PSY 2301.010
General Psychology
Fall 2021
MWF 10-10:50am (Academic 004)

Instructor: Kyle W. van Ittersum, Ph.D.
Email: kyle.vanittersum@angelo.edu
Phone: 325-486-6246
Office: Academic 104F
Office Hours: Mondays: 12-3:30
Tuesdays: 12-4
Wednesdays: 12-1, 1:30-3
Teaching Assistants: Colt Own: cowen4@angelo.edu
Mya Rodriguez: mrodriguez148@angelo.edu
Tyah Williams: twilliams99@angelo.edu

Course Information

Course Description
Introduction to the scientific study of factors underlying behavior. In addition to the physiological bases of behavior, other factors such as intelligence, learning, motivation, emotion, and perception are covered.

Course Credits
3

Prerequisite and Co-requisite Courses
None

Program Outcomes
Upon completion of the program of study for the BA/BS Psychology, the graduate will be prepared to: 1: Access and use relevant psychological knowledge to solve comprehensive
problems in different domains of the discipline; 2: communicate effectively in a variety of formats; 3: critically and creatively use information from the different branches of psychology, employ the scientific method where appropriate, to analyze human functioning in a variety of contexts and address problems or questions related to behavior and mental processes.

Student Learning Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Learning Outcome</th>
<th>Assignment(s) or activity(ies) validating outcome achievement:</th>
<th>Mapping to Program Outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Have a general knowledge of the major disciplines and theories in psychology</td>
<td>Exams, Weekly Discussion questions</td>
<td>1,3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have experience applying psychological principles to your everyday life</td>
<td>Exams, Weekly discussion questions, In-class activities</td>
<td>1,2,3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have expanded your knowledge of the basic concepts and definitions used in psychological research and practice</td>
<td>Exams, Weekly discussion questions, In-class activities</td>
<td>1,2,3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course Delivery

This class will utilize Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTAs) meaning you will attend lecture on Mondays and Wednesdays and will meet in smaller discussion groups on Fridays. More information about Friday discussion sections will be given by your GTA.

Required Texts and Materials

This course will use Waymaker for Psychology instead of a traditional textbook. This is integrated directly into BlackBoard and has built in quizzes and supplemental materials. There is a small cost ($25) associated with Waymaker which you can pay online or through the bookstore. For more information and an intro video, go to https://lumenlearning.com/gettingstartedwithwaymaker/

Communication

Email will commonly be used to interact with myself and your TA. Please check your university email regularly and use that email to communicate with us. When emailing, please be courteous and professional. My goal is to answer emails within 24 hours and I regularly check email throughout the workday. Emails during evenings and weekends may not get a response.
until the next workday. Any emails from myself or your TA should be considered private and are not to be shared with others. If you have a question about your grade or other private matters, I encourage you to make an appointment to meet with myself or your TA.

Grading

Evaluation and Grades

Course grades will be determined as indicated in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Points of Total Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Reading (15 x 10 pts)</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Class Activities (15 X 10 pts)</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Discussion Responses (10 x 20 pts)</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Quizzes (15 x 20 pts)</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grading System

Course grades will be dependent upon completing course requirements and meeting the student learning outcomes.

The following grading scale is in use for this course:
- A = 720-800 points
- B = 640-719 points
- C = 560-639 points
- D = 480-559 points
- F = 0-479 points (Grades are not rounded up)

Assignment and Activity Descriptions

*Please note: Rubrics for all discussion assignments will be provided by your GTA and will be available on BlackBoard.

Weekly Reading/Study Plan: Each week you may receive up to 10 points for completing the week’s reading module. There will be a self-assessment for each unit in the module and completing those is how you earn your participation points. They are not graded for accuracy but simply for completion. Each reading module will be open for 3 weeks ranging from the week before it is assigned to the week after. You must complete the reading during that time period in order to earn your points.
**In-Class Activities:** During the course of the semester there will be 15 in-class activities worth 10 points each. These activities will not be scheduled or announced and you must be present to earn those points.

**Weekly Quizzes:** Each week you may receive up to 20 points for completing the quiz in that week’s module. I suggest you take the self-assessments and read through all material prior to taking the quiz. You will be given two attempts for every quiz and will be provided feedback after your first attempt. Quiz availability will be the same as the readings as detailed above.

**Weekly Discussion Responses:** Each week (excluding week 1 and holidays) your TA will provide a discussion assignment that you will complete before your class day. Each assignment will be worth 20 points and I will drop your three lowest scores. More specifics, including a grading rubric, will be provided by your TA.

**Research Requirement:** As an introductory psychology student, you will be asked to participate in experimental research. This will not only enable ASU faculty and grad students to complete research experiments but will also provide you with first-hand experience in how psychological research is conducted. If you are unwilling or unable to participate in research experiments, you may speak to me about an alternative assignment. **Your final grade will be docked 25 points for every credit you do not complete. Do not put off this requirement as there may not be enough studies at the end of the semester.** Full instructions for this requirement are provided on BlackBoard. All credits must be complete by Monday, November 29th at midnight.

**Late Work or Missed Assignments Policy**
If you are unable to complete the assigned work in a given week, please speak with myself or a TA. Barring any documented and excused reasons, late work will not be accepted.

