Environmental Psychology
(Psych4381, 3 Credit) Fall 2019

Course & Instructor Information
Instructor: Brittany Trubenstein, M.A.
Email: btrubenstein@angelo.edu
Office Hours: Mondays & Wednesday 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Academic 204G
Additional office hours available (possibly through Skype or Zoom) as needed & by appointment.
Class Times: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 11:00 – 11:50 a.m. in CAV 123
Exams: ALL EXAMS ARE CUMULATIVE
Exam 1 – 9/23, Exam 2 – 10/28
Final Exam Wednesday – 12/11 from 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

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Required Materials: Poll Everywhere Application on a Smart Phone, Laptop or Tablet, Note Taking Method;
#2 Pencil

Required Skills:
1. Using the Blackboard Learning Management System
2. Using email with attachments
3. Creating and submitting files in commonly used word processing programs (e.g. Word or Google Docs)
4. Creating and submitting files in commonly used presentation processing programs (e.g. PowerPoint or Google Slides)

Prerequisites: Prerequisite: Junior Standing.

Description, Purpose and Structure of Psych 4381 – Environmental Psychology:
Environmental psychology describes and explains how people are influenced by places (both natural and artificial, living and non-living) and how people in turn influence spaces and places (intentionally and unintentionally). Environmental psychology is holistic and is focused on evaluating environmental problems with a consideration of context. This course will examine the current ecological crisis and its origins, applicable psychological theory and research findings about the current environmental state and the corresponding unsustainable behavior and explore the reciprocal relationship between the planet and humans.

The goal of this course is increase awareness about our individual impact on the environment and, hopefully, motivate students to develop behaviors that can lead towards a more sustainable future.

This course will be delivered via face to face instruction through lectures, videos, at home readings and class discussions. We will almost daily have discussion/critical thinking questions that will be presented to the class through handouts, Poll Everywhere questions, and prompts from the instructor. Some of these questions will be expected to be done individually while others will be done in pairs or small groups. Students will have two exams and a final which will all consist of multiple choice/true false questions (further details under Exams). Additionally, students will be expected to give an 8-10-minute presentation to the class (further details and rubric under Presentation). Students will have two opportunities for extra credit which can only be used if the students have NO MORE than 1 un-excused absence in course (further detail under Extra Credit).
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**Student Learning Outcomes:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Learning Outcome (SLO): By completing all course requirements, students will be able to:</th>
<th>Assignment(s) or activity(ies) validating outcome achievement: Assignment(s) or Activities related to SLO</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reflect upon and develop written responses to the nature and extent of sustainability in the United States.</td>
<td>In class discussion questions/assignments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recognize, Interpret, Compare and Contrast Theories relating to Environmental Issues and Mindsets in the United States.</td>
<td>Exam 1, Exam 2, Final Exam</td>
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<td>Conduct literature reviews to develop and inform an APA style presentation.</td>
<td>Presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Develop and deliver an informative APA style presentation.</td>
<td>Presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Effectively communicate and discuss a topic with peers</td>
<td>In class discussion questions/assignments; Presentation</td>
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**Extra Credit Student Learning Outcome (SLO):** By completing Extra Credit Assignments, students will be able to:

| Extra credit assignment(s) or activity(ies) validating outcome achievement: Assignment(s) or Activities related to Extra Credit SLO |
|---|---|
| Plan, develop, and execute a functional or aesthetic upcycle project. | Extra Credit 1 |
| Scientifically communicate a functional or aesthetic upcycle project in APA format. | Extra Credit 1 |
| Interpret, communicate and write up data in APA format. | Extra Credit 2 |
| Recognize, record, manipulate, and reduce unsustainable behavior in the self and others. | Extra Credit 2 |
| Recognize, Interpret, Compare and Contrast Theories relating to Mindsets, Habits, and Behavior Change. | Extra Credit 2 |

**Policies:**

*Lectures and Readings* - Students are responsible for all material presented in lecture or covered in assigned readings. Prior to lecture, students are expected to have read any materials assigned for the week. Lectures are not meant to reiterate all material covered in the textbook but rather will emphasize and elaborate on key issues, and introduce additional new material not covered in the textbook.

