students.
Recovering Missed Work

⇒ **I must be contacted regarding makeup tests within 7 days of the test date.** If this does not occur, the test will be “unfinished.” **Unfinished exams become a score of “0” and cannot be recovered.**
⇒ **Quizzes are not recoverable,** but a portion shall be dropped at term’s end.
⇒ **Paper due dates are strict; late work shall be penalized at least 5% per 24-hour period up to a maximum of 60%**.

Persons with disabilities which warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life office, Rm. 112 in the University Center, in order to request such accommodations prior to their implementation. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Visit [http://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14216-op-1015-providing-accommodations-for-students-with](http://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14216-op-1015-providing-accommodations-for-students-with) for more information.

Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in academic pursuits. Students are responsible for reading the Academic Honor Code, located at [http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/honorcode5.pdf](http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/honorcode5.pdf).

As stated in the Angelo State University Operating Policy and Procedure (OP 10.19) a student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. A student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reason-

Things NOT To Do

⇒ **Cell phones must be turned off or to a silent setting; texting is disallowed.**
⇒ **Persistent and excessive lateness will not be tolerated.** If you consistently arrive to class late, I will ask for a meeting with you. If a quiz has started, you will not be allowed to take it, but you will receive credit for attendance (the lowest quiz score possible).
⇒ **The use of personal listening devices during class will not be tolerated.**
⇒ **While I encourage an open classroom regarding communication, student discussions that become disruptive to the class will not be allowed.**

Other Notes

⇒ **Office hours will be posted on the course web site.** Note the office location!

Extra credit may be earned by participating in research ([http://angelostate.sona-systems.com/](http://angelostate.sona-systems.com/)). If you so choose, this credit can also be earned through an alternate activity of the department’s choosing. **Participation in research can potentially count for as much as 3 percentage points on your final grade.** See the “Research Opportunities” link on the department homepage at: [http://www.angelo.edu/dept/psychology_sociology/](http://www.angelo.edu/dept/psychology_sociology/)

This document constitutes an explicit agreement between the course instructor and the students enrolled in the course. All issues pertaining to the conduct of the course shall be governed by this document, and where it is silent, the course instructor’s discretion shall be binding.
Writing in This Class

⇒ First ask yourself, “Why am I writing this?” Is it clearly important to the issue(s) I’ve been asked to address?
⇒ Use correct grammar and punctuation, and proofread.
⇒ FOLLOW THE FORMATTING INSTRUCTIONS EXACTLY!
⇒ Your audience is NOT the professor. Write so a high school sophomore can understand what you’ve said.
⇒ Don’t use bigger words than are necessary.
⇒ Papers have MAXIMUM page limits. Write concisely but clearly.
⇒ EDIT! If you sit down and write the paper from start to finish in one sweep, most likely it will be graded poorly.
## Module Structure and Assignments

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<tr>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Duration (Approx.)</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Module 1 (Chs. 1-3)</td>
<td>3 Weeks</td>
<td>Paper 1</td>
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<td>Module 2 (Chs. 4-7)</td>
<td>4 Weeks</td>
<td>Paper 2</td>
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<td>Module 3 (Chs. 8-11)</td>
<td>4 Weeks</td>
<td>Paper 3</td>
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<td>Module 4 (Chs. 12-14)</td>
<td>3 Weeks</td>
<td>Papers 4 and 5</td>
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</tbody>
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**Note** — This is an estimate of the course flow. Adjustments may be made in the interest of time and pacing. Chapters are organized by modules and all materials can be found within module folders on Blackboard where you will also find due dates for assignments and test dates as we progress. Class attendance and frequent Blackboard logins are crucial to stay current on deadlines, take quizzes, and engage the material!