**General Policies Related to This Course**
All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

- [Angelo State University Student Handbook](#)
- [Angelo State University Catalog](#)

**Student Responsibility and Attendance**
Attendance for this course is highly encouraged but it is ultimately your decision whether you attend class. Lecture slides and notes will not be made available online. You are encouraged to get notes from a classmate or TA if you are unable to attend lecture. If you know ahead of time that you will have to miss class (for a legitimate reason), you can speak to me or your TA and have the possibility of making up any in-class points if applicable. If you unexpectedly miss class and can provide documentation, you may have the ability to make up the points you missed. I reserve the right to determine what counts as an excused absence.
**Technology policy:** Based on my experiences teaching this course and further supported by research, students who use technology in the classroom tend to earn lower grades than students who do not. You are free to bring laptops/tablets to class to use for notes but if you are observed using it for other purposes you will be asked to stop.

**Cell Phone Policy:** All cell phones must be silenced before class begins. If your cell phone use distracts me, the TAs, or your classmates you will be asked to put it away. If the distractions continue you will forfeit your next exam grade. Barring any accommodations, headphones are not to be worn in class.

**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 College of Health and Human Services adheres to the university’s [Statement of Academic Integrity](#).

**Accommodations for 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 Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at [ADA@angelo.edu](mailto:ADA@angelo.edu). For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the [Student Disability Services website](#). The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:
Dallas Swafford
Director of Student Disability Services
Office of Student Affairs
325-942-2047
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu
Houston Harte University Center, Room 112
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.

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. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center.

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.

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 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.
Title IX at Angelo State University

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

Online: www.angelo.edu/incident-form
Face to face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
Phone: 325-942-2022
Email: michelle.boone@angelo.edu

Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325-942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171).

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State’s policy please visit: www.angelo.edu/title-ix.
## Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week: Dates</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignment DUE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1: 8/23 &amp; 25</td>
<td>Psychological Foundations</td>
<td>Module &amp; Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1: 8/27</td>
<td>Discussion Section Introduction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2: 8/30 &amp; 9/01</td>
<td>Psychological Research</td>
<td>Module &amp; Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2: 9/03</td>
<td>Discussion Section</td>
<td>DQ1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3: 9/08 (No Class 9/06)</td>
<td>States of Consciousness</td>
<td>Module &amp; Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3: 9/10</td>
<td>Discussion Section</td>
<td>DQ2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4: 9/13 &amp; 15</td>
<td>Biopsychology</td>
<td>Module &amp; Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4: 9/17</td>
<td>Discussion Section</td>
<td>DQ3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5: 9/20 &amp; 22</td>
<td>Sensation and Perception</td>
<td>Module &amp; Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5: 9/24</td>
<td>Discussion Section</td>
<td>DQ4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6: 9/27 &amp; 29</td>
<td>Lifespan Development</td>
<td>Module &amp; Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6: 10/01</td>
<td>Discussion Section</td>
<td>DQ5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7: 10/04 &amp; 06</td>
<td>Learning</td>
<td>Module &amp; Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7: 10/08</td>
<td>Discussion Section</td>
<td>DQ6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8: 10/11 &amp; 13</td>
<td>Motivation, Emotion, and Sexuality</td>
<td>Module &amp; Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8: 10/15</td>
<td>Discussion Section</td>
<td>DQ7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week: Dates</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Assignment DUE</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>9: 10/18 &amp; 20</td>
<td>Memory</td>
<td>Module &amp; Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9: 10/22</td>
<td>Discussion Section</td>
<td>DQ8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10: 10/25 &amp; 27</td>
<td>Thinking and Intelligence</td>
<td>Module &amp; Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10: 10/29</td>
<td>Discussion Section</td>
<td>DQ9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11: 11/01 &amp; 03</td>
<td>Social Psychology</td>
<td>Module &amp; Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11: 11/05</td>
<td>Discussion Section</td>
<td>DQ10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12: 11/08 &amp; 10</td>
<td>Industrial/Organizational Psychology</td>
<td>Module &amp; Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12: 11/12</td>
<td>Discussion Section</td>
<td>DQ11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13: 11/15 &amp; 17</td>
<td>Personality</td>
<td>Module &amp; Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13: 11/19</td>
<td>Discussion Section</td>
<td>DQ12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14: 11/22 (No class 11/24-26)</td>
<td>Psychological Disorders</td>
<td>Module &amp; Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15: 11/29 &amp; 12/01</td>
<td>Therapy and Treatment</td>
<td>Module &amp; Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15: 12/03</td>
<td>Final Discussion Section</td>
<td>DQ13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16: 12/06-10</td>
<td>Final Exam Week</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Student Evaluation of Faculty and Course**

Students in all programs are given the opportunity to evaluate their courses and the faculty who teach them. Evaluations are most helpful when they are honest, fair, constructive, and
pertinent to the class, clinical experience, or course. Faculty value student evaluations, and use student suggestions in making modifications in courses, labs and clinical experiences. Angelo State University uses the IDEA (Individual Development and Educational Assessment) system administered through Kansas State University for all course evaluations. The Office of Institutional Research and Assessment administers IDEA for the entire university, online and has established a policy whereby students can complete course evaluations free from coercion.

1. Gaining a basic understanding of the subject (e.g., factual knowledge, methods, principles, generalizations, theories)
2. Learning to apply course material (to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions)
3. Developing skill in expressing oneself orally or in writing

End of Syllabus

1. [https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/](https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/)
2. [https://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/](https://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/)
4. [https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/](https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/)
5. [https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures](https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures)
7. [https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php](https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php)
8. [https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of](https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of)