*Class & Email Etiquette* – Please be in your seats at the start of class. If you are late, please quietly take a seat in the back. If you know that you will need to leave early, please sit in the back and leave as quietly as possible. You are expected to silence your cellphone and refrain from using the internet while in lecture or discussion. It is distracting to the speaker and to those behind you! You are expected to always treat the instructor and classmates with respect. Any disrespect will not be tolerated, and you will be asked to leave. Repeated violations or dismissals will result in consultations with the instructor.

*Communication* - When emailing the instructor, include the class number (Psyc4381), your full name in the subject line. Keep in mind there are many students in this class, by adding this you will help me clearly identify
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you. Write in clear coherent sentences in the body of the paragraph. Remember, you are not texting your friend, you are writing to an instructor for help.

Grade Queries & Disputes – I will try to post grades for any assignments or exams by the following week. I do my best to ensure there are no mistakes for grading, but I am human, so mistakes can occasionally happen. For first 2 exams, you will have an opportunity to review the exam during the next lecture section. If you notice a discrepancy, please respectfully request that I evaluate the discrepancy. If you wish to dispute the grading of a question, you must submit your request in writing to me no later than the Friday following the review of the exam. For example, if you want to dispute a grade on Exam 1 (taken on 9/23), you will be able to review your grade in class on September 25th and the last day to submit a grade dispute for Exam 1 will be September 27th. Be prepared to dispute the grading of the question with support from the textbook and/or lecture notes.

Cheating – The following rules will be in place during exams. You will be reminded the lecture before the exam and you will be reminded of all rules before the exam. ANY breach of the rules will result in your exam materials being removed and receiving a zero as well as being reported to the Academic Integrity Office.

• There will be no hats, smart watches, or headphones worn during exams.
• There will be no electronic devices visible (including cell phones, tablets, laptops, etc.) during exams.
• There will be no written materials (notes, lecture slides, book, etc.) visible during exams.
• There will be no talking during exams.

Extra Credit:
There will be 3 extra credit opportunity offered for this course. Only students who have no more than 1 unexcused absence for lecture for the entire semester will be eligible for extra credit points. Extra credit submissions are due on iLearn by 5:00 p.m. on Monday November 25th. Late materials will not be accepted. The assigned grade may be discussed with student but will be final.

- Extra Credit Opportunity 1 - Upcycle Project (up to 3% for final grade) – Create an upcycled project from old items in or around your home. Have fun with this project, get crafty and creative. Submit a 1-2-page APA style (Times New Roman, 12pt font, double spaced, etc.) paper explaining where you got the materials, how you upcycled them, and if the project is for functional or aesthetic purposes. Along with your paper submission include a photo and list of materials used to create the project, photos of the process to create the project, and a photo of yourself with the completed project. Rubric posted on Blackboard.
- Extra Credit Opportunity 2- Research Experience (up to 2% of final grade) - For this class I am making research experience an extra credit opportunity. A principal aim of the opportunity is for students to gain an appreciation of how psychology experiments work, while simultaneously acquiring new knowledge about areas of psychology that students may not encounter during lecture. To satisfy this requirements for this extra credit opportunity, students must complete two hours of experimental work by November 25th. You will need to register at: http://angelostate.sona-systems.com/. For more information, see class handout.
- Extra Credit Opportunity 3 - Self Change Project (up to 5% of final grade) – Following the steps listed in the Appendix of your textbook (pages 319-322), choose a problem from the list below or define an environmental problem you recognize in your current life and try to change it. Submissions will be limited to 2 pages (not including references, graphs, etc.) and following APA style (Times New Roman, 12pt font, double spaced, etc). This assignment is time intensive and will take 5-7 weeks to fully complete (1 week to observe current behavior, 3-4 weeks to monitor change in behavior, and 1-2 weeks to build graphs and write the report). To allow for the necessary amount of time, I suggest you start early.
Also, it will be challenging to thoroughly describe your project within 2 pages, thus you might write succinctly. Your report should include a brief summary of what behavior you are changing and why it matters to the environment. You should log your current behavior for one week and include a description of your baseline behaviors. Describe what your goal will be and the theoretical model of behavior change you will use to help you achieve that goal. Track your progress and change the plan as needed to assist in your behavior change over a 3-4-week period. You will need to describe your progress in your paper but also include a chart of your status behavior in your submission. Your grade will depend on the extent and quality of the changes you made, as well as how you applied course concepts to your process of change. Rubric posted on Blackboard.

**Grading:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percent of Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Online Assignment</td>
<td>3%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>14%</td>
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**Grade Breakdown:**

- 100% - 90% = A
- 89% - 80% = B
- 79% - 70% = C
- 69% - 60% = D
- 59% or lower = F

**Exams (65% of total grade):**

There will be three exams and a final for this course. In fairness to all students, there will be no change in the scheduled date or time of the exams. The first exam (Week 5) will be 40 multiple choice questions and will cover material from lectures 1-11 and book chapters 1, 2, 3, & 4. The second exam (Week 10) will be 40 multiple choice questions (30 new, 10 from Exam 1) and will cover lectures 12-21 and book chapters 5, 6, 7, & 8 of Scott et. al and Chapters 1-2 of Martin. The third and Final Exam (Week 16) will be 75 multiple choice questions (45 new, 20 from Exam 1 & 2) and will cover lectures 22-30, book chapters 9, 10, 11, and questions generated from student presentations. A study guide will be provided via iLearn before the exam. We will use a portion of lecture time on during the class before the exam to go over the study guide.

**Participation (15% of total grade):**

You will be expected to participate in class discussions every class period. Participation will be evaluated via Poll Everywhere questions & in class assignments and in class discussions. Responses that are not thoughtful, helpful and contribute to the discussion in a meaningful way will receive a 0 for the day.
Online Assignments (6 % of total grade):
There will be two online assignments to replace class time that will be missed due to my travel for a conference. Details on how to complete these assignments will be discussed in class and posted to Blackboard on November 11th, 2019.

Presentation (14 % of total grade):
Presentations will be done in lecture during week 15 and will be worth 30 points toward your final grade. Presentations will be done individually. Presenters will choose a topic from the list below and develop an 8-10-minute PowerPoint/Google Slides presentation that will be presented in class. All presentations must be emailed to the instructor by 7:00 p.m. on Monday November 25th. Use the provided rubric as a checklist when designing your presentation to help ensure you get the best grade possible!

Presenters will introduce the audience to the topic chosen and provide a brief history of the topic. Presenters should discuss the scope of the topic (i.e., is your topic specific to a small region or a global issue) and discuss any important findings. Additionally, presenters should examine possible reciprocal influences related to the topic. In other words, what are the origins for the environmental problem, and how is this problem affecting people and the environment. Presentations should include visuals (graphs, tables or photographs) to assist the audience in understanding the topic.

Presentations should also include APA style references for each of the sources used in researching the topic. Note that resources should be credible (not Wikipedia). Using online websites that end with .org, .gov, to assist in your research is acceptable but information taken from these websites must be properly cited. Online news entities such as The New York Times are great for a summary of the topic, but these entities are usually summarizing a peer reviewed research paper, and not a primary source. You should find the original paper the news article is referencing and read it yourself, making sure to cite both the online article and the research paper in your presentation. There is not a mandatory reference list count to meet, but any claims not properly cited will result in a lower score for the presentation.

Topics will be determined in class on Monday September 25th. If you are absent that day, I will assign you to a topic. You will not have an opportunity to change topics after assignment. Attendance is mandatory during presentations regardless if it is your day to present or not. Exam questions will come from any presentations given.

Presentation Topics-
Ocean garbage islands
Fresh water storage (world)
Buy local movement
Fair trade
Ecotourism in the Galapagos Islands
World fisheries collapse
Honeybee population crash
Ocean coral declines
Dropping water tables (local)
Urban carpooling
Tiny home movement
Slow money movement
Bat population crash
Slow food movement
Car sharing
Gardens not lawns movement
Ocean dead zones
Buy nothing for one year
Composting: Why & How
Light pollution
Locavore eating
North polar ice cap
Fracking natural gas
Pythons, Florida everglades
Vegetarian eating (eco relevance)
Environmental refugees/ecomigrations (human)
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4381 – Environmental Psychology Schedule – Fall 2019 – MWF 11:00a.m. – 11:50a.m

*NOTE: This schedule is tentative and subject to change. However, exam dates will not change. Assigned readings are expected to be done before the designated date.

Week 1 – Chapter 1
Monday-8/26 - Introduction & Chapter 1 Lecture 1; Wednesday-8/28 - Chapter 1 Lecture 2; Friday-8/30 - Chapter 1 Lecture 3.

Week 2 – Chapter 2
Monday-9/2 – Labor Day – No Class; Wednesday-9/4 - Chapter 2 Lecture 4; Friday-9/6 - Chapter 2 Lecture 5.

Week 3 – Chapter 3
Monday-9/9 - Chapter 3 Lecture 6; Wednesday-9/11 - Chapter 3 Lecture 7; Friday-9/13 – Chapter 3 Lecture 8.

Week 4 – Chapter 4
Monday-9/16 - Chapter 4 Lecture 9; Wednesday-9/18 - Chapter 4 Lecture 10; Friday-9/20 – Chapter 4 Lecture 11 & Study Guide Review.

Week 5 – Chapter 1 (Martin Text)
Monday-9/23 - Exam 1; Wednesday-9/25- Exam 1 Review - Determine Presentation Groups/Topics; Friday-9/27 – Chapter 1 Martin Text (Posted on Blackboard) Lecture 12.

Week 6 – Chapters 2 (Martin Text) & 5 (Scott et. al Text)
Monday-9/30 - Chapter 2 Martin Text (Posted on Blackboard) Lecture 13; Wednesday-10/2- Chapter 5 Lecture 14; Friday-10/4 – Chapter 5 Lecture 15.

Week 7 – Chapter 6
Monday-10/7 - Chapter 6 Lecture 16; Wednesday-10/9- Chapter 6 Lecture 17; Friday-10/11 – Chapter 6 Lecture 18.

Week 8 – Chapter 7
Monday-10/14 - Chapter 7 Lecture 19; Wednesday-10/16 - Chapter 7 Lecture 20; Friday-10/18 – Chapter 7 Lecture 21.

Week 9 – Chapter 8
Monday-10/21 - Chapter 8 Lecture 22; Wednesday-10/23 - Chapter 8 Lecture 23; Friday-10/25 – Chapter 8 Lecture 24 and Study Guide Review.

Week 10 – Chapter 9
Monday-10/28 – Exam 2; Wednesday-10/30 - Exam 2 Review - Chapter 9 Lecture 25; Friday-11/1 – Chapter 9 Lecture 26.

Week 11 – Chapter 10
Monday-11/4 - Chapter 10 Lecture 27; Wednesday-11/6 - Chapter 10 Lecture 28; Friday-11/8 – Chapter 10 Lecture 29.
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Week 12 – Presentations
Monday-11/11 – APA Style Presentations Lecture 30; Wednesday-11/13 – Instructor at Conference, no class. Online Assignment; Friday-11/15 – Instructor at Conference, no class. Online Assignment.

Week 13 – Chapter 11
Monday-11/18 – Chapter 11 Lecture 31; Wednesday-11/20 – Chapter 11 Lecture 32; Friday-11/22 – Chapter 11 & Presentation Assistance

Week 14 – Thanksgiving Week
Monday-11/25 – Course Review Lecture 33. Presentation Assistance and Extra Credit’s due.

Week 15 - Presentation Week
Monday-12/2 – Presentations 1-5; Wednesday-12/4 – Presentations 6-11; Friday-12/6 – Presentations 12-15

Week 16 – Final’s Week
Wednesday-12/11 – Final Exam from 10:30a.m-12:30p